

Hello Ms. Balloni and the Village Board of Trustees,

My family and I are longtime visitors and admirers of Aurora. I understand there are new regulations under consideration. I wanted to take a moment to provide some input.

My husband and I first stayed at the Aurora Inn in 1986 when we came to Ithaca to find housing after John accepted his Cornell professorship. We stayed in Aurora specifically for its charm. My parents stayed there in 1990 at our recommendation as well. How the Inn has changed since then!

During our years in Ithaca we often came to Aurora for dinners and weddings. Since leaving New York and after retirement I have worked with the Union Springs School district, always frequenting the Inn or the Fargo. I consider Jacci and Virgil to be our friends. We maintain close ties with the Superintendent of the Union Springs district for whom I occasionally do consulting work. Like Jane Richards I was a teacher in the Ithaca City Schools for years, and we always admire their home on Main Street.

In 2017 our son was married at the Aurora Inn. We rented a house for a month and took advantage of biking, hiking, Mackenzie Childs, the Route 96 garage sale, yoga and fitness classes, and all the local businesses. Since we have very large families, several of our guests stayed for a week and others for a long weekend. We all have cherished memories of a precious time together. Aurora Mainstays has always welcomed us since.

Last summer, next summer, and hopefully beyond - we will repeat the experience with our nuclear family, children and grandchildren. We joined the fitness club at Wells College, visited wineries and the brewery, picked blueberries, hiked, shopped at the Farmer's market each weekend, rented kayaks and paddle boards. We feel at home in Aurora, with its focus on family, nature and community.

In each case Aurora Mainstays has been our host. We return because of the beautiful properties, maintained with such a personal touch. We mirror the care and respect that Jacci and Virgil model for the homes and the community.

Leading up to our stays we appreciate their excellent communication and expectations clearly set out and monitored. They make clear the importance of being good neighbors during our stay, respecting property lines, parking and noise limitations. Jacci and Virgil are consistently responsive to any concerns, anticipating possible needs. They are great resources for and advocates of local businesses.

I do want to say that I understand the importance of maintaining the character of Aurora as friendly, peaceful and community-focused. After all, it's what draws us visitors there as well. I also can imagine that the community will benefit from some changes and see there are good reasons for the trend of oversight that is developing in many Finger Lakes communities. Certainly, rental properties must be safe and well maintained. And it makes so much sense for neighbors to have a mechanism to immediately seek help in situations where the 9:00 quiet hour isn't being observed.

The proposed regulations target a wide swath of concerns, including a limit on how many units can be offered for rent. It would seem difficult to predict the overall impact of big changes, especially if they're not phased in. All parties would need to reassess: homeowners, rental companies, local businesses, and the Village board to determine the effectiveness of the remedies, their economic impact and the administrative system required to manage and assure compliance.

I am hoping that the Village takes an incremental approach to making changes, prioritizing and focusing on specific problems and giving time to gauge the impact of each regulation enacted. We're also hopeful that measures taken will allow us to still enjoy and to be an asset to the Aurora community.

Thank you.

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