

To: Dane County Zoning and Land Regulation
From: Tamara Dudiak at 7029 Applewood Drive, Town of Middleton, WI
Re: CUP 02653
Date: 3/10/25

Good evening,

I am a resident at 7029 Applewood Drive and I am writing to share my views on the application to renew the current CUP for the Helbach property at 6993 Applewood Drive. **I also want to record my opposition to the proposed modification advanced by the Helbach Family to reduce the minimum night stay from 5 to 3 nights.**

I think the Helbachs should appreciate the current generous terms of their existing CUP, which allows this *largely absent family* to operate transient lodging in a small neighborhood like Applewood. It is common knowledge that short-term lodging of this kind can be very disruptive to neighborhood residents. Tourists unfamiliar with the norms of a particular neighborhood can introduce noise at all hours, additional traffic in a land-locked and physically small community and--most importantly--an increased level of risk to our youngest residents.

My parents built the home I now reside in some 50 years ago and since that time I cannot recall a period when there have been as many children under 8 as there are now. The neighborhood is quite small--with many turns and blind spots--and the prospect of more cars in the neighborhood unfamiliar with the many varied ways that children use the road is extremely concerning. A change from the 5-night minimum to a 3-night minimum will most certainly increase demand for lodging and set in motion a non-stop weekend stream of cars and people to the neighborhood. I firmly believe that this essentially commercial operation (room rental) will have an adverse effect on our most vulnerable residents—kids.

The committee should keep in mind that we are not trying to prohibit the Helbachs from using the home for short-term lodging, but we want to maintain the current 5 -night minimum, which still represent very generous terms. Many neighborhoods throughout the country have legally limited these operations to a minimum of 30 nights. ***We are not proposing something this drastic, but we do not want the CUP terms to be modified and reduced to a 3-night minimum.***

I would favor extending the renewal process to every 5 years provided the minimum stay period does not decrease to 3 nights.

To conclude, the Helbachs have—*without the consent of the neighborhood*—imposed this commercial operation on Applewood residents. *They should recognize the substantial privilege they already have in their existing CUP to operate this kind of short-term rental.* These are terms that are already highly favorable and the Helbachs should see it as such.

Thank you.