

Dear Aurora Leaders,

With respect for the intention to create housing for permanent residents, an intention appropriate for village leaders, I urge you to reject the proposed Short Term Rental law. This law will jeopardize severely existing businesses that have dedicated themselves for many years to a prosperous and welcoming Aurora and jeopardize future tourism and new visitors to Aurora who will come to love the village as I do.

Existing businesses, such as Aurora MainStays (of which I am most familiar) have invested money, energy, care, and loyalty to Aurora; they deserve our respect and support. I know they have served a need that has been long-standing but unfulfilled for years (I graduated from Wells in 1979 and no such options existed, making visits from my family virtually impossible). I also know that many of their guests spend considerable amounts at local businesses that have emerged in recent years, businesses that have made Aurora an even lovelier destination than ever before. Aurora can be a haven for permanent residents, Wells students, and visitors alike. In fact, I believe we need all to thrive.

As a trustee of Wells College, I visit Aurora frequently and use short-term rentals when I visit. The spaces are affordable, clean, safe, well-maintained, convenient, and welcoming. All are critical to me when I visit so I may focus my energies and my resources on supporting Wells College. More important to me, however, are the options for the visiting families of prospective and current students and of graduates of Wells, all of whom have varying abilities to pay higher prices or to stay at distant locations. I believe it's a matter of equity to allow many options for short-term stays.

Please reconsider the proposed law.

Sincerely,
Lisa Cania