

March 27, 2026

Mayor Margaret M. Doud and Members of the Mackinac Island City Council

Mayor: Margaret M. Doud

Council Members: Anneke Myers, Jason St. Onge, Richard Chambers, Tom Corrigan, Steven Moskwa, and Lindsey White

City of Mackinac Island

Mackinac Island, Michigan

Re: Request for Temporary Noise Ordinance Relief, May 15–16, 2026 (Code of Ordinances Sec. 38-145)

Dear Mayor Doud and Honorable Members of the City Council,

We are writing on behalf of Kate + Co., a full-service wedding and event planning firm based in the Midwest, and on behalf of our clients. We are writing to respectfully request temporary relief from the City's noise ordinance pursuant to Section 38-145 of the Mackinac Island Code of Ordinances. A wedding will be hosted at The Inn at Stonecliffe (8593 Cudahy Cir), and we are seeking an extension of permissible outdoor event hours on the following dates:

- **Friday, May 15, 2026** — extended until 11:30 p.m.
- **Saturday, May 16, 2026** — extended until 12:30 a.m. the following morning (Sunday, May 17)

We have had the benefit of speaking directly with Chief Miedzianowski regarding this matter, as well as Mr. Patrick Conlon, the General Manager at The Inn at Stonecliffe. Both individuals have been briefed and have directed us to present this request before the City Council. We welcome the opportunity to do so at the April 1, 2026 meeting.

Background and Basis for the Request

We are submitting this letter on the couple's behalf in consideration of their privacy given the sensitive nature of the request. We would be honored to answer any questions from the Council in person during the April 1st session.

The bride grew up in Michigan and has long held a heartfelt wish to be married in her home state.

The groom lives with two diagnosed medical conditions: he is legally blind and has severe hearing loss. These conditions are not incidental to this request, they are central to it. Indoor ballroom environments present genuine barriers for him: limited lighting significantly impairs his vision, and the enclosed acoustics create levels of ambient noise and reverberation that make it extremely difficult for him to hear and meaningfully participate in his own wedding. An outdoor venue is not a preference. it is a central requirement rooted in his medical reality.

The Inn at Stonecliffe was identified as one of the few venues in Michigan in a suitable location, capable of hosting two outdoor evening events across consecutive nights; a structure that is itself a direct result of the groom's need for an environment in which he can fully participate. No other reasonable alternative was available that could meet this requirement. It is this circumstance that we believe speaks directly to the hardship standard set forth in Section 38-145.

We also wish to note that the venue was selected and contracted in complete good faith, unaware that the events as planned would later conflict with municipal regulations.

Steps Taken to Minimize Community Impact

We have taken meaningful steps to protect the surrounding community from any disruption:

1. The entirety of the Inn at Stonecliffe is reserved for exclusive use on both nights. This decision came at considerable expense to the bride and groom - furthering the point that this venue was selected and invested in specifically for its ability to host outdoor events with minimal impact to other community members.
2. All available units at Sunset Condominiums are currently reserved in connection with the event, in the hope that neighboring guests are not adversely affected.
3. The Inn at Stonecliffe is situated in a relatively remote section of Mackinac Island, which we believe further limits the potential for broader community impact.

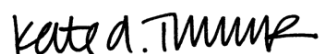
Chief Miedzianowski and his department are in possession of the contact information for all four professional wedding planners who will be on-site during both events, as well as other members of the wedding party. The police department will have direct and immediate access to on-site personnel should any concerns arise.

Closing

We have the deepest respect for the noise ordinance and the quality of life it protects for residents and visitors of Mackinac Island alike. We wish to be clear: this is not a routine request for an ordinance deviation of convenience or personal desire. This is a request grounded in a genuine medical condition that necessitates a specific and uncommon accommodation. We believe that the spirit of Section 38-145 applies with full force here: providing relief where undue hardship exists and no reasonable alternative is available.

We are grateful for the Council's time and thoughtful consideration, and we look forward to addressing this request via Zoom on April 1st, if granted the opportunity. Please do not hesitate to contact us directly in advance of that meeting.

With great respect and appreciation,



Kate Turner

CEO, Kate + Co. Events.