

Shannon Maldari  
616 Overlook Dr.

May 29, 2024

Re: Support of River Bend (Lyons Properties) Proposed PUD Changes

Dear Town of Lyons Staff, BoT and PCDC Commissioners:

The first time I met Chris Legh he was mowing the lawn on the elementary school playground, not because he was asked, but because it sat unkempt and uninviting to the school children who would use it. The next time we crossed paths, he and his wife Sarah were volunteering for the 100 mile club at LES. These were the first of many times I was able to see what was a humble, but consistent pattern for the Leghs, commitment to our community and people. From volunteering time, donating to the many fundraisers, coaching teams, and connecting those in need to resources, the Leghs have shown that collaboration and support can lift our community. I see their new business at River Bend to be a reflection of these same values, communal success through the partnering of Lyons town businesses. I have, first hand, witnessed Chris and Sarah meeting with restaurant owners, our smaller local hotels, and townspeople, expressing their want to refer and connect wedding/event attendees to local businesses. Thought of from all angles, the Leghs have meticulously developed a comprehensive plan and proposal which will allow them to exercise River Bend to its full potential and in turn keep our town economy afloat. They see the great value that an improved River Bend can add to Lyons, specifically during the winter months when many of our shops suffer. However, in order to work to its full potential, and keep with the spirit of the mayor's message, "we all do better, when we all do better," Riverbend needs to be afforded the same rights as the other Lyons businesses, specifically, amplified sound, as well as, allowance of a structure for the winter months, and an additional way to keep tourists in town, through camping and more tiny home structures.

I read that some citizens oppose River Bend being allowed the same noise ordinances as all other town businesses. Frankly, I'm surprised by this, as not only is music one of the cornerstones of our town, but many of these same people frequent restaurants and music events that well surpass the town's outdated ordinance on sound. Clearly, the TOL is in agreement that the current rule is ridiculous as there is no enforcement. Furthermore if the code was followed, we would live in a community void of sound, as every noise producing business violates the 10-11-10. Is this what we want, a loss of artists, business, and culture? In order to show integrity, and a common standard for our businesses, River Bend must then have their request for amplified sound approved.

I also believe that the request for extended camping and ability to bring in more tiny home structures should also be approved. Lodging has been talked about since I moved to Lyons 9 years ago. Keeping people in town keeps money in town.

Chris and Sarah Legh are offering the town a revitalized and improved venue that will energize and give hope to the already established businesses. As committees, you have the ability to support the success of their establishment and in turn, put community first, as they always have. I implore you to grant their requests and bring life back to our town economy.

