From: JoAnn Matyas <jomtys1@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Apr 6, 2017 at 9:00 AM
Subject: Re: A 180-day cap on short term rentals will NOT fix the problem!
To: Mayor.garcetti@lacity.org, Vince.berton@lacity.org, claire.bowin@lacity.org, matthew.glesne@lacity.org, ashley.atkinson@lacity.org, councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, matt.hale@lacity.org, john.popoch@lacity.org, councilmember.ryu@lacity.org, nicholas.greif@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, james.bickhart@lacity.org, councilmember.martinez@lacity.org, jim.danton@lacity.org, alexis.marin@lacity.org, councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org, lynell.washington@lacity.org, councilmember.price@lacity.org, paloma.perez@lacity.org, marisa.alcaraz@lacity.org, susan.wong@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, justin.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.bonin@lacity.org, tricia.keane@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, doug.tripp@lacity.org, hannah.lee@lacity.org, councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org, david.giron@lacity.org, star.parsamyan@lacity.org, councilmember.buscalino@lacity.org, jenny.chavez@lacity.org, dennis.gleason@lacity.org, Councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, Councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org, Sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, Gerald.gubatan@lacity.org, Shawn.kuk@lacity.org, Kevin.ocubillo@lacity.org

Councilmembers,

I have lived in a rent-controlled apartment building in Hollywood for 20 years. Over the last 8 years, 12 of the apartments in my building have been turned into short-term rentals, typically after long-term tenants have been harassed out by the new owners who are real-estate speculators from Santa Barbara. The 5 remaining apartments containing long-term rent-controlled tenants have faced eviction attempts, loss of parking spaces so that short-term guests can park, being locked out of the renovated laundry room to which short-term guests have full access, threats to our pets, etc. This building used to be a community of people who live and work in Los Angeles, typically in creative jobs. Now it is a revolving door of short-term tenants who threaten our privacy and security, to say nothing of the peace of mind we used to enjoy before the constant harassment to drive us out. A 180-day cap will not change this situation.

Please, please, please support a cap of no more than 60 days per year on short-term rentals, and help to preserve the dwindling supply of affordable long-term housing in Los Angeles. Also please consider adding enforcement measures that work, as nothing seems to slow these owners down in their drive to maximize their profits.

Sincerely,

JoAnn Matyas
Hollywood

> On Mar 24, 2017, at 9:31 AM, JoAnn Matyas <jomtys1@gmail.com> wrote:
> 
> Dear Councilmembers,
>
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> Please, please, please support a cap of no more than 60-days per year, and help to preserve the dwindling supply of affordable long-term housing in Los Angeles. Also please consider adding enforcement measures that work, as nothing so far seems to slow these owners down in their drive to maximize their profits.

> Thank you.

> Sincerely,

> JoAnn Matyas
Short-Term Rental News

Discrimination

SoCal Woman Claims Airbnb Host Canceled Reservation Because of Her Race

NBC Los Angeles | 4/6/17

A Southern California woman said her relaxing weekend in the mountains turned into a nightmare when an Airbnb host abruptly canceled a cabin reservation because of her race. Law student Dyne Suh was looking forward to spending Presidents Day weekend with her fiancé, friends and dogs at what she thought was the perfect winter cabin in Running Springs.

While Suh was headed up to the cabin in stormy weather, she sent a text message to the host to confirm the reservation for four people. According to Suh, that's when the host denied agreeing to guests at her cabin. "I wouldn't rent it to u (sic) if u (sic) were the last person on earth," the host told Suh in a text exchange that was shown to NBC4. "One word says it all. Asian."

Airbnb and the Plight of the Female Host and Traveler

Skift | 4/6/17

Missing from that report, however, was the discussion of the complex needs of female Airbnb users, whether they act as hosts or guests. These are, often, needs related to safety, security, and a strong sense of community or support that are especially heightened when women travel (or host) alone.

Legal Cases

Santa Monica wins legal fight with prolific short-term vacation rental host

Curbed Los Angeles | 3/31/17

In its ongoing fight to crack down on short-term vacation rentals, Santa Monica's new vacation rental enforcement task force has scored a legal victory against a prolific host. A trial jury in Los Angeles County Superior Court has upheld 35 of 36 citations that the city filed against short-term rental company Globe Homes LLC, the city announced this week. Court records show the violations included operating without a business license, failure to pay a transient occupancy tax, and renting out a residential dwelling for 30 consecutive days or less.

Short-term vacation rental complaint moves forward

https://groups.google.com/a/lacity.org/forum/#!topic/clerk.plumcommittee/CMAr9K-I9CY/UY1jGTCskAAAJ?ctz=3821751_84_88_104280_84_446940
A judge has denied San Diego Country Estates Association's request to dismiss a complaint filed by a homeowner earlier this year regarding a short-term vacation rental in the neighborhood. The 4,195-square-foot house is listed on Vacation Rentals By Owner (VRBO) as having five bedrooms and sleeping 10 people. The complaint states that it has been rented to large groups of people for periods of three to 10 days. One of the claims in the complaint is that allowing Williams to operate a business out of the house is in violation of the CC&Rs.

**Operator of illegal Napa B&B sentenced to probation, $602 fine**

*Napa Valley Register | 4/7/17*

A Napa homeowner who repeatedly ignored a court order to stop operating an unpermitted vacation rental was sentenced to three years of probation, a $602 fine and credit for three days served in county jail for his behavior. Goya "Sean" Sheen, the owner of 3366 Linda Mesa Way in Browns Valley, pleaded guilty in criminal court on Wednesday to disobeying a civil court order and two counts of creating a public nuisance.

**Crime**

**AIRBNB SCAM Mum-of-one, 51, 'left £3,000 out of pocket after impostor hacked into her Airbnb account and booked SIX holidays'**

*The Sun | 4/6/17*

Cazz Ward woke up to text messages from the travel accommodation company on Sunday morning, informing she had booked a string of holidays overnight to London and Barcelona. But the 51-year-old, from Manchester, has not booked a holiday since her trip to Berlin last year and instantly knew she had been hacked. The crafty conmen changed her account password so Cazz was unable to cancel the bookings and even turned up to stay at the rented apartments. Despite the six different holidays draining £3,000 from her bank account, Cazz claims she did not receive a refund until she tweeted the company's CEO 10 days later.

**Growth**

**You'll Never Guess Which City Has The Most Airbnb Properties**

*Forbes | 4/6/17*

Since launching in 2008, Airbnb has absolutely exploded in popularity. It's posted impressive growth numbers every single year since its early San Francisco beginnings, and despite how ubiquitous the platform already seems, it shows no sign of slowing down. As with any global platform, though, some cities have become vastly more popular than others.

**Airbnb Denies Report of Talks With Chinese Home-Sharing Service Xiaozhu**

*Fortune | 4/6/17*

Home-sharing company Airbnb on Wednesday denied a report in the China Daily newspaper that it was in talks with Chinese home-sharing platform Xiaozhu to work together in markets such as Japan and South Korea. The newspaper reported that Xiaozhu's chief executive Chen Chi said in an interview published on Wednesday that a partnership with Airbnb was also likely to cover China but talks were in early stages.

**City and State Action**

**San Antonio wants to rein in rowdy houses on Airbnb**

*San Antonio Express News | 4/3/17*
Airbnb, the short-term rental service that upended hotel markets in New York, San Francisco and Miami, is starting to cut into profits for hoteliers in Texas and attract attention from local lawmakers.

**Miami-Dade and Broward approve deals to collect millions in taxes from Airbnb**

*Miami Herald | 4/4/17*

Miami-Dade and Broward counties passed tax deals with Airbnb Tuesday, signaling a major win for the home-sharing platform that has been aggressively lobbying for deals in its top two Florida counties. The tax deals, which will bring at least $6 million and $1 million annually in tourist taxes to Miami-Dade and Broward, respectively, bring Airbnb's count of county deals in Florida to 38. The platform is seeking to strike a deal with all 63 eligible counties in the state by the end of the year.

**Bill addressing Airbnb rentals clears Indiana Senate**

*WHIO | 4/6/17*

The Indiana Senate has narrowly backed a proposal attempting to navigate regulations on short-term rentals amid a changing market with companies like Airbnb. Senators voted 27-20 in favor of the bill Thursday. The House approved a different version last month and more changes could be made before a final agreement is reached.

Our coalition represents workers, neighbors, tenants, lodging associations, employers and affordable housing advocates. We stand united behind responsible and appropriate regulation of the short-term rental (STR) industry in Los Angeles.

Short-Term Rental Coalition consisting of AH&LA, CH&LA, Hotel Assoc. of LA, Keep Neighborhoods First, LAANE, UNITE HERE Local 11, and other neighborhood, business and community groups, 414 29th Street, Sacramento, CA 95816

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