

Mike Trainum  
969 Smith Avenue  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

June 4, 2019

City of Harrisonburg  
Department of Planning & Community Development  
Planning & Zoning Division  
% Ms. Alison Banks, Planner  
409 South Main Street  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

**Re: Special Use Permit -- 973 Smith Avenue**

My wife, Donna, and I are writing in support of David Kraybill and Mary Hershberger's application for a special use permit for short-term rental of their home at 973 Smith Ave.

From the beginning, Dave and Mary have kept us updated on their plans for short-term rental and they've always been eager to address any concerns that we or other neighbors might have.

We live at the bottom of the hill and share a private drive with 973 (up the hill from us) and we've never had any issues with any of the guests. In fact, we've had delightful conversations with many of them.

The majority of the guests are families coming to visit their children at EMU or JMU. The EMU families are especially thankful to be within walking distance of the campus. A number of other guests have had bikes, kayaks or canoes and would have been hard-pressed to find other suitable accommodation for their equipment in the Harrisonburg area.

We also know Andrew -- the tenant in Dave and Mary's house -- who will be the official on-site operator of the short-term rental. Andrew is a fine young man and we're certain he will do an excellent job.

We sincerely hope you will see fit to approve Dave and Mary's application. They've been great neighbors. The ability to do short term rentals allows them to visit now and will make it possible for them to keep the property and move back to Harrisonburg when they are no longer needed by family in Maryland.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Trainum". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.