

THE WHEEL RESTAURANT
c/o The Village Food & Beverage LLC
4 Star Point
Stamford, CT 06902

January 20, 2022

VIA EMAIL

Land Use / Urban Redevelopment Committee
Stamford Board of Representatives
888 Washington Boulevard
Stamford, CT 06901

Dear Committee Members:

I am one of the owners and operators of The Village Food & Beverage LLC, d/b/a The Wheel Restaurant, located at 4 Star Point in Stamford (“The Wheel”). I am writing this letter in response to your request for public feedback following concerns residents have raised regarding noise emanating from local Harbor Point businesses.

First, I want to thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We take this very seriously and, as a local business in Stamford, we are committed to being good neighbors to those we seek to serve. We are equally interested in addressing any reasonable concerns which may relate directly to the operations of The Wheel. We appreciate the creation of this forum so that we can learn as much as possible about the issues at hand.

Although we launched our business just last summer, we have greatly enjoyed being in Stamford. We have had great feedback and support from our customers and patrons, the vast majority of whom reside in Harbor Point and Shippan. We came to Stamford in large part because we share the same vision as our local government leaders: cultivating and expanding a community for creating, collaborating and connecting in Stamford. We believe our business model can be used as a guide for others in the region to see Stamford’s limitless opportunities and potential.

As you may be aware, we do not have a year-round live music venue. We generally only provide live music to our customers on our outdoor patio on Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons during the summer months and into early fall. Since this was our first year of operations, we made several adjustments throughout the summer to the location and type of music that was being provided.

Although we have never received a citation, monetary fine or police warning for any noise ordinance violations, we have been very mindful of the few residents who directly voiced concerns about the volume of the music. Following receipt of such concerns, we immediately engaged a sound engineer from Norwalk to ensure that we followed sound mitigation protocols and procedures. We moved larger bands further down the canal toward Route 95 and we turned the stage and the speakers to point toward our neighboring asphalt plant. We continued to monitor

the situation and make other changes as we thought were necessary. As for the upcoming summer, we are actively planning to ensure that we implement additional volume limits on our amplified equipment and to engage musicians with smaller ensembles.

We believe that the foregoing is evidence of our good faith efforts to address those who have raised concerns, while still being able to provide a seemingly much needed and much enjoyed food and beverage venue to our local community. As you know, we are new to the area and we are hopeful that we are given an opportunity to continue to be good neighbors.

As for the public meeting on January 20th, people from our team will be in attendance so that we may digest all concerns raised from the community. Our primary focus at the public meeting will be to listen and observe in order to provide a successful plan for the upcoming season. We do not believe this is the proper forum to debate any issues. To that end, we would welcome the opportunity to meet with your Committee directly to explain our goals, plans and objectives.

Once again, thank you for your time. Please feel free to reach out to me via email, at robertlia19@gmail.com, if you would like to discuss or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert M. Lia', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert M. Lia