Fwd: Against the Short Term Rental Ordinance

Anna Martinez <anna.martinez@lacity.org>  
To: Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>, Gloria Pinon <gloria.pinon@lacity.org>  
Mon, Jun 11, 2018 at 2:06 PM

Please see email below.

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Anna Martinez  
Office of the City Clerk  
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Los Angeles, CA 90012  
213-978-1025  
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Mail Stop 160-01

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: The Blush House <blushhouse@att.net>  
Date: Mon, Jun 11, 2018 at 1:57 PM  
Subject: Against the Short Term Rental Ordinance  
To: jose.huizar@lacity.org, Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org, CityClerk@lacity.org, Councilmember.Englander@lacity.org, Councilmember.Price@lacity.org, Councilmember.Harris-Dawson@lacity.org, Councilmember.Blumenfield@lacity.org

Hello PLUM Committee,

I am writing to urge you against the AirBnB restrictions as they are set forth.

We quietly run a successful AirBnB which contributes greatly to the local economy and also supports an extra stream of income which allows our family members to remain in Los Angeles and contribute to the city’s arts community and events scene, of which we have always been a significant part. It has become increasingly difficult to do so and our AirBnB is a help to get by.

Our AirBnB was registered with the city from the start, we file our Occupancy Tax forms monthly, and our rental is run with extreme consideration of our neighborhood. We stringently enforce high standards to do so: carefully screened guests, no smoking, no parties, quiet hours, and several reminders about respecting our neighbors and street. Our neighbors have never had one instance to complain because we are on-site to keep a close watch to make sure our guests’ stay is enjoyable for them, and “invisible” to everyone else.

We regularly employ cleaning crews, handymen, plumbers, electricians, and gardeners to maintain the property, and spend consistently and locally on supplies and décor. Our guests are often working creatives, business people, international tourists, and families, here in L.A. to do business and spend vacation money—from transportation to food to shopping, and more. Everyone contributes to our city’s prosperity and we are happy to offer a place where guests feel at home and can use amenities they prefer during a stay—it is an experience far different from a hotel.

We are vehemently opposed to the proposed maximum of 120 days and extra fees, which would ruin our AirBnB and drastically change our ability to continue being part of the arts community which makes Los Angeles thrive. It should be our right as life-long residents of Los Angeles to earn income through renting what we own, especially when we contribute so greatly to property and occupancy taxes.
We ask that any legislation takes into special consideration already-established, responsibly-maintained rentals with strong records. We understand the problems that many AirBnBs cause through owner and tenant negligence, but ours is not one of them, and we do not want to be punished for others’ heedlessness. With AirBnB and other rental services bringing nearly $70 million annually into the city, our contributions should be used to subsidize more affordable housing through the city.

The restrictions set forth in the current proposal will wipe out our ability to run a quiet, economy-boosting, responsible small business which helps us survive in Los Angeles. Please consider carefully.

Thank you,

The Roth Family
Silverlake, CA