
SV Quick LOT Poll - Please respond ASAP!

Mike Soelch <mike@stovevillageinn.com>
To: Abby Bourgeois <abby@stovevibrancy.org>

Fri, Apr 17, 2026 at 9:17 AM

Hi Abby,

Thank you for the email. I own the Stowe Village Inn and Grant's restaurant with my wife Lauren. As small local business owners, we strongly oppose the additional 1% increase in local taxes. I read Charles's email and just want to comment that it's easy to say you support tax increases when you are on the receiving end of it.

Small businesses generate this revenue for the town. Operating a business in Stowe is very expensive due to high labor costs (trying to compete with Vail) and ridiculous property taxes, which have increased by 48% since we purchased the business in 2022. For our business to survive, we must raise our rates to keep up with the fiscal demands from the state and town. We have already received pushback from our guests regarding our high room rates and continuously increasing restaurant prices to keep up with our expenses. Adding extra taxes for potential tourists considering visiting Stowe will be a deterrent and reach a point of diminishing returns. It will also negatively affect local residents, who support Stowe businesses through the slow seasons.

Looking at the big picture, lowering taxes will incentivise new business and growth, which will help stimulate the VT economy and ultimately reduce the property tax burden for Vermonters. Unfortunately, Vermont operates with an anti-business mentality.

Thank You,
Mike Soelch

On Fri, Apr 17, 2026 at 7:33 AM The Stowe Village Inn <stay@stovevillageinn.com> wrote:



— The Stowe —
**VILLAGE
INN**

123 Mountain Road | Stowe, Vermont 05672

stovevillageinn.com (802) 500-3232

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Charles Safford <csafford@stovevt.gov>

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Mike Soelch
Owner

The Stowe Village Inn & Grant's
123 Mountain Road | Stowe, Vermont 05672
stovevillageinn.com (802) 500-3232