

From: [Seth Fiermonti](#)
To: [Karen Edwards](#)
Subject: Support for Tideline Public House
Date: Tuesday, July 5, 2022 10:12:21 AM

Hi Karen -

My name is Seth Fiermonti and I've lived in Durham for over 16 years. I have seen all the information both from the Letourneaus as well as Elisa Jayne regarding the Schoolhouse Ln parking and zoning issues.

I sympathize with both sides of this concern and I wanted to state that I fully support this business and its plans moving forward. I think compromise - especially in this day and age - are a rarity but in this case I am hoping both parties can come to some sort of mutual compromise and work on building trust moving forward.

To that end, I think that removing ALL spaces on Schoolhouse Ln is not the right approach and that having some left are important to the usability of the new business and town. I am not sure what all the options are but I do think it's important to keep the traffic patterns away from the very few residential homes on the street and especially the turnaround spot. Not sure if reversing directions or creating another one way would be permissible? For example, make it DO NOT ENTER from the Newmarket Rd side just after Tideline but residents could still go through to their homes? Or create resident only parking beyond Tideline? Just some thoughts and not sure how useful they are!

On another note, I don't think either party here is trying to mislead or be hostile toward each other but Facebook groups and public commenting can make things even harder. I would urge them to work together with good open lines of communication. I believe the Letourneaus to be operating in good faith and working toward a compromising solution. I am sure they don't want to upset residents of Durham and I would say the same for Elisa Jayne. I am sure she is only looking out for her safety and the safety of others. I am not sure how it devolved into accusatory actions from Ms Jayne to Tideline but it's off-putting to me only tangentially observing from a distance.

I sincerely hope that Tideline is allowed to open, flourishes in Durham, and creates a family friendly and community oriented space where we can meet with neighbors and friends throughout the area. I have seen these establishments work in even more residential neighborhoods where people parked on the streets in the surrounding blocks. On vacation to WA and OR, we frequented food truck areas and sought them out actually. I saw many families with young children enjoy the ambiance, food, and some even offered kids play areas. They were blocks and blocks away from any downtown "core" and were actually frequented by the residents in the area more so than students or an abundance of over-indulging youth.

However, Durham with its issue of encroaching student housing, Madbury Rd frat partying, etc.. have proven to embed a perception of these places. I would argue the closest thing to Tideline is Hop and Grind. It has taps, plenty of beer, and just so happens to serve food. I have never witnessed loud and partying students and always considered it safe to bring my kids there at any hour. They too close at 9pm.

In the end, I wish to have Tideline as another option for Durham residents, a safe place to enjoy a rotating flavor of cultural and regional cuisine, and a place that will promote and showcase Durham as yet another reason to move to the area.

Best regards,
Seth Fiermonti