

Dear Council Member:

My name is Tamra Bowman, and I own a house in the Mar Vista district of Los Angeles at 4328 Grand View Blvd, LA CA 90066. I am urging you not to ban or harshly limit Airbnb rentals in LA, but rather to set reasonable limitations.

I am recently retired, and plan to travel, but cannot afford to let my house sit empty while I do so. In the past, I have assisted a friend in renting her Mar Vista mother-in-law unit for long-term rentals through Airbnb—most were about 2 or 3 months. I met most of the tenants and they were responsible people in transition, needing temporary housing: grandparents visiting their kids and grandchildren, a traveling nurse, a group of German students attending Montessori training, a couple waiting for their house to close in escrow. They were well-behaved, took good care of the place, and no neighbors ever complained.

I hope to do the same with my home when I travel. Please don't restrict Airbnb only to short-term rentals. I truly feel the long-term tenants are more responsible. Also, please don't require the owner to be on the premises at all times. This would completely defeat the purpose of renting out my house while I travel. Believe me, I will closely screen tenants as I don't want damage done to my house.

Last year I traveled to Spain and used Airbnb to rent 4 different residences. I had wonderful experiences meeting people from different cultures. I truly believe in this new sharing community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tamra L. Bowman