Communication from Public

Name: Thomas F.
Date Submitted: 08/20/2019 05:27 PM
Council File No: 18-1245
Comments for Public Posting: My wife and I have lived in our duplex since 1985. We have owned it since 1988. We are retired and have for years struggled with how to make ends being we are both on Social Security. We have for the last six months started to rent short term. Since May we have actually begun to relax a little, certain ends will be met and we won't have to use what little we have in savings to fill a gap till the next SS check. We have cleaners who work for us, handymen, contractors and more working for us on a regular basis. Fixing things, maintaining things. And the folks who've stayed with us - every single one of them would not be able to stay in LA otherwise. Those folks go out and spend their money - from Universal to the Getty to Chinatown to Santa Monica. So it's not only us making a bit of money (and believe me I'm not talking about a lot of money, I'm talking about enough for my wife and me to breathe a little easier - just a little). And I would like to note we have already paid in six months doing this, TOT taxes twice what we pay a year in property taxes. Which means if we were to do this on a yearly basis, we would be paying over four times what we pay in property taxes plus our property taxes. So I don't understand what the reason is to stop me from doing something with my property that I believe is beneficial to not only me and my wife, but much better for the city, better for people who help me keep things running and better for the businesses our guests patronize. I am writing this because my wife and I are at a point where if we cannot rent short term, if we cannot make that little bit more, we have discussed having to sell our home and move out of Los Angeles. I am 68. My wife is 78. I know a move to where we do not know will not be good for either of us. I fear what it will do to my wife.