



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Oneonta Residents Invited to Weigh In on Short-Term Rental Policy

Online and paper survey open to all Town residents, including renters, homeowners, and STR operators.

WEST ONEONTA, NY April 6, 2026 — With an estimated 91 short-term rental properties currently listed in the Town of Oneonta, the Town's Short-Term Rental Advisory Committee is asking residents to complete a community survey as it prepares policy recommendations for the Town Board by August 2026. The survey is available online at <https://bit.ly/4coqKpj> and in paper form at Town Hall, 3966 State Highway 23, West Oneonta. All Town residents are invited to participate regardless of whether they own, rent, or operate a short-term rental property.

According to the 2020 US Census, the Town of Oneonta has 2,286 housing units, of which 97 are short-term rentals, representing approximately 4.24%. Housing and community development experts advocate limiting short-term rentals to 1-2% of the housing stock. This indicates that the Town of Oneonta currently exceeds the recommended percentage of short-term rentals by a significant margin. The rising home prices are increasingly putting homeownership out of reach for many, particularly first-time buyers. It is crucial for this committee to consider these factors and work towards a balanced housing strategy.

The eight-question survey asks residents about their views on short-term rentals, the advantages and disadvantages they see, what policy approaches they support, and whether they have personally experienced issues related to a nearby short-term rental. The survey takes approximately five to ten minutes to complete.

"We can research best practices and review what other towns have done. But the people who live here know what is working and what is not. That is what this survey is for," said Trish Riddell Kent, Deputy Town Supervisor and Committee Chair.

The five-member advisory committee was established in January 2026 and is chaired by Riddell Kent. The committee's role is advisory. Its final recommendations will go to the full Town Board for a vote.

Residents can complete the survey online at <https://bit.ly/4coqKpj>, pick up a paper copy at Town Hall during regular business hours, or request a copy by contacting the Town Clerk at clerk@townofoneonta.org. Deadline for survey completion is May 1, 2026.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can take the survey?

Any resident of the Town of Oneonta. The survey is open to homeowners, renters, short-term rental operators, business owners, and anyone who lives in the Town.

How long does it take?

The survey has eight questions. Most people can complete it in five to ten minutes.

Is my response anonymous?

Providing your name is optional. The survey asks for your address to help the committee understand how short-term rentals affect different parts of town.

What happens with my answers?

Every response is read by the committee. The committee will present its findings, including what residents said, to the Town Board by August 2026. The Town Board will then review and vote on any recommended policy changes.

Are committee meetings open to the public?

Yes. The committee meets at the Oneonta Town Hall, and the schedule is posted at www.townofoneonta.org. Residents are welcome to attend.

How else can I participate?

Residents can attend Town Board meetings, submit written comments to the Town Supervisor's office, or contact the Town Clerk at clerk@townofoneonta.org.

ABOUT THE TOWN OF ONEONTA

The Town of Oneonta is located in Otsego County, New York. The Town Board meets at Town Hall, 3966 State Highway 23, West Oneonta. For more information, contact the Town Clerk at clerk@townofoneonta.org.

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