

I am writing this quickly because my laptop is acting up and could shut down anytime. I am sending this article so people can get an idea how intrusive air B&Bs can be even in communities much larger than a minuscule little village being attacked by an Inn, College and Air aB&Bs. I was involved with trying to come up with regulation about 8 years ago when the attack first started.

The main argument regarding the need for the Air B&Bs is to help the inns of Aurora be more successful. Such a notion is just that a notion the Inns of Aurora alone is responsible for their own success and seem to have covered themselves generously in that regard. The attempt to regulate was quashed by one person on the Village Board but that's another story. I have poured over the tax roles to learn about the houses in this Village many times and one thing is very evident we have no need for air B&Bs if we hope to remain a village. There are 30 to 35 properties in the village that are owned by people that do not live here. I repeat we are a tiny village it does not seem at all reasonable to have so many houses empty for most of the year.

The article I have enclosed shows how communities much larger than ours are losing housing which makes it much harder for people to find housing and live in a city, town and especially a minuscule village trying to support a fire Department, the Library and Historical Society, the lack of housing has also made us a village with fewer children living here because a lack of affordable housing and fewer people using water and sewer year round.. What this leaves us with is an aging village population where residents look for a familiar face when walking to the the Post Office or just walking. I am often asked by non residents where the shops are and I advise them in Ithaca, Skaneateles, Saratoga Springs etc one day two older women wanted to know where Main St is as I was standing near the United Ministry and another day two women wanted to know where to get something to eat besides the IOA, Fargo or the former Dories. I felt like telling them I could make them a sandwich.

Good luck in finding a solution. I firmly believe the people owning these properties should be paying for a permit to rent their properties year round and they should be paying a generous amount for the permit.

Sincerely, Pat Foser