

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: This is a very important measure that will serve to establish the mechanisms needed to operate the short-term rental program in Los Angeles. Without improvements, we will continue to see the loss of housing units to short-term rentals. A program that does not have necessary safeguards invites non-compliance. If the City cannot implement and enforce a program that ensures that only those units eligible are participating in the program, then we have no business offering a short-term rental program. There is a difference between having a "home-sharing" program and a short-term rental program. Perhaps the City should return to considering allowing true home sharing whereby the host must be present and is renting out a room in their home. Such a program would be more easily enforced and would allow those who state that they rely on a guest's rent to help meet their mortgage or expenses. The short-term rental program should not be a business operation with operators gaming the system by dedicating multiple homes and/or units to short-term rentals. It is hoped that the examination of other successful programs will provide LA with the tools necessary to improve our program. If it cannot be "fixed" then it should be halted. With large scale sporting events and the Olympics coming to LA, we must be certain that the program is fully functioning and enforceable. The lure of tourists arriving from around the world should not tempt landlords to evict tenants in order to make a fast buck from visiting tourists. We certainly do not need any new sources for tenant evictions! Penalties for illegal operation should be a true deterrent. Fees should be structured to allow this program to be self-supporting over time. This measure should have the Council's full support. Thank you.