

Dear Mayor Bruno and Town Council,

With regards to the transient lodging ordinance that you will be considering Wednesday night, I would like to make the following observations.

1. Staffing employees is difficult in Springdale. It has been a problem and continues to be a problem.
2. Busy restaurants with long lines isn't necessarily because of too many guests. It usually is a staffing problem with not enough servers to handle the crowds.
3. Requiring more restaurants will not make short wait times but will more likely increase wait times. With more restaurants and not an increase in workers the employees will be spread out even further than they are currently. This will create exactly the opposite affect that the ordinance is implying it will correct.
4. The requirements for this ordinance is adding a heavier burden to a business. While it is a cost of doing business it becomes a little overwhelming for the mom and pop owners. This will create a situation where those with very deep pockets (large corporations) to be the only ones who would be able to afford to build. That isn't what the general plans is wanting.
5. The extra burden you are placing on the required housing and who can live there is unfair. While only the businesses are required to follow the housing rules, other rental units in town would not have to abide by those rules.
6. One rule in particular saying that the housing cannot be connected to employment is harsh. While I believe that the intent is to protect the employee from losing their housing if fired, If an employee quits on a business and stays in the rental unit it is a double whammy to the employer. Not only does the employer lose an employee and now has to find a replacement (see item #1), it now is more difficult because the rental unit is not available for the new hire. I am all in favor of protecting the employee but the employer too should have some protection.
7. There should be some type of criteria when deciding which applications are granted or rejected. If two or more applications are equally acceptable what criteria is used to see who gets one of the coveted permits if the Town so desires to grant any permits. Is it based on something or just the emotions of the council? While it is a legislative decision, it should also be based on solid findings not just popularity.

While I do see a need for the ordinance there are some corrections that need to be worked on before it is passed. Please consider the cause and affect that the proposed ordinance is proposing and make the proper adjustments. Thank you for the time you spend making Springdale into the town that it is.

Sincerely,

Stan Smith