

RE: Council File #14-1635-S2

Dear L.A. City Council;

My name is Hanna Collins, I am a middle income 33 year old freelance sound mixer, expecting mother, and a home owner in Los Angeles. I don't think you fully understand the gravity of what Airbnb is doing in our community.

Normally when you are about to have a child or already have a family in a city such as Los Angeles, New York or San Francisco and you are middle income you are forced to move away from your community in an effort to afford a life for your family. Thanks to the extra income we earn from Airbnb, we're able to afford to pay our mortgage without stress during slower times in the film industry. This ensures we stay in our community so that we can raise our child in our supportive network. Not only that but the extra income will also allow me to stay at home more with my child. Airbnb is doing for the middle class what I feel the government is not able to do - the ability to afford to own a home in our community instead of resigning ourselves to renting or moving.

I also think there's a misconception of who is using Airbnb. We make sure to vet each and every guest that we host to make sure they are respectable people. The majority of people who stay at our home used to live in Venice or they come here frequently for business or to visit family. We've had photographers, composers, graphic designers, producers, and advertising executives just to name a few professions. These are people that specifically stay in our area because they are already connected to the people in it.

My day rate has not gone up since I started working in production sound in 2007 and I am not the only one who has not seen an increase in income despite a sharp increase in costs to live in this city. We all are aware that the longer they keep the interest rates this low the worse

inflation is going to become. So what are my options? What can I do as an individual who has worked hard and lived fiscally responsible her entire life do to keep her middle income life and be a present parent? Airbnb has been my solution and I think it's been many others. We are not contributing to lack of affordable housing. If we decided to rent our home out in Venice it wouldn't even be considered "affordable" for the majority of the population.

Airbnb is only a part of this new share society and I believe it is coming from a place of people trying to find other ways to afford their lives and I don't see it stopping anytime soon. Bike share programs, Uber, Zipcar, Airbnb, ThredUp, and any other way people are sharing the cost of living is your citizens trying to make living in your city work for them. Maybe it's unconventional but I don't think conventional is working anymore for anyone other than the upper class. Please be aware that by targeting Airbnb you are also targeting your middle class who is trying to make their housing and their lives affordable without your assistance. This is what Airbnb is doing for your community.

Kindly,
Hanna Collins
Los Angeles, CA
90291

Re: Council File #14-1635-S2

Dear LA City Council,

I'm writing to ask that you consider home owners like me when you draft the final legislation on home sharing. I've been a tax paying resident of Los Angeles for 16 years and I'm also a responsible Airbnb host.

My name is Adam and I'm a 35 year old expecting father (it's a boy!) and Venice resident. For the past 18 years I've been a freelance employee working in the film industry and I currently work as a Director of Photography. I love what I do for a living, but because I am a temporary daily employee, it can be very stressful during slow times to make ends meet. A couple years ago I came across Airbnb and started vacation renting my guest house. I've found the extra money a great way to supplement my income during these slow times and it's been a huge relief for my family knowing that we can always make our mortgage and property tax payments without stressing that we might lose our house. Additionally, the supplemental income that we're making from Airbnb is going to provide my wife the invaluable opportunity to work less and spend more time at home raising our son through his early developmental years. That's good not only for my family but also for our community.

Speaking of community.

Over the past couple years Airbnb has been an integral part of me growing closer with my neighbors. All of us in LA have a large family and friend network that live in other places. I've been lucky enough to host my neighbors family and friends and this has been a great way to bring us all closer. Additionally, we provide all of our guests with a comprehensive neighborhood guide and map outlining our favorite local businesses and restaurants and this undeniably stimulates our local economy in an astounding way.

Last year we used the money we earned from Airbnb towards the restoration costs of our beautiful 1923 Bungalow and we did most of the work ourselves. We take pride in our home and in our community. Please move forward with sensible laws that protect hosts like us so we can continue to stay in our home contributing to our community.

Sincerely,
Adam Richards
Venice, Ca 90291



Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>

city council file 14-1635-s2

1 message

MaryAnne LoVerme <info@lacountystore.com>

Thu, Feb 18, 2016 at 2:26 PM

To: councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org

Cc: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, sharon.gin@lacity.org

Dear Councilmember O'Farrell,

I am writing as the owner of Los Angeles County Store. We are the only shop exclusively dedicated to goods and gifts made in Los Angeles and are about to celebrate our second anniversary in May. We are located in the Sunset Village shopping plaza on the corner of Sunset at Fountain, around the corner from Mack Sennett Studios.

I want to let you know of our support of Airbnb and other homesharing websites that provide much needed housing for visitors to this neighborhood. We have residential neighbors who are Airbnb hosts and they refer their guests to us on a regular basis. We are a great place for them to find unique souvenirs that are actually made in Los Angeles.

I ask you to please support local businesses in your district by welcoming visitors and allowing them choices in the type of accommodation they may want to select.

Thank you for your support of Los Angeles County Store and the Silver Lake neighborhood.

kind regards,
MaryAnne LoVerme
Los Angeles County Store

<http://lacountystore.com/>

<http://instagram.com/lacountystore>

<http://www.yelp.com/biz/los-angeles-county-store-los-angeles>

<https://www.facebook.com/lacountystore>

<https://twitter.com/lacountystore>

February 20, 2016

The Honorable Paul Krekorian
5240 N. Lankershim Blvd., Ste 200
North Hollywood, CA 91601

Re: #14-1635-S2 Seeking Your Support for Home Sharing/Short-Term Rentals

Dear Councilmember Paul Krekorian:

As the city develops legislation on short-term rentals, I'm writing today to share my host story and to seek your support to develop an ordinance that is favorable to home sharing.

Over the last several years, I became newly divorced after a long marriage. It was a jarring, challenging time as I adjusted to my new life and moved to a new house in North Hollywood. I patched up the house, made it homey and made it beautiful. I also slowly patched up my life as I built a wonderful new community, of which Airbnb and my friends play a central role. I've since hosted my first July 4 BBQ; roasted marshmallows with guests from Hungary and Canada; picked pomelos in my yard with guests from Germany; belted out *La Vien Rose* by the kitchen sink with new friends from France. I also welcomed more than a dozen future Angelenos as they moved here from New York, France, Brazil and Egypt.

While I've opened my doors and extended a touch of LA warmth to guests from near and far, little did I know I would receive so much more. Several of my guests have become lifelong friends. A young Chinese couple made me a scrumptious meal of spicy Szechuan soup and rice in my kitchen; my New Yorker-guest-turned-Angeleno-friend is now part of my writers group; a senior couple from Ohio supported me through the passing of my beloved cat.

Home sharing has been one of the most rewarding and life-enhancing experiences of my life, and I humbly ask you to take into consideration the very positive impact that home sharing has on the quality of life for our city's many resident hosts and visitors.

And of course, there is the additional win-win-win economic benefits for the host, the city and the neighborhood's businesses. Income from Airbnb hosting has helped me with my mortgage and also defrayed some of the costs of unexpected home repairs. It has helped me contribute to the city's hotel taxes, and I'm also delighted to send my guests to patronize NoHo businesses like *77 Asian Kitchen*, *House of Wings*, *Tokyo Delves*, *EAT*, *Republic of Pie*, *101 Korean BBQ*, *Hayat's Kitchen*, *Chinese Delight*, *Federal Bar*, *Vallarta's*, *Ralphs*, *Target* and more.

Thank you for your time. I sincerely seek your help to put in place favorable home sharing legislation that is supportive of your resident hosts. I firmly believe that a supportive ordinance will have major ripple effects. It will provide opportunities, help bring out the best in us individuals as well as bring out the best in Los Angeles to be *the* city with lots of heart, soul and economic success!

Yours Truly,
Sharon Sim
NoHo Homeowner & Airbnb Host