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Objections to Draft Ordinance CF #14-1635-S2 CPC-2016-1243-CA

1 message

Tom Bartlett <tomwbartlett@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 21, 2016 at 5:26 PM

To: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org, cpc@lacity.org, justin.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, Sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, etta.armstrong@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org

Dear Mr Mayor, Planning Dept members, Council members,

I would like to introduce myself and family.. responsible home sharing hosts supporter of the emerging "shared economy".

My name is Tom Bartlett and my wife, Darby and 16 year old Sky are hosts in Eagle Rock CA.

We began sharing our property in 2014 after having success listing a part of my parents home on the coast of Maine. My folks are septugenarians, retired and on a fixed income. They were looking to offset the taxes and costs of keeping up their secondary home, as they did not wish to have to liquidate assets to supplement their retirement. They have succeeded brilliantly in providing a beautiful 1 bedroom apartment to families, couples and individuals and have been able to maintain the upkeep of a coastal home.

Seeing my folks' success we first began renting our Vintage Airstream, and as we are near Occidental College we had no problem attracting parents of college students who were looking for closeby, affordable accommodations. Last fall we began offering a guest cottage on our property as well.

My wife and I both freelance in the film industry and we feel bolstered by the additional income source from sharing our home. My wife has recently retired and now will be on a fixed income. Fortunately, we attract a nice range of tourists from the US and abroad. The median age of our guests is 35. We usually only host mature, previously reviewed guests. My wife and I both freelance in the film industry and we feel bolstered by the additional income source from sharing our home, that simply helps us to afford extra's i.e. music tutors for my son, the ability to better keep up with maintaining our home.

We feel the proposals to cap rentals and limit numbers of units per properties is an onerous step. It presupposes that every host is taking advantage of the relative deregulation that currently exists. Surely there are abuses and some rowdy guests.. but by and large there are far more benefits than detriments to home sharing. Extra income flows to local restaurants. We currently all pay federal taxes and contribute more to the tax base. We like and trust the fact that Airbnb collects our

fees and tracks are guests. We feel that Airbnb should continue accounting and collecting and remitting additional fees such as transient guest taxes etc, should that become necessary.

Thanks so much for reading my letter.

Sincerely,

Tom Bartlett
"Just Add Magic" Leadman
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