

Dear Honorable Councilmember O'Farrell—

My wife & I have lived & owned property in Silver Lake for more than 20 years. Nine years ago we started renting one of our units as a vacation rental. It amazed us how ~~vacation~~ successful it is in demand our little unit was. In the years since then we have added a few more spaces to what we have to offer visitors to our area. In the process, we have heard many stories of how our ~~vacation~~ short term rentals have helped our Silver Lake neighbors & the community in general. Below are some of the things we have seen & heard from people.

- Many of our guests ~~are~~ have come to visit their kids' relatives who live in the area. Often we are actually contacted by the ~~local residents~~ <sup>local residents</sup> themselves - looking for housing for their ~~grand~~ parents so that they have a place to stay while visiting their grandkids. Before our son's birth years ago. Particularly touching are the stories we hear of people who wouldn't be able to visit if it weren't for our place. We have guests who have ~~it~~ come back annually ~~since~~ since 2013 because their kids live on a stair street & the grandfather, a former physics professor at Princeton, ~~suffered a stroke~~ is unable to climb stairs because of the stroke he suffered. Our place has been a reliable & comfortable place to spend 3 weeks each winter ~~so far~~ where he can visit & celebrate birthdays with the grandkids. Every month we ~~hear~~ <sup>more stories as</sup> ~~more stories as~~ guests tell us how our place provides just what they need to visit their kids & grandkids.

Frequently we are contacted by neighbors needing a place to stay while their home is tenanted, their apartment is repaired or ~~they~~ their place is painted. Vacation rentals answer their needs in ways that the limited number of hotels in the area can't.

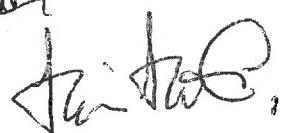
Our vacation rentals have also had a significant economic impact. We have employed several cleaners at any given time for the last 8 years.

more than \$200,000 in Lodging Taxes. And we have been able to ~~use~~  
~~use~~ higher local contractors & tradespeople to make more  
than \$400,000 in improvements to our properties.

Throughout our time as hosts we have ~~needed~~ to  
~~neighbors to~~ put considerable effort into maintaining  
strong connections with our neighbors. Though we don't live  
on the property, I am around constantly <sup>of</sup> all my neighbors  
have my cell number in case anything were to come up.  
We are committed to ~~those~~ serving the neighborhood  
in the city. We ask you to support regulations that allow  
for accountable positive management of our properties  
as vacation rentals.

Thank you for your consideration,

~~Yours~~



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