



Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Fwd: City Council File #14-1635-s2

1 message

Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>
To: Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Mon, Aug 17, 2015 at 2:40 PM

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Sharon Dickinson
Legislative Assistant
Office of the City Clerk
Council and Public Services
Ph. (213) 978-1080
Fax (213) 978-1040
sharon.dickinson@lacity.org



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From: **Dini's Los Angeles** <dean@dinislosangeles.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 17, 2015 at 2:40 PM
Subject: City Council File #14-1635-s2
To: miguel.vargas@lacity.org
Cc: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

To Whom it May Concern,

I am in support of home sharing. With-out it I would have lost my home and closed my business. I have sent business to my local restaurants, boutiques and bars and I have been able to keep up my property so it always looks stunning.

My neighbors and I have met great families from all over the world and I pay 17% of my revenues to the the city. All in all I feel very strongly that it's a win-win-win for me the guests and the city of L.A.

Thank-you,

Dean Fortunato
1035 Cresthaven Dr.
L.A. CA 90042

--
Dini's Los Angeles
1200 Santee Street

8/18/2015

City of Los Angeles Mail - Fwd: City Council File #14-1635-s2

Suite No. 205
Los Angeles, CA 90015

www.dinislosangeles.com

tel: 213 747-2861
fax 855-313-5895



Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Fwd: City Council File #14-1635-S2

1 message

Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>
To: Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Fri, Aug 14, 2015 at 7:17 AM

--

Sharon Dickinson
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From: **Andreja PianoPlay** <studiopianoplay@yahoo.com>
Date: Thu, Aug 13, 2015 at 4:07 PM
Subject: City Council File #14-1635-S2
To: miguel.vargas@lacity.org
Cc: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

Dear councilmember Jose Huizar!

I am in favor of home sharing.

I am a local piano teacher. I teach from home based studio registered with the city of Los Angeles as Studio Piano Play. My income fluctuates because in the nature of my business is that it has summer, spring and winter breaks and students get ill or travel periodically.

I live in the area not regulated by rent control and my rent has increased \$200 in the last 2 years and will continue to increase. Relocation would cost me my student base, because my students are required to come to me.

Airbnb benefited my effort to lower my cost of living. In alternative to get a room mate my plan was to rent one room 3-4 days per month or every other month.

I could retain my privacy in return to paying taxes on income earned through renting through Airbnb.

I have enjoyed having guests and have met them all. People that stay at my place are prescreened by Airbnb and approved by me. I enjoy being exposed to different cultures. So far I have met a young couple from Saudi Arabia, Ukraine, Denmark, Belgium, Poland, Australia, some nice people from the East coast but also the locals in between the apartments. Some of my guests were vacationing, some were attending a wedding, some were

on the short term job contract, some were just traveling the world or staying for few days on the trip from the East coast to their native Australia, some were here to exhibit their art, study or relocating to the neighborhood because of the new job. All of my guests were nice, peaceful people. Their questions and needs ranged from closeness to the airport, closeness to the son they were visiting, closeness to the beach, closeness to the bus and banks, closeness to the freeway, a place to stay the night as the traffic prevented them from reaching their destination, closeness to work place and a plug for the electric car. They all went shopping and/or visited local restaurants giving local business a boost. They were out and about and came to the room just to sleep.

I find Airbnb to be a perfect solution to my concern about fluctuating income and privacy. I also recognize the benefit it brings to the local small business.

Andreja Smokvina

Certified Simply Music Teacher

310 597 7277

Dear Councilman Huizar, Chair of PLUM Committee:

My name is Daniela Popescu and I've been home sharing an airbnb host since July 2014.

I have a two-bedroom apartment in West Los Angeles and I rent the second one to people who want to visit Los Angeles. I picked this apartment because I wanted to be close enough to the office to walk to work.

Currently, my husband is taking ESL classes and I work at a nonprofit. The supplemental income has allowed me to stay in my apartment in West LA close to my job so I can walk to work. I've always been an avid traveler and I knew a lot about Los Angeles, so naturally I wanted to be sort of an ambassador to the people who want to experience our city the way a local does.

Home sharing was one of the best decisions. In addition to allowing me to stay in my apartment, home sharing boosts the local economy and protects the environment.

- I contribute to the economy by paying Transient Occupancy Tax and income tax on all the revenue from Airbnb hosting
- I support the surrounding businesses by referring all my guests to the restaurants, gyms, malls and other clothes stores close to my place
- less money the guests pay on accommodations, the more they spend shopping in the city. Each and every guest leaves lots and lots of shopping bags and boxes from merchandise bought from Los Angeles stores
- because I live in close proximity to work, I don't need to drive, hence less pollution.
- my guests are safer staying with me and getting advise on what to see and what to do in LA from a local rather than staying in a hotel where the services are most of the time impersonal and overpriced
- all my guests leave Los Angeles thinking this is a great city with very helpful people.
- guests traveling alone feel more welcomed when they stay with me than if they stayed in a hotel
- anything that I make more besides what a roommate would pay, I donate to non profit associations for orphan pets

I always put myself in the shoes of the guests. I try to make their trip memorable enough so that they want to come back to Los Angeles all while helping the economic ecosystem in my neighborhood. I always respect hygiene standards (clean the room thoroughly and offer them all the necessary toiletries, clean towels and sheets). For transparency's sake, on my Airbnb page I inform the guests about the Transient Occupancy Tax.

My guests are a combination of people coming to work or study, people visiting family (and don't have enough room in the relative's apartment) and people who want to visit, but they can't afford to pay a lot to stay in a hotel close to the beach.

I have fond memories of all my guests and I kept in touch with over 50% of them. I have a guest book where everybody leaves notes for me. They write anything from what I could do to improve their stay to how much I made their trip so much more fun than if they stayed in a hotel. I am happy to share this guest book with you.

What better ambassador of Los Angeles than the people who live in and love this city!



Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Fwd: Council File #14-1635-S2

1 message

Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>
 To: Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Mon, Aug 17, 2015 at 7:23 AM

--

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From: **Tamar Kummel** <cappurple@hotmail.com>
 Date: Fri, Aug 14, 2015 at 2:02 PM
 Subject: Council File #14-1635-S2
 To: "miguel.vargas@lacity.org" <miguel.vargas@lacity.org>, "sharon.dickinson@lacity.org" <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>
 Cc: Tamar Kummel <cappurple@hotmail.com>

Dear Mr. Vargas and Ms. Dickinson,

I'm writing to you in regard to home sharing and to urge the city to support fair and clear legislation. I have been an Airbnb.com host on and off for several years. I found airbnb through a friend, when I was looking for housing for myself while working/volunteering at the London Olympics. The Olympics do not provide housing, and, as you can imagine, options were not only extremely limited, but the prices were exorbitant. I was able to find a charming room for the 3 weeks, which is what afforded me the opportunity to go.

When I was having difficulties finding a roommate for my 2 bedroom apartment in Los Angeles, I approached my landlord asking if he would allow me to use Airbnb as a roommate finder. I felt I'd exhausted my, "friends of friends" reach through Facebook, email and Twitter. Sometimes I had absolutely dismal experiences, and often I didn't find a room mate at all. I did not feel safe using craigslist or any other, unverified site, and I felt Airbnb would be my best and perhaps only option to be able to afford to keep my wonderful apartment. My landlord agreed, and I went on to host for the remainder of my living there. Working with Airbnb has been an amazing experience. They are a tremendous company of smart and caring individuals. In a society of faceless, unresponsive, internet companies, they are absolutely

astounding in the personal relationships and support that they provide. I feel safer because I went through them to find roommates. I've met extraordinary people from all over the world, creating many friendships, and never had a problem with payments. Often people would extend for many months, or return for more time. Home sharing saved me from losing my apartment. It's also provided me with wonderful places to stay all over the world, when hotels were cost prohibitive or restricting in amenities.

Please consider all options for the future of housing.

Sincerely, Tamar Kummel

NY 212-330-8700/LA 818-569-3036



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From: **Susan Shatz** <thinkingcap4kds@yahoo.com>
Date: Fri, Aug 14, 2015 at 4:17 PM
Subject: RE: Council File #: 14-1635-S2
To: "paul.koretz@lacity.org" <paul.koretz@lacity.org>, "councilmember.huizar@lacity.org" <councilmember.huizar@lacity.org>
Cc: "steve.m.garcia@lacity.org" <steve.m.garcia@lacity.org>, "david.hersch@lacity.org" <david.hersch@lacity.org>, "sharon.dickinson@lacity.org" <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>

RE: Council File: #14-1635-S2

Dear L.A. City Council:

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to address my concern about the upcoming August 25, 2015, Planning and Landuse Committee Meeting which will discuss HOMESHARING.

During this meeting on August 25, 2015, I am urging you to consider fair and reasonable regulations when dealing with home sharing. My husband grew up in this home and his parents were the original occupants. I share it with him. Prior to 2003, when I took occupancy – the house was already in disrepair. We may not have been able to hire a talented LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT - had it not been from our extra income from home sharing. **Our neighbors are very happy with**

our brand new drought-free lawn!!

We are not contributing to the lack of rental units – because we use this room for out-of-town relatives and it is also not suitable for long term tenants. Our guests are primarily attending conferences at The Hyatt in Century City or programs associated with U.C.L.A.

Our neighbors know that we screen diligently and maybe have one person a month that stays for an average of 3-4 days. Upon occasion, we have had an academic stay for the duration of two weeks while working with nearby neighbors. (They were referred by our neighbors)! The misconstrued use of the word “transient” is misleading – in that all of the guests that have stayed with us have purposeful reasons for needing to be in the area: they are looking for housing; they will be students enrolling; or they are from overseas and are attending a conference/professional workshop.

This is why I am stepping forward to voice my concern. There may be others that abuse the housing situation – but, not all of the Hosts are guilty and we should not be penalized for the bad actions of others.

Please move forward with sensible laws that will protect Hosts who contribute positively to the community at large – such as myself.

Sincerely,
Susan Shatz
&
Richard Shiffman
Century City, CA 90025

"Until you value yourself, you won't value your time. Unless you value your time, you will not do anything with it." ~M. Scott Peck~



Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Fwd: City Council File #14-1635-S2

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Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>
To: Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Mon, Aug 17, 2015 at 12:33 PM

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Sharon Dickinson
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----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Jerry Hannan** <jerry@igtbm.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 17, 2015 at 9:43 AM
Subject: City Council File #14-1635-S2
To: miguel.vargas@lacity.org
Cc: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

Dear Jose Hiuzar,

This letter is to confirm that I, as a resident of Los Angeles (Eagle Rock), am completely in favor of home-sharing or short term rentals. This practice is absolutely beneficial to home owners, guests from all over the world, the local economy, as well as the entire city of LA. Neither I nor any of my neighbors have ever had a bad experience as a result of a vacation rental situation.
Thanks for your attention and consideration!

Jerry Hannan
1547 Wildwood Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90041
323-363-9374

—
Jerry Hannan
Certified Spirit Coach

8/18/2015

City of Los Angeles Mail - Fwd: City Council File #14-1635-S2

"It's Great To Be Me!"
323-363-9374
itsgreattobeme.com



Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Fwd: Council File #14-1635-S2

1 message

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To: Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Mon, Aug 17, 2015 at 12:33 PM

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From: **Guesthouse** <nowitagh@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 17, 2015 at 10:37 AM
Subject: Council File #14-1635-S2
To: miguel.vargas@lacity.org, sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

Dear Councilman Huizar,

I am writing to you in the hope that my voice will be heard in the increasingly contentious issue of short term rentals in Los Angeles. I am referring to council file number 14-1635-S2.

First of all, I am appealing to you to allow short term rentals in Los Angeles. Having said that I do believe that there is also a need for regulation. Opponents site a genuine problem that needs to be addressed, namely apartment owners turning legitimate full time rental units into vacation rentals. This is not in the spirit of "home sharing" and is not good for any neighborhood. This seems to be an unintended consequence of the whole home sharing movement but I believe it can be easily rectified by making short term rentals only permissible in an "owner occupied" situation where owners are onsite to supervise their guest's behavior.

The latest "bad press" on home sharing implies that the majority of home share listings on Airbnb are rental properties that have been taken off the rental market and turned into a full time vacation rentals by greedy

landlords. While there are certainly "bad actors" out there I know that where I live they do not represent the majority.

From my personal experience sharing our home has been an enriching experience on many levels. My husband and I are long term residents of Venice. We own our home and have a small guesthouse on our property. We use the guesthouse primarily to accommodate visits from our family and friends as our house is too small.

The "guesthouse" is little more than a spare bedroom with a small bathroom. While it is great for a one or two night stopover it is not at all suitable as a standalone rental. For example, it has no cooking facilities. It never was and never will be a "rental property".

Like many of my fellow Airbnb hosts we got into the home sharing community out of necessity. Both our jobs were affected by the recession and we found ourselves needing to augment our wages in order to make ends meet. When my husband first suggested that we rent out our guesthouse when we weren't hosting family and friends I was appalled at the idea. No way did I want strangers in my home!

That was several years ago and I can honestly say it that it has added so much to our lives and lifestyle that I cannot imagine not doing it. The obvious benefit is financial as it has enabled us to continue to pay our bills. It has also helped us do some well needed maintenance to our property, including switching our yard to be drought tolerant, and has afforded us the odd vacation. Unfortunately neither of our jobs have come back up to pre-recession standards so we are still dependent on the extra income.

Aside from the financial aspect and, perhaps more important, are the wonderful people we have met along the way. We have hosted people from all walks of life, all types of professions, all age groups, from all over the world. I was initially surprised at the variety of visitors we got. At first I assumed we would only get a certain "type" of budget traveler. How wrong I was! Many of our visitors are not "budget" travelers but instead are looking for a less homogenized environment than what a hotel offers. They are often great travelers and love meeting other people with similar interests (like us) and getting to know the local hotspots. That type of travel is not for everyone and I do not believe that we are taking any business away from hotels. Hotels fill a different niche by appealing to a different type of traveler.

We promote all the local restaurants, bars, and shops and can testify to the fact that our visitors bring lots of commerce to our local community, that otherwise wouldn't be there.

We have loved Venice ever since we moved here nearly 30 years ago and we feel like ambassadors when we host guests that have not been here before. I can't tell you what a joy it is to hear a guest gush about how much they have loved their visit to Venice and how much of it they didn't know existed prior to staying with us.

Along the way we have forged strong and lasting friendships with some of our guests. For example, this year we went on vacation with a couple from London that we met through Airbnb several years ago. We befriended another couple from London that sometimes house sit for us when we go away and we have the keys to their home in London which we have stayed at several times. We also befriended a couple from Italy and were invited to their wedding. Then there is the woman from Germany that flew all the way from Hamburg just to surprise me for my 50th birthday! The list goes on and on.

Not only have we enjoyed such great experiences as hosts but we have also enjoyed home sharing as guests both domestically and internationally, including meeting up with past guests on a visit to Cape Town. Home

sharing has afforded us the opportunity to visit places we would not normally be able to afford. This is a similar situation for our guests. Should visiting places like Venice be the purview of the rich only???

We hope we can continue to welcome people into our home. We are responsible hosts who are on hand to hold our guests responsible too. We have never once received a complaint from our neighbors and, let's face it, who wants to have an unhappy neighbor? That aspect is pretty much "self regulating". Not only that but we have hosted several of our neighbors family members!

Needless to say I feel strongly that there are many positive aspects to home sharing that are not being given equal press, not least of which is the potential revenue stream that the city could collect from occupancy taxes - God knows Venice could do with those tax dollars!! I don't know of any host that would object to the city collecting Occupancy taxes.

The issue of legitimate rental units being taken off the market and the subsequent issue of neighbors having to deal with "party houses" must definitely be dealt with, however, an outright ban on home sharing would be akin to "throwing the baby out with the bathwater". I believe there is a way to regulate the "bad actors" out of the market while allowing responsible hosts to continue sharing their homes and our lovely community.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I would like to finish with one last thought:

Owner occupied home sharing is just that - "sharing a home". Banning that type of home sharing will only add full time rental properties to the market where those of us who depend on it to keep our homes will be forced to move out of the area.

Yours Sincerely,

Madeleine Leighton



Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Fwd: #14-1635-S2

1 message

Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>
To: Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Mon, Aug 17, 2015 at 7:25 AM

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Sharon Dickinson
Legislative Assistant
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From: **Ann Ballard** <annballard@sbcglobal.net>
Date: Sun, Aug 16, 2015 at 5:10 PM
Subject: #14-1635-S2
To: "councilmember.fuentes@lacity.org" <councilmember.fuentes@lacity.org>
Cc: "sharon.dickinson@lacity.org" <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>

Council Member,

I started using my home for Airbnb in 2012. I was doing background extra work in movies, TV and commercials. Due to runaway production there wasn't as much work in the entertainment field as there had been in the past. I had some friends that were doing Airbnb and that's how I heard about it.

I am single so paying all the bills myself with work diminishing was becoming overwhelming.

Airbnb has helped me tremendously paying my bills. If I hadn't figured out something, I guess, I would have moved from Los Angeles. I had thought about moving but there wasn't anywhere I wanted to move to. Airbnb has helped me stay in Los Angeles. I have lived here for 16 years most of my friends live here. I love my house here in Los Angeles.

I love to travel and meet people from around the world. Airbnb has allowed me to do that in my own home. I've had visitors from Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan, Philippines, Italy, Guinea, Africa, France, Amsterdam and Nepal. I also have quite a few guest from east coast that have internships in Los Angeles. I try to give my guests a comfortable safe place to stay while they are away from their home. I really try and help young woman who are traveling alone because I know from my own traveling experiences it can be overwhelming and scary coming to a new city or country. Airbnb really makes me feel productive helping my guest. I get a lot of positive feed back. I find it rewarding.

I have been able to keep up with all my home repairs with the money from airbnb. If you have a house there are always repairs and upkeep. I also added a patio with the money I have earned from airbnb. I have a list of

grocery stores, restaurants and things to do around the neighborhood. One woman bought so many gifts for her family she had to buy a large new suitcase to put them in. The guest are spending money around the neighborhood and the city. I list my house as a very quiet comfortable house. I make it clear this is not a party house. Thus far I have not had any problems with the guest or neighbors. I hope that you and the rest of the city council can find a way forward to regulate home sharing in a reasonable and fair way. We need to find a middle ground where people like me can benefit from sharing their home, but that also addresses any issues that come up.

Thank you for your time and service to the city,

Ann Ballard

Sent from my iPhone

The Honorable Mike Bonin
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 475
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Council File #14-1635-S2, Short Term Rentals

Dear Councilmember Bonin,

As a retired CalPERS public works facilities project manager, with a Carnegie Mellon University architecture degree, living in the same unit in the historical Ellison Apartments on Venice Beach for 40 years, I have been treated like a newbie under the pretense that the world of codes and regs is the Wild West and uncharted territory in the Internet age. Whether it be the District 11 office, Building & Safety, LAHD, or Mike Feuer City Attorney, I am expected to disregard my experience with city, state, EPA, Coastal Commission, and South Coast Air Quality Mgm't District regs as well as common sense. This is all the new economy? No, this is not the city's first time at the hostel rodeo. We were assaulted with hostel units in RSO buildings in the late 1980s. City Council helped us then. But that was before the internet and "Silicon Beach".

Silicon Beach? The city can't really give or receive information online. How many 58-unit RSO apt buildings like the Ellison are in Venice? How many units have been turned into short-term rentals? Don't expect "Silicon Beach" to give any online data. Need help from DOT?; "It's a big city we can't be everywhere." Need LAPD help?; "Where is Venice Beach?" "Why don't you move?"

I was here when the Ellison was put into the REAP Program in the 80s, and we are still paying for 1997-93 seismic pass throughs (with 5% annual increase to all pass thrus rolled into the base rent, though the LAHD rules state 16 years is the limit on pass thrus and does not anticipate the 5% annual increase in the pass thru). We pay monthly code enforcement fees and annual housing registration fees but LAHD and B&S no longer wish a trip to the beach. In December LAHD was forced by me to actually cite the owner for no heat during the 2014/2015 New Year record lows after years of refusing to cite for the same heating deficiency. Still the inspector refused to go to the central steam boiler room which is open to the public. He also refused to talk with 5 other tenants I had lined up to speak to him about no heat, saying I was the one who complained and only my apt # is on the "confidential" citation complaint. There are bootleg units, bootleg kitchen remodels, bootleg sun deck, bootleg commercial laundry as well as fire exit violations but LAHD says its hands are tied and Feuer referred my letter to him to LAHD with no action by anyone.

I am writing to urge you to quickly take action to curb the short-term rental problem in Los Angeles, and relieve the pressure it is putting on our neighborhoods.

One could only hope that all the city officials hesitating with regards to STRs could be awakened to open their door to see strangers staring at them as they roll their bags in and out at all hours. Security? Not much when guests yell the gate code down the 5 story open courtyard to the front gate. Neighborhood? What neighborhood when the Knickerbocker becomes Su Casa Venice STR and The Biltmore becomes Venice Suites STR? What Community? Ironically, the LAPD does not recognize multi decade resident tenants but they know the names of many of the 'homeless'. We fought for tenant off street parking via our councilmember when the Venice Renaissance was constructed circa 1989; yet when the Su Casa Venice put out flyers for parking for STR guests, our monthly parking rent at the Renaissance when up due to 'sudden market demands'. Landlords pester, cite, and discourage tenants or evict, knowing the fees to fight back exceed the value to continue to live in hostility protected by the city. As a surfer, ocean 1 mile swimmer and 5 mile barefoot sand runner, I only live in the besought Venice Beach, with no connectivity or interactivity with the isolated city of LA despite the tag "Silicon Beach" so I can recreate on the sand and in the ocean. I wrote certified receipt letters to Laura Chick and Bill Rosendahl in 2007 about the onslaught of bootleg 'gentrification' and conversion to STR without community input or notice, but only Chick responded with notice of my concerns. The smug dismissive arrogant rudeness of the city 'but you don't understand sir, what you need to know is how complex this issue is...in this new sharing economy' may get to me and I may yet bail from LA.

I ask that you put neighborhoods first, support enforcement of existing zoning and occupancy laws that prohibit short-term rentals, and craft legislation that protects affordable housing, RSO housing, the stability of our communities and the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marc Cavanaugh

15 Paloma Ave. #502

Venice, CA 90291-8753

August 17, 2015

Dear Councilman Huizar,

I understand there is a PLUM committee meeting Aug. 25th to start the process of drafting legislation to regulate home sharing. I feel compelled to write to you regarding the question of the sharing economy and specifically homesharing. I support the City Council's effort to draft fair and sensible home sharing legislation. Homesharing has become of vital importance to me and my husband. We are both employed and we pay our taxes and bills. After living expenses, we have very little left over for home improvements and upkeep of our house. If anything goes wrong it's a struggle to figure out how to pay for the repair. Thru homesharing we are able to make extra money that we put back into our house and into to the economy. We recently installed central air and heat. That meant that we hired the contractor and we were able to put other people to work. Because of the extra money we are able to hire people to trim our trees. If something goes wrong with our house we are able to hire someone to fix it. Homesharing has become an important way of life for us and for many people. If the city is going to create legislation to govern this grassroots movement it needs to be fair and sensible for those of us that it helps.

Darien Taylor

Eagle Rock



Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

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Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>
To: Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Tue, Aug 18, 2015 at 7:54 AM

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Sharon Dickinson
Legislative Assistant
Office of the City Clerk
Council and Public Services
Ph. (213) 978-1080
Fax (213) 978-1040
sharon.dickinson@lacity.org



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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Yossi Berrin-Reinstein <ycberrin@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 17, 2015 at 3:35 PM
Subject: Council File #14-1635-S2
To: "kevin.ocubillo@lacity.org" <kevin.ocubillo@lacity.org>, "sharon.dickinson@lacity.org" <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>

To whom it may concern,

My name is Yossi and I am an Airbnb host in the west Hollywood area of Los Angeles. Home sharing, and specifically "hosting" has proven time and time again to be an amazing resource for me. I am able to travel, pay all my bills and donate to various organizations with the money I make as an Airbnb host. I find that the people that come and stay with me are so appreciative of my hospitality, excited to meet me, explore the city and have my place as their home base. I would be very disappointed if home sharing were to no longer exist. Thank you for your time.

Yossi Berrin-Reinstein
617-233-1965



Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Fwd: City Council File #14-1635-S2

1 message

Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>
To: Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Tue, Aug 18, 2015 at 7:58 AM

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From: **Jerry Hannan** <jerry@igtbm.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 17, 2015 at 5:47 PM
Subject: City Council File #14-1635-S2
To: kevin.ocubillo@lacity.org
Cc: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

Dear Jose Huizar,

This letter is to confirm that I, as a resident of Los Angeles (Eagle Rock), am completely in favor of home-sharing or short term rentals. This practice is absolutely beneficial to home owners, guests from all over the world, the local economy, as well as the entire city of LA. Neither I nor any of my neighbors have ever had a bad experience as a result of a vacation rental situation.

Thanks for your attention and consideration!

Jerry Hannan
1547 Wildwood Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90041
323-363-9374

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Jerry Hannan
Certified Spirit Coach
"It's Great To Be Me!"
323-363-9374

8/18/2015

City of Los Angeles Mail - Fwd: City Council File #14-1635-S2

itsgreattobeme.com



Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Fwd: #14-1635-s2

1 message

Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>
To: Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Tue, Aug 18, 2015 at 7:58 AM

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From: **Liana Blackburn** <lianablackburn@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 17, 2015 at 8:07 PM
Subject: #14-1635-s2
To: councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org
Cc: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

Council Member Krekorian

I am writing to you as a resident of the San Fernando valley and an Airbnb host. I recently learned that the Planning and Land Use Management committee will be meeting later this month to discuss home sharing, and I want to share my own experience sharing my home before you have your deliberations.

My husband and I bought our very first home in June of 2014. The moment I walked into this home I knew there was something so unique about it. There are two homes on the same lot that are separated by a 2-car carport. The back house has a beautiful open layout with its own private back patio. If it wasn't for the smaller closet space in this back house, I would have wanted to live in the back house because it's so adorable.

My husband had a really great friend who had been renting his house on Airbnb for the 6 months prior and told us how much it changed his life. It was helping him so much with the mortgage, plus he was meeting amazing people from all over the world, and was having a blast being a host.

It was the most perfect timing to hear this and I was so excited about the possibility of sharing our home to travelers from all over the world. After lots of researching and weighing our odds, we finally decided this was going to be our best option, but every day that went by that we were not on the market, we were losing money. I worked so hard, and as quickly as I could, to turn our back home into the travelers oasis that I knew it could be and get it

on the Airbnb website!

In the middle of November of 2014 we were ready to put our home up for RENT! I put it on Airbnb late on a Thursday night and I woke up the next morning to an inquiry for that SUNDAY! It was like Christmas morning! I couldn't believe how quickly someone reached out.

From that day until now, we have hosted many travelers from all over the world, making it much easier to make our mortgage payment from month to month. It has been an absolute dream come true!!!

Meeting so many different people and hearing how much of an impact our home has had on their vacations and travels abroad has been unbelievable. We have fallen in love with hosting on Airbnb. We have fallen in love with the stress reliever of not worrying about being able to pay our mortgage. We have fallen in love with offering people a safe and cozy and unique vacation environment. And we have fallen in love with opening the door to our back house when a guest leaves to read their comments in our guest book and see the polaroid selfies that they leave on our bulletin board. With each guest that shares their own personal experiences back there, our back home is growing a heart, and you can feel the love more and more every time you open the door.

Sharing our home has changed my husband's and my life emotionally, mentally, financially and physically. We do not know what we would do without it!

We work very hard on creating a beautiful home away from home for our guests traveling from out of town and some that even live close by. And every single one of them has left our city with the warmest of memories. Is it such a different experience then any hotel could ever give them. I classify it as being in a league of its own, and believe it should be treated accordingly.

I understand that there might have to be changes made to the system but if you could please help create very clear, fair and customized rules so that my husband and I, and the rest of the hosts in our community, don't have to lose out on any of the incredible opportunities that Airbnb allows us to have.

Thank you so much for your time.

Liana Snarberg

August 17, 2015

Dear Councilman Huizar,

I understand there is a PLUM committee meeting Aug. 25th to start the process of drafting legislation to regulate home sharing. I feel compelled to write to you regarding the question of the sharing economy and specifically homesharing. I support the City Council's effort to draft fair and sensible home sharing legislation. Homesharing has become of vital importance to me and my husband. We are both employed and we pay our taxes and bills. After living expenses, we have very little left over for home improvements and upkeep of our house. If anything goes wrong it's a struggle to figure out how to pay for the repair. Thru homesharing we are able to make extra money that we put back into our house and into to the economy. We recently installed central air and heat. That meant that we hired the contractor and we were able to put other people to work. Because of the extra money we are able to hire people to trim our trees. If something goes wrong with our house we are able to hire someone to fix it. Homesharing has become an important way of life for us and for many people. If the city is going to create legislation to govern this grassroots movement it needs to be fair and sensible for those of us that it helps.

Darien Taylor

Eagle Rock

Allegra Newman
366 Fisher Street
Los Angeles, CA 90042

Re: City Council File #14-1635

August 16, 2015

Dear Councilmember Huizar,

I'm a constituent in your district, who is writing to let you know that I support home sharing and the Council's effort to draft fair and sensible home sharing legislation in Los Angeles.

Two years ago, my husband and I bought our first home in the Garvanza District of Highland Park. We love living here and can't imagine residing anywhere else. In October 2014, the company for which I worked relocated its entire operation from Burbank to Maryland and my entire office was laid off. Although my husband and I have some money saved, I'm the primary breadwinner in our household, and losing my job has put a strain on our budget.

To supplement my husband's income while I search for a new job in my industry, we decided to rent our spare bedroom through the home sharing community. We've had an amazing experience meeting guests who are visiting LA and sharing our favorite spots in Highland Park and Eagle Rock with them. In the competitive job market, it hasn't been easy for me to land a new job as quickly as we'd like, but the money we're earning has relieved some of our financial burdens and allowed me to focus my attention on securing employment.

I hope you will continue to advocate for home sharing in Los Angeles and draft legislation that supports your constituents who want to participate in the home sharing community.

Best Regards,

Allegra Newman

Re: City Council File #14-1635

August 15, 2015

Dear Councilmember Gil Cedillo,

Thank you for representing me in your district. I am writing because I want you to know I support home sharing in Los Angeles.

Since the economy collapsed in 2008, my husband and I have found it difficult to retain consistent employment. We are both creatives: my husband is a Designer/business owner and I am a Composer in visual effects for film and television. Both of us have had to temporarily relocate to other cities to find work: New York, Montreal, London. Our lives have become harder than our parents' were at the same age, but we are finally feeling we are getting a handle on our finances and this is in large part because we are hosting through Airbnb. It has helped us keep paying our mortgage in lovely Silver Lake.

Please support legislation so that my husband and I can continue sharing our home.

Thank you,
Nina H.
n@yoonicorn.com

My name is Albert Antonini; I am a resident and constituent of the city of Los Angeles for the past 40 + years and a resident of the Highland Park neighborhood since 1977.

Due to two (2) major life changes:

1) Our grown children (daughters) married, left our home and now lead their own lives –

2) We are now grandparents to 6 children, retired and primarily living off Social Security.

The Home Sharing income has been a blessing. I don't think we could have paid our mortgage, utility bills, phone, living expenses, etc. without the additional Home Sharing Income supplementing Social Security. In addition to our financial betterment, we really enjoy hosting people from all over the world and domestically.

Our home and grounds are kept up and meticulously maintained for the enjoyment of our guest(s). Our neighbors find our home an asset for the whole neighborhood. There have been no complaints from our neighbors; on the contrary our neighbors go out of their way to welcome our guests to the neighborhood.

We have had many positive reviews from our guest(s) describing their experiences while visiting us and the local neighborhood(s).

We have shared our home with and receive guest(s) from many U. S. States, Europe, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South America and Asia (Including China, South Korea and India). We have had over 60 visiting families and/or individuals since we started home sharing last October, 2013.

All our guest(s) contribute to the local economy in a big way. Occidental parents comment when visiting their children they greatly appreciate having the Home Sharing alternative.

We recommend and our guest(s) spend monies at the neighborhood grocery stores, restaurants, gift shops, gold line (metro) and buses to name a few.

Our Guest(s) leave great reviews on the AirBnB website describing their experiences at our home, local neighborhood and of course the city of Los Angeles. York Boulevard has become a favorite shopping and dining experience for many of our guest(s). The entire North East section of Los Angeles is benefitting from having Home Sharing entrepreneurs in the area.

Home Sharing has brought the world closer to us and our neighborhood. I do not have enough words to describe the positive experience it has been for everyone.

Some of our guest(s) join us and visit our local church(s) for spiritual nurturing as well.

No Hotel in the world offers or provides this intimate, culturally diverse and loving L. A. experience.

Sincerely,

Albert Antonini