

May 5, 2023

Hello,

The Township Board has been working with our attorney to create a draft ordinance for Short-Term Rentals (STRs). We have posted that draft to the website for public comment and review.

This will be an agenda topic at the rescheduled May 17 monthly Board Meeting. Please note the date.

We encourage people to review the document and email comments to us prior to that meeting so that we can organize and prepare for the discussion. Of course, no prior comment is required, and we welcome the public to attend and comment on the draft ordinance.

We believe it is important to provide some context for the ordinance and discussion:

- The attorney has advised us that it is difficult to impose restrictions on STRs that we do not impose on other residents.
- It is important to note that we already have Zoning Ordinances regarding noise and some of the other issues that have been raised in complaints about STRs. A STR ordinance is not going to add or change anything for those issues. If changes are needed, we will have to look at changing the overall Zoning Ordinances. We invite you to review the relevant sections of the Zoning Ordinances if you have questions about specific actions/behaviors (noise, parking, etc.) at http://www.townshipofarcadia.org/uploads/8/6/4/2/86425640/arcadia_township_zoning_ordinance_no.183_feb.2022.pdf
- Implementing the STR ordinance and the associated changes to our Zoning Ordinances that will be required, is a time-consuming process. It is likely that no ordinance will take effect until mid- to late-summer of this year.
- Given the point above, the Board is also considering the alternative of a phased approach. The initial phase could happen this season and would be focused primarily on having STRs register so that we can better understand the STR environment in the township. We could then follow with a more detailed ordinance (the draft posted) in the offseason. This would allow STR owners to review and decide if they want to continue to operate in the township prior to the start of a rental season.

Thank you and we look forward to your feedback.

Paul Brown
Supervisor, Township of Arcadia