From: Jeff Bartee
To: CD STRComment
Subject: Comment regarding short term rental review
Date: Friday, September 4, 2020 11:13:28 AM

External Email Warning! This email originated from outside of Chelan County.

Hello,

My name is Jeff Bartee and I have a house at 75 Kamei Place in Manson. We are zoned as RW. My wife and I grew up in Washington and have spent many summers and winters in the Chelan and as our children grew, we took them hiking, biking, and swimming in Eastern Washington. My eastern WA roots run deep as my mom grew up in Sunnyside and much of our family lives in that area. Our long-term plan is to retire to the Chelan area and a number of years ago, we took a leap and bought land. Working with Mike Para (Quality Construction in Manson) we built our “forever” home. During the design, we decided we wanted room for grandkids and family to join us for birthdays, Christmas and summer holidays. The only way to afford the additional expense was to defer a portion of the mortgage and upkeep by renting it out when we were not there.

We checked with the city and were told that it was perfectly acceptable for us to short term rent our house. So, using this as the assumption, we spent the extra money and built the house.

I am saddened by the generalization that "we don't care", that "we are not part of the community". Several months ago our names and phone numbers were shared on an anti STR Facebook group (illegally) and we started getting terrible texts telling us that we weren't welcome, that we are hateful, selfish and cowards. Actual "general" threats were made that we needed to "watch out”. This really hurt as we truly feel and act as are part of the Manson community. I was the president of our HOA for several years and was part of a group that got our neighborhood on LCRW water lines (rather than a lake pump) because it was more efficient and better for the environment. We are good friends with all our neighbors who have us on speed dial if there is anything wrong. We provide our renters very strict guidelines, monitor our outdoor cameras and reach out to each guest individually to pro-actively reinforce the rules.

As a good neighbor, I am actively in favor of limits on guests, rules, permits and enforcement. If I have to pay fees to fund Manson and Chelan's resources to manage STR's, it’s a good idea.

What I don't agree with is the sunsetting clause. Our home was built under a set of assumptions. If you change this, we can't afford our home to retire to and will be forced to sell. As this is ruining a big portion of the life we are building for ourselves, we have no choice but to fight this concept.

Thank you for reading my email.

Sincerely,

Jeff Bartee