May 20, 2016

Matthew Glesne, Housing Planner
Department of City Planning
200 N. Spring Street, 6th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: CF 14-1635-S2 Short-Term Rentals Ordinance Enforcement Funding

Dear Mr. Glesne:

I would like to thank you and the Department of City Planning for drafting up a proposed ordinance regulating short-term rentals in the City of Los Angeles for review by the public, the City Planning Commission, and by City Council. I am supportive of an ordinance to provide reasonable and thoughtful regulations that protect quality of life in neighborhoods and allow for the sharing economy. I look forward to hearing the public feedback provided this Saturday, May 21st.

There is one issue that I want to highlight and be clear as a major red flag for me: the lack of a clear funding stream and plan for enforcement.

Without a real plan for enforcement, our residents will accurately feel that they were subject to a bait and switch. This cannot happen. I urge the Planning Department and my Council colleagues to gather input from all stakeholders to clearly put in place a funding stream and structure for enforcement before passage of any ordinance. Whether that source is a portion of the Transient Occupancy Taxes (TOT) collected from the rentals, funded by registration fees, or funded in part by non-compliance fines, we must have a clear funding stream and plan in place.

Please contact Nick Greif of my staff at nicholas.greif@lacity.org or 213.473.7004 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David E. Ryu
Councilmember