

Communication from Public

Name: Suzette Kitselman

Date Submitted: 07/26/2019 10:51 AM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: To the Respected City Council Members: I am a senior, 62 year old, divorced woman; and once owned income properties which I worked decades to buy, but lost all properties in the Great Recession and had to declare bankruptcy. Since then I have been working hard just to keep a roof over my head, and try to build up savings again. Coming out of the Recession has been difficult for many. Four years ago I began offering an apartment on Airbnb for short-term rentals. I leased this apartment from the Owner, who was fully informed when I leased the apartment, and he agreed to give me a chance. This is addressed right in our Lease Agreement. He has since offered me a couple more apartments because he likes my guests, and can't get families to rent there. Families don't want to live at that location: the building is 1/2 block from the tourist area of Hollywood Boulevard; it's an International Tourist Attraction. These apartments are hard for the Owner to rent long term to families because the traffic and noise make it undesirable. The Owner's usual tenants are generally young people who come to LA to "become a star" and end up having to be evicted because they can't pay their rent, cause loud noise at night with their parties, or are using and dealing drugs. These evictions cost the Owner lots of money, time and trouble, which of course he doesn't like. He prefers the visitors who come to my Airbnb from all over the world, because they are well-behaved, polite, and bring their children for their big vacation in Hollywood, Universal Studios, Santa Monica Pier, etc. It's perfect for families who wish to explore Hollywood as tourists. Perhaps making this area a special 'Tourist Zone' is an idea. These families would never be able to come to LA if they only had hotels to stay in! It's just too expensive. The Owner is very happy with me as I pay the rent on time, he likes my guests, and they don't cause problems. He has since offered me more apartments, and now I have a total of three. As for me personally, I live simply, in a rented apartment with a friend, shop at 99 cent store and Trader Joe's, drive a used Prius, and the amount of income I make from these 3 apartments is just barely enough to cover most of my monthly living expenses; although I still cannot afford health insurance. I have paid taxes on the Airbnb income from the beginning. If I am no longer able to operate my short term rental apartments, my safety net will disappear; it will cause

me a severe financial hardship and I may not be able to stay in Los Angeles. Also, the housekeeper who helps me clean the apartments between guests is a mother of four children. Her income will be severely reduced also, putting her family in financial hardship as well. I fear for her well being and that of her family, not to mention my own. And I am not alone in this situation; there are hundreds of us, all with our own stories. I know elderly ladies, widows, who own large homes in Hancock Park where they raised their children, and now rent out the extra bedrooms to help pay their property taxes, (must they sell their green velvet curtains to pay the taxes on Tara?) It helps cover their living expenses. Current restrictions on these women could force them to sell their homes, because they are only allowed to rent out one room at a time. This doesn't make sense and seems to interfere with property rights. Do we not have the right to rent rooms in our homes anymore? Are housemates illegal now, too? Once, the LA Times was the advertising marketplace; now, just because websites like Airbnb and HomeAway connect people, is this a reason to penalize us? Please, good Council Members, consider: Airbnb hosts comprise less than 1% of the housing in L.A. With the explosion of permits issued for apartment buildings in the last 3 years, and all the newly built apartments offered right now, isn't it clear that we are neither a threat to the rental market, nor to the Hotel Industry? Without Airbnb hosting in L.A., the City wouldn't have received over \$100,000,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax revenue from Airbnb. Perhaps some of that could go toward housing the homeless? Just think how the tourist industry will be impacted if the City bans Vacation Rentals in Non-Primary Homes? How much money will our City lose, by denying our operation? Why are the Airbnb hosts the target of these restrictions, with hundreds of new apartment complexes being built all over greater Los Angeles? We're not hurting anybody. Please consider how many lives you will be damaging by restricting hosting, and all the travelers who have already booked their plane tickets and accommodations for a dream trip to Los Angeles, California! Please, CONSIDER THIS. We are real people of Los Angeles. Thank you so much.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/22/2019 12:01 PM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: We urge you to push through a vacation rental ordinance by the deadline for homesharing registration. We purchased a very small studio apartment in Los Angeles so we could be closer to work during the week during deadlines. We made the choice to do this to ease the work stress that we have endured because of the terrible commute from outside-LA residences. It was taking a toll on our family. Many of us cannot afford to live with our families in Los Angeles. Being able to short term rent the days that we are not at the property allows us to afford owning the property. If we have to long term rent it, then it completely eliminates our ability to stay there, which is the whole reason why we purchased the property in the first place. Our situation is not unique to the many families who are financially forced out of Los Angeles and have to commute into the city for work. Please determine the ordinance for vacation rentals immediately. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Debbie Pollack

Date Submitted: 07/22/2019 01:03 PM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: I am a disabled single woman over 60 who has been relying on the income from renting out bedrooms in my own home for more than 25 years and on Airbnb for the past 5 years. I have over 500 five star reviews on Airbnb. I am confused by some of the wording of the new ordinance and I do not understand much of the rationale for some of the restrictions. I find the ordinance horribly unfair to those of us who rent rooms in the home that we live in full time. I am filled with anxiety and fear not knowing what is going to replace the income I am losing because of the new ordinance. I am tremendously disappointed in and angry at the City Council and Mayor Garcetti. SHAME ON THEM for putting so many people (many of us single women or seniors) in such a precarious position.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/22/2019 09:25 PM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: It's understandable that there is a need for regulations and guidelines to be made for short term rentals in Los Angeles. It seems like a simple solution would be to limit the number of properties that people can rent short term to one per person. This eliminates the problem of people buying several properties to rent short term and taking away from the long term rentals that are available in Los Angeles and it also protects the rights of homeowners. We live out of state but have a second home/vacation home in L.A. Our second home used to be on a little island just outside of Charleston, S.C. and we loved hosting people at our beach house and sharing the wonderful Lowcountry with them but we fell in love with Los Angeles and we started spending our vacations in L.A. and were spending less and less time in Charleston so we sold our beach house and bought a vacation home in Los Angeles. It took us a year to find the perfect place that was right in the middle of all the favorite places we loved to visit when we were in L.A. and we wanted to share our new home with other people and families that want to see the awesome sites that L.A. has to offer just as we had on Folly Beach but sadly if nothing is done soon, as far as an ordinance for vacation homes and second homes, our home will sit empty for most of the year, as I'm sure many others will, and everyone loses. We lose since we'll have an empty house most of the year when we're not there, visitors to L.A. lose and the city loses out on a lot of revenue. We've always rented homes when traveling because we want an authentic experience of what it would be like to live in the city we're visiting and for many families it's really the only option. Most people don't have 30 days of vacation available so long term rentals aren't an option for most people visiting for vacation, and hotels are not a good fit for a lot of families either because they just can't offer what a house can in many cases do to the limitation of space and availability. You can see by the success of Airbnb & VRBO that many, many people agree. My hope is that you will allow people to rent one home short term with the new ordinance. Thank you all for your time!

Communication from Public

Name: Suzette Kitselman

Date Submitted: 07/22/2019 09:30 PM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: To the Respected City Council Members: I am a senior, 62 year old, divorced woman; and once owned income properties which I worked decades to buy, but lost all properties in the Great Recession and had to declare bankruptcy. Since then I have been working hard just to keep a roof over my head, and try to build up savings again. Coming out of the Recession has been difficult for many. Four years ago I began offering an apartment on Airbnb for short-term rentals. I leased this apartment from the Owner, who was fully informed when I leased the apartment, and he agreed to give me a chance. This is addressed right in our Lease Agreement. He has since offered me a couple more apartments because he likes my guests, and can't get families to rent there. Families don't want to live at that location: the building is 1/2 block from the tourist area of Hollywood Boulevard; it's an International Tourist Attraction. These apartments are hard for the Owner to rent long term to families because the traffic and noise make it undesirable. The Owner's usual tenants are generally young people who come to LA to "become a star" and end up having to be evicted because they can't pay their rent, cause loud noise at night with their parties, or are using and dealing drugs. These evictions cost the Owner lots of money, time and trouble, which of course he doesn't like. He prefers the visitors who come to my Airbnb from all over the world, because they are well-behaved, polite, and bring their children for their big vacation in Hollywood, Universal Studios, Santa Monica Pier, etc. It's perfect for families who wish to explore Hollywood as tourists. Perhaps making this area a special 'Tourist Zone' is an idea. These families would never be able to come to LA if they only had hotels to stay in! It's just too expensive. The Owner is very happy with me as I pay the rent on time, he likes my guests, and they don't cause problems. He has since offered me more apartments, and now I have a total of three. As for me personally, I live simply, in a rented apartment with a friend, shop at 99 cent store and Trader Joe's, drive a used Prius, and the amount of income I make from these 3 apartments is just barely enough to cover most of my monthly living expenses; although I still cannot afford health insurance. I have paid taxes on the Airbnb income from the beginning. If I am no longer able to operate my short term rental apartments, my safety net will disappear; it will cause

me a severe financial hardship and I may not be able to stay in Los Angeles. Also, the housekeeper who helps me clean the apartments between guests is a mother of four children. Her income will be severely reduced also, putting her family in financial hardship as well. I fear for her well being and that of her family, not to mention my own. And I am not alone in this situation; there are hundreds of us, all with our own stories. I know elderly ladies, widows, who own large homes in Hancock Park where they raised their children, and now rent out the extra bedrooms to help pay their property taxes, (must they sell their green velvet curtains to pay the taxes on Tara?) It helps cover their living expenses. Current restrictions on these women could force them to sell their homes, because they are only allowed to rent out one room at a time. This doesn't make sense and seems to interfere with property rights. Do we not have the right to rent rooms in our homes anymore? Are housemates illegal now, too? Once, the LA Times was the advertising marketplace; now, just because websites like Airbnb and HomeAway connect people, is this a reason to penalize us? Please, good Council Members, consider: Airbnb hosts comprise less than 1% of the housing in L.A. With the explosion of permits issued for apartment buildings in the last 3 years, and all the newly built apartments offered right now, isn't it clear that we are neither a threat to the rental market, nor to the Hotel Industry? Without Airbnb hosting in L.A., the City wouldn't have received over \$100,000,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax revenue from Airbnb. Perhaps some of that could go toward housing the homeless? Just think how the tourist industry will be impacted if the City bans Vacation Rentals in Non-Primary Homes? How much money will our City lose, by denying our operation? Rumor has it that one of the authors of the Ordinance is a beneficiary of Hotel Lobby campaign contributions ~ I don't know if this is true, but isn't it an important question to investigate? Why are the Airbnb hosts the target of these restrictions, with hundreds of new apartment complexes being built all over greater Los Angeles? We're not hurting anybody. Please consider how many lives you will be damaging by restricting hosting, and all the travelers who have already booked their plane tickets and accommodations for a dream trip to Los Angeles, California! Please, CONSIDER THIS. We are real people of Los Angeles. Thank you so much.

Communication from Public

Name: Michael and Linda Perry

Date Submitted: 07/23/2019 02:11 PM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: We short term rent 1 bungalow out of 4 bungalows on the Venice canals. The prices offered by us are much below a comparable hotel suite along the Venice Beach coast (if any can be found, which is unlikely). We provide better access to the Venice Beach coast to those families that need more than a standard hotel room at much less costs. I know this because I compared the cost of our bungalow to rates charged by most of the hotels in the Venice Beach area. Most of these hotels do not have more than a standard 1 room to rent. Our lives have been immeasurably made better by having constant interactions with travellers from all over the world, who are good people, no parties, and never once a complaint by the neighbors. Also, our unit does not impede the upper middle, middle to low cost housing rental market availability. A long term renter on the Venice canals would have to be wealthy or high income earner to afford at current market rates.

Communication from Public

Name: Michael J Perry
Date Submitted: 07/23/2019 02:13 PM
Council File No: 18-1246
Comments for Public Posting:

Communication from Public

Name: Sylvia Rath

Date Submitted: 07/23/2019 02:56 PM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: If the City is cracking down on onsite hosts by narrowly defining primary residence— it does not seem fair that unsupervised vacation rentals will have more flexibility. Time to revisit the STR ordinance for one site hosts who own their own property. Give us the freedom to have more options to rent on our property!

Communication from Public

Name: Diane Greenseid

Date Submitted: 07/16/2019 04:03 PM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members, I am asking that you include and legalize ADU's built after 2017 in the upcoming Vacation Rental ordinance. My husband and I are both 70-year old school district aides. We do not have a large pension, large social security check or large savings account. But what we do have is property, a saving grace, our home we bought in 1996. We were so excited when the parameters loosened up so we could create our ADU last year in order to have an STR to support us when we retired. We never had any intention to rent full time to anyone, nor was it stipulated anywhere that if we built an ADU, it must be used for that purpose. If we had been made aware that this was the case, we would not have used a huge portion of our potential retirement nest egg to make our ADU. Our intention has been to age in our home, close to all our family members—a closeness that is crucial for support as we get older. Our home is small, as is our yard, as is the STR—this is not a place to share with a full-time tenant, nor do we wish to do so. We would have saved the money we spent on the ADU and probably would have been forced financially to move to a less expensive area, away from our loved ones. We are responsible, as have been our guests, to the point that I doubt if my neighbors even know they are in the ADU. We make sure to make the guests aware of lesser known places to shop, eat and visit—something that no one other than a local that lives on the premises would be excited to share with international visitors. I'm begging you to include ADUs built after 2017 into the vacation rental ordinance, whether grandfathered in or otherwise. Please help us. Diane Greenseid

Communication from Public

Name: Maureen Tomlin

Date Submitted: 07/15/2019 09:40 AM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: We have lived in our 1300 square foot residence in Venice for 22 years. We converted our garage into a bedroom when our oldest, of three, was a teenager-to make some more space for bigger people in our small house. When she went away to college we converted it to an ADU. Against advice from friends to do it under the radar, we pulled permits and went through the time and expense that that involves. It costs us 3 times what we had budgeted it for because of this but we were legal and we were happy. Our intention was to rent it out short term, to help pay for college for our 3 children, and have it available for our oldest to live in when she is home on break from college. We never would have gone through the time and expense if we were only allowed to rent it for long term. Not only because we need that room for our college age daughter to stay in when she's home on break but also because we have a tiny backyard that our family uses and that we wouldn't want to share with a long term tenant. Short term tenants are here on vacation and wouldn't be having friends over and using the backyard. We consider the ADU a part of our primary residence. It's our daughters' bedroom that we rent out when she's away at college. But as part of the permit process, it was given a different address. It's on the same property as our house. If we can only rent it out long term, then we can't rent it out. I feel like this is penalizing us for doing the right thing. We're not an apartment owner that has converted his units to short term rentals or an investor who is purchasing homes or apartments for short term rentals. We're a family that is struggling to pay for our children's college education. Please don't penalize us for following the rules. We are asking you to revise the restrictions on ADU's permitted and built after January 2017 to be rented out short term. We feel it that is extremely unfair and disingenuous to grant permits and then arbitrarily outlaw us from using the new unit as we had planned. It amounts to changing the rules in the middle of a game. You could easily grandfather us into the home sharing ordinance and make it clear that, going forward, new ADU's would not be allowed to be rented short term. That would be fair and reasonable. We appreciate your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Maureen Tomlin
Date Submitted: 07/15/2019 09:42 AM
Council File No: 18-1246
Comments for Public Posting:

We have lived in our 1300 square foot residence in Venice for 22 years. We converted our garage into a bedroom when our oldest, of three, was a teenager-to make some more space for bigger people in our small house.

When she went away to college we converted it to an ADU. Against advice from friends to do it under the radar, we pulled permits and went through the time and expense that that involves. It costs us 3 times what we had budgeted it for because of this but we were legal and we were happy.

Our intention was to rent it out short term, to help pay for college for our 3 children, and have it available for our oldest to live in when she is home on break from college.

We never would have gone through the time and expense if we were only allowed to rent it for long term. Not only because we need that room for our college age daughter to stay in when she's home on break but also because we have a tiny backyard that our family uses and that we wouldn't want to share with a long term tenant. Short term tenants are here on vacation and wouldn't be having friends over and using the backyard.

We consider the ADU a part of our primary residence. It's our daughters' bedroom that we rent out when she's away at college. But as part of the permit process, it was given a different address. It's on the same property as our house. If we can only rent it out long term, then we can't rent it out. I feel like this is penalizing us for doing the right thing.

We're not an apartment owner that has converted his units to short term rentals or an investor who is purchasing homes or apartments for

short term rentals. We're a family that is struggling to pay for our children's college education. Please don't penalize us for following the rules.

We are asking you to revise the restrictions on ADU's permitted and built after January 2017 to be rented out short term. We feel it that is extremely unfair and disingenuous to grant permits and then arbitrarily outlaw us from using the new unit as we had planned. It amounts to changing the rules in the middle of a game. You could easily grandfather us into the home sharing ordinance and make it clear that, going forward, new ADU's would not be allowed to be rented short term. That would be fair and reasonable. We appreciate your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Armando
Date Submitted: 05/30/2019 01:11 PM
Council File No: 18-1246
Comments for Public Posting:

Communication from Public

Name: Deborah Moore

Date Submitted: 06/15/2019 09:30 PM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: Los Angeles is a world wide city and an amazing one at that! As short term rental hosts we have hosted guests from Australia, Japan, South Korea, China, UK, visitors from other states to name a few. We hosted them in a neighborhood that many LA natives would probably not visited because of it's once brightened reputation. But these guests loved our neighborhood! They visited all the local mom and pop restaurants, bakery shops and etc. They appreciated the diversity and LA's wide range of culture where you will not get in a hotel district. I say this to help you consider to continue allowing LA 's long history of vacation rentals .

Communication from Public

Name: Diane Greenseid

Date Submitted: 06/16/2019 07:10 AM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: Hello Councilmembers, I wrote earlier but would like to include this request. Please allow Airbnb hosts that may be covered by the no-as-yet decided Vacation Rental Ordinance to continue to operate without penalty until the law is passed and in place. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Diane Greenseid
Date Submitted: 06/15/2019 02:34 PM
Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, My husband and I are 70-year-old hosts for Airbnb. We created a legal ADU on our property with explicit purpose of one day being able to retire with the help of the income generated from our guest house. We repurposed our garage last year exclusively intending to do STRs. We spent most of our nest egg doing this. The leniency to create an ADU last year is what enabled our ability to achieve our dream. At no time were we thinking we would rent our cottage as a long-term rental, otherwise we wouldn't have done it. We are asking that legal ADU's such as ours built after 2017 be allowable under the Vacation Rental Ordinance so we can continue to provide a great alternative to hotels. We are responsible, quiet, well-connected to our neighbors and we only approve responsible, quiet guests to stay on our property. I can understand not wanting whole apartment buildings turned into STRs, but we certainly aren't that. We are a mom-and-pop operation trying to one day retire and live close to our crucial family members in expensive Los Angeles. Otherwise we would have to move out of the area with no support, an extreme disadvantage as we age. Please do not lump all STR hosts in the same basket. I feel like we are the "good guys" in the world of STRs—please allow us to continue to provide this wonderful service. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Heather Carson

Date Submitted: 06/15/2019 11:37 AM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: I support this motion. I also ask that until the vacation rental ordinance is written that you allow non-corporate owners of one vacation rental property that is non-RSO to be allowed to continue as is until the ordinance is written. Matthew Glesne's suggestion that I switch to LTR, which will not cover my mortgage, taxes and insurance - never mind the water bill, gardener and upkeep - is not possible. His other suggestion to leave it vacant is not helpful. I am 59, have worked in the theatre and art world my whole life and also volunteer and serve my community, have had mobility impairment issues for the last 6 years and this is my whole means of support. It is also my retirement income. I will lose my home if you enforce this while you take your time to write the ordinance.

Communication from Public

Name: Jeremy

Date Submitted: 06/12/2019 02:45 PM

Council File No: 18-1246

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilman, First off, I would like to take the time and thank you all for listening to me speak today. I was born in the San Fernando Valley and grew up in a middle class family. My parents made ends meet the best way that they could, and as the only child, they wanted to see me in a successful professional field. Although they've always supported anything that I wanted to do, deep down inside me, I know that it would break their hearts if I wasn't anything less than a lawyer, doctor, or anything cooperate. Growing up, I was athletic and played a lot of sports. Aside from that, I was creative and had a certain eye for details. At the end of my college semester, I decided to take a leap of faith and move out to Downtown LA on my own with no job lined up. I figured that I would somehow make ends meet by paying rent with the money that I saved up hustling throughout college, I would always resell sneakers, clothes or anything that were in supply and demand. Shortly after I moved out, I had the opportunity to dive into the world of Airbnb. I got to do something that I loved to do, which was to be creative, furnish a home and show my creative side to guests that were staying at my places. After doing this for 3 years now, Airbnb allowed me to pay for all my bills, exorbitant rent, especially here in Downtown LA, and pay off my loans. My parents recently told me something that I thought I would never hear for a long time, which was that they were proud of me, and what I was doing. I don't know what I would do without Airbnb today. Thankyou, Jeremy