



Etta Armstrong &lt;etta.armstrong@lacity.org&gt;

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**CF-14-1635-S2 - CPC-2016-1243-CA - SHORT TERM RENTALS**

1 message

**james yates** <jpinjay@gmail.com>

Mon, Sep 5, 2016 at 5:25 PM

To: mayor.garcetti@lacity.org, matthew.glesne@lacity.org, cpc@lacity.org, councilmember.david.ryu@lacity.org, Sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, etta.armstrong@lacity.org

.We are Short Term Rental Hosts, James & In Ja Yates, a retired international couple of African-American and Korean heritage, married since 1960. We are also the founders of Soul-2-Seoul Scholarship Foundation, which provides financial and academic assistance to college bound students who are actively building unity among the diverse people within our community. To date we have given 27 scholarships of \$2000 each, to deserving students. As seniors, we refuse to be cast aside. Home sharing has given us the freedom and independence to continue our contributions, travel and maintain our home. More importantly, it opens the world to us as we host people from around the globe - many of whom could not afford the fancy hotels and high priced eating establishments. In the Baha'i writings we find: "The earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens." and "Make your home a haven for both the friend and the stranger." So home sharing offers us a continual opportunity to follow our beliefs.

Our property has four apartment units, three of which are regular long term rentals and the forth has served as our primary residence for the past 20 years. We use the extra rooms in our unit for home sharing. In spite of the continued increases in utility costs, taxes, and general expenses, we have avoided the annual rent increases for our regular tenants, which are so prevalent in our city. This encourages our tenants to remain with us longer and strengthens their financial position.

We agree that regulation of short term rentals is necessary to maintain order and the taxes are a great help for the homeless. If we are taxed at the same rate as hotels, which are not limited in the number of rooms they rent or the number of days they operate, then, it would seem fair that we should have that same consideration. Any limit on our number of days or number of rooms would limit our independence.

Respectfully, James &amp; In Ja Yates



Sharon Dickinson &lt;sharon.dickinson@lacity.org&gt;

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