

Dear Councilman Huizar,

My husband, Scott Chrisman and I began hosting in part because we'd previously enjoyed the experience of staying as guests at Airbnb spaces throughout the U.S. and Europe and wanted to extend the same hospitality that had been shown to us. We love our Highland Park neighborhood, but hotel options are extremely limited, and people who come here seem to be looking for a more connected and personal experience.

The money we make on Airbnb goes to paying our mortgage and a little gets set aside for property taxes. We also have a 17 month-old son, so we are happy to be able to support him with the money we make. Both Scott and I work in creative fields, and while our careers are very fulfilling, there is often a shortfall of cash available.

Prior to hosting, we did in fact have a full-time tenant staying in our cottage space. When our tenant moved to a nursing home, we realized that if we hosted through Airbnb, we could keep the place well appointed without the permanent wear and tear full time tenants sometimes create. Hosting on Airbnb also allows us to block out the calendar when we have family or friends visiting from out of town.

Interacting with couples who are in the process of moving to the area is always memorable, as we love our neighborhood and are excited to see it grow and prosper. We offer advice and helpful hints when they are looking for a more permanent space to call home. We've also had the pleasure of hosting many couples who are in town to welcome a new Grandchild into their lives, supporting their children during the transition into parenthood.

We support home sharing because it creates positive interaction with the community, it provides supplemental income, it allows hosts the opportunity to take pride and enjoy sharing their space with guests, and it helps to strengthen trust and communication amongst not only the local community, but the global community as well.

It is for these above reasons, and many more that we support City Council writing fair legislation that will help preserve home sharing here in Los Angeles.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration,

Kimberley Hawryluk & Scott Chrisman