

Communication from Public

Name: John Choi, Airbnb
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Comments for Public Posting: Letter from Airbnb Attached



October 12, 2020

Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson
Planning & Land Use Management Committee
City Council Chambers
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chairperson Harris-Dawson,

On behalf of Airbnb, thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the proposed \$2.93 per night fee on short term rentals (STR). Since 2008, Airbnb has worked closely with hundreds of cities around the world to help communities realize the key benefits of STRs for residents, visitors, and local economies.

We support fair and balanced regulations and have worked closely with the City of Los Angeles over the last several years to encourage compliance and responsible hosting. Since 2016, Airbnb has been collecting and remitting the City's transient occupancy tax and has sent the City more than \$180M during that time. In November 2019, we removed thousands of listings determined to be categorically ineligible by the adopted Homesharing Ordinance, and earlier this year, we launched the first automated compliance system in the world exclusively in Los Angeles.

Consistent with that record of collaboration, we stand ready to automate the collection and remittance of the per-night administrative fee mandated by the Homesharing Ordinance. However, in order to ensure equity and a level playing field, we ask to ensure that the launch date of the fee is consistent across platforms and individual hosts. This will eliminate confusion and disproportionate impact on any particular stakeholders in the short term rental industry. We have discussed this with the Planning Department and they have verbally agreed on this approach.

Thank you for the consideration and continued support of the short term rental industry. We are happy to address questions or comments you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Choi".

John Choi
Policy Manager