

To: The Empire Short Term Rental Committee and the Empire Village Council

Re: Community Petition

Enclosed in the packet please find petitions signed by 80 Empire Village registered voters and an additional 15 property owners. (A last minute addition of three signatures is included in the packet but not in the pdf.)

This effort was initiated by a group of full-time residents after several months of attending meetings, listening to the committee debate issues, public presentations at Council meetings, and reading letters expressing personal opinions. We believed the time had come to put words into actions, so we “walked the talk” and canvassed the community.

Of note: the signatures represent a good cross section of the community from north to south and neighborhoods on both sides of M-22. It was more difficult to talk to residents on streets such as Niagra and Wilce where STR's comprise over 30% of the residences. I ask you to visualize what that means on these streets: one in every three homes is an STR.

The 83 signatures represent approximately 20% of the total 400 registered voters on record living in Empire Village, as confirmed with the Empire Township clerk.

This petition is presented to encourage the Village Council to also “walk the talk”. We urge the Council, as our elected representatives, to support the **Regulation Ordinance**. We look to the Council to be custodians of the Empire community and act responsibly, keeping in mind what is best for the future of the Empire community. There is no question that STRs have a place in our resort community and provide an important livelihood for some residents. However, we believe STRs should be managed and it is our opinion that the **Regulation Ordinance** is critical to maintaining the balance of community life.

Linda & Steve Young

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