

I am writing this letter in full support of airbnb continuing to operate as is in Venice, Ca. It is invaluable to have access to short term rentals as it has made visiting Venice an easier and more enjoyable experience for thousands of people. Many of the guests I host have told me they wouldnt be staying in Venice if not for airbnb because there are no hotel rooms available or the rooms are too expensive. I truly believe that airbnb enriches the Venice community and puts money back into our localized economy.

I have hosted guests from all around the world, leading to wonderful encounters, conversations and sharing of life experiences. I have met other vacation rental hosts with similar positive experiences with their guests, as well as similar financial challenges. These members of our community have consistently encouraged us to carry on, in the hope that our situation will get resolved. This new “enterprise” of short-term rentals should give us all pride in finding creative solutions that benefit us individually, as well as our guests and the community, adding to the local economy and making Venice an even better destination for world travelers.

Dear Councilman Koretz:

I have been an Airbnb host for 2 years and it has benefitted the city and me. I recommend that it be continued.

Bringing new guests to stay in our area has provided **the city** with great benefits:

- There are not many inexpensive hotels in this area so it means more people can afford to stay here.
- More tourists bring money to local businesses, taxis, restaurants and local cultural events.
- More jobs- I have given more work to
  - my cleaning lady,
  - handyman,
  - plumber and others.
- More people know the positive parts of LA because where I guide them and they tell other people, return to visit.

Being an Airbnb host has also provided me with **financial support-**

- I have an old 1927 house that takes a lot of repairs. Through the money I have made from Airbnb I have been able to keep my house maintained.
- Many of the houses in this area are being torn down and replaced with huge new modern ones. The money I have made from Airbnb has helped me pay my mortgage and real estate taxes so I can keep my house.

Airbnb has helped me develop **new relationships** with people from around the world.

- I have guided guests when they visited:
  - as tourists
  - while taking a class
  - when taking care of a relative/friend
  - to take meetings in the area
- I enjoy meeting new people and learning about their lives.
- I have met fascinating people like a Syrian woman who has a website about positive people and events from the Middle, who I might not have met in my daily life.

Airbnb provides a vital service for visitors in LA and I recommend that it continue protected.

Best,  
Kathy

Mike Bonin  
LA City Council

6/17/2015

Dear Mr. Bonin,

My wife and I are constituent and residents of the Venice neighborhood. We use Airbnb when we travel and also have listings on Airbnb in Venice. We are writing to you in the hope you will take a supportive stance on short term rental companies including Airbnb. For travelers and tourists that have embraced the sharing economy Airbnb is their preferred choice for accommodations. I believe that restricting Airbnbs operations in Los Angeles and specifically Venice will put the city at a disadvantage to other travel locations.

Tourism is important for Los Angeles. It brings money into the local economy and makes the city a more vibrant place to live. We love interacting with our guests and believe that Airbnb offers a new and special way for travelers to experience a city. It would be a shame for Los Angeles to take this away. We urge you to support policies that will help Airbnb continue to operate, that help make Los Angeles a great place for tourists and in turn brings much needed revenue to the city to drive job growth.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leigh Holmes", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Leigh Holmes