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Submitted in Econ. Dev. Committee

Council File No: 14-0593

Item No.: 19

~~Category~~: Communication from the public.

Councilmember Curren Price
Chair, Economic Development Committee
200 N. Spring St., Room 420
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Councilmember Jose Huizar
Chair, Planning and Land Use Management Committee
200 North Spring St.
Room 465, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

August 12, 2014

Councilmembers:

On May 7, 2014 Council President Wesson and Councilmember Bonin introduced a motion directing the CLA and CAO to convene a working group composed of key City Departments and stakeholders to prepare a comprehensive report on the "Sharing Economy" and present a report back to the City Council on a variety of benefits and impacts to the City.

Airbnb supports this motion and urges its approval. In the six years since Airbnb was created, we have seen how home sharing helped countless families pay the bills, stay in their homes or simply pursue their dreams. We welcome the opportunity to discuss these issues with policymakers and we share your commitment to making Los Angeles an even better place to live, work and visit.

We understand that Airbnb and the Sharing Economy are new, and many policymakers and community members have questions about our community. We look forward to addressing those questions and working with stakeholders to craft policies that protect the public interest and ensure the Sharing Economy continues to thrive.

Councilmember Curren Price
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We support the creation of clear, fair, progressive rules for home sharing and we believe this study will lay the foundation for smart policies in Los Angeles. In order to ensure the study is as effective as possible, we encourage the Council to create two distinct working groups to study different sectors of the Sharing Economy:

- A group for transportation related Shared Economy companies
- A group for home sharing related Sharing Economy platforms (such as Airbnb)

Sharing Economy companies are similar, but home sharing platforms and transportation networking companies raise separate regulatory questions involving distinct stakeholders and public agencies. The City would be well served by considering the economic impacts and benefits of each individual sector.

Airbnb is committed to working with everyone in Los Angeles as we move forward and we commend you for your leadership in this field.

My best,



David Owen

Cc: Members of the Los Angeles City Council
Mayor Eric Garcetti