

14-1635-52



Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>

Vote against Short Term Rentals / AirBNB in Rent Controlled Units!

Adam Karp <aj@karp.com>

Sun, Apr 17, 2016 at 7:01 PM

To: matthew.glesne@lacity.org, pat8lyon@gmail.com, councilmember.bonin@lacity.org, sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

I am a tenant in a rent controlled unit in Playa Del Rey. I have three close friends who have been evicted from rent controlled units in the past six months just so the owner could occupy the space, but then actually just post it to AirBnB. It is wrong to use the Ellis Act to take control of a rental property and then make more money on it through AirBnB. The entire reason for rent control is to protect the tenant from this type of behavior. Please vote no! I do not want to be the next victim of this.

I will be watching this vote, and in future elections I will be voting against anyone who votes to approve short term rentals.

-Adam Karp
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Short Term Rental legislation

Michael Gemme <mike@michaelgemme.com>

Sun, Apr 17, 2016 at 8:14 PM

To: matthew.glesne@lacity.org, pat8lyon@gmail.com, councilmember.bonin@lacity.org, sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, lucyhan4@aol.com, jan@janhaagen.com

Hello,

My name is Michael Gemme and I am a 14 year resident of Playa del Rey. I will not attend Tuesday's Neighborhood Council meeting (nor any others) as I feel the Council exists to represent Westchester residents only - it's been painfully clear through the last two elections that the people of Playa del Rey are electorally outnumbered by their Westchester neighbors, and therefore have little to no representation on the Council. Fair representation will not happen until the Council is broken up into two different and separate groups. Until then Playa del Rey is unrepresented by a Neighborhood Council in my opinion.

That said, some of my friends have asked that I voice my opinion on this matter, and for them I have acquiesced to do so:

I am a Playa del Rey resident writing to express my opinion on the scourge of short term rentals in Los Angeles, in particular in Playa del Rey. I personally have several friends who have been evicted and displaced because the owner of their rental property figured out they could squeeze some more profit out of the property by converting it into a hotel. Their new "tenants" don't care in the least about the community, and are generally rude and disruptive to the way of life around here. There is ZERO enforcement from the city, so neighbors have had to take matters into their own hands, to disastrous results. Removing renters to replace them with hotel guests is literally sucking the soul out of Playa del Rey. I know many people who have been friendly neighbors for decades who don't speak to each other any more over this issue. What was once a friendly community is now rife with suspicion and mistrust. I feel like I should congratulate the ruling class (read: land owners) and STR companies though: they figured out an end-around play that effectively sterilizes Los Angeles' rent-control laws, AND simultaneously gets rid of the renters that owners and politicians disdain so much. Well played. You've gone around the law and made yourself more money, and it is only forcing good people out and costing a community it's soul!

How many short-term renters do you figure will show up at Jungle Clean Up this year? I personally will no longer attend- why would I want to help the owners of hotels clean up their properties? Let them hire somebody for that. That's how it works in a soul-less, profits-first community.

Los Angeles has recently been found in multiple studies to be among the least renter-friendly cities in the U.S. Allowing land owners to throw out their renters simply for profit will only exacerbate the issue and solidify Los Angeles as a "wealthy land-owners only" community. What a terrible shame to allow these people to destroy such a unique community over nothing but their own greed.

I don't expect you guys to actually do anything about this- it's clear that politicians exist at the behest of the wealthy and powerful, and serve their needs only. I just wanted my name added to the record on this matter so when you look back and wonder what destroyed Playa del Rey, you'll know that I warned you.

Sincerely,

Michael Gemme