LA GEECS

Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>

Re: I support Short Term Rentals
1 message

macnet2001@aol.com <macnet2001@aol.com>   Mon, Aug 24, 2015 at 5:38 PM
To: richard.williams@lacity.org
Cc: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, etta.armstrong@lacity.org, sharon.gin@lacity.org

Very kind. thank you

-----Original Message-----
From: Richard Williams <richard.williams@lacity.org>
To: macnet2001 <macnet2001@aol.com>
Cc: Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>; Etta Armstrong <etta.armstrong@lacity.org>; Sharon Gin <sharon.gin@lacity.org>
Sent: Mon, Aug 24, 2015 7:31 am
Subject: Fwd: I support Short Term Rentals

Dear Ms. Duarte,
Thank you for your attached written comments regarding Short-Term rentals. I am no longer assisting the Economic Development Committee (EDC), however, I am copying Sharon Dickinson, the legislative assistant for Planning and Land Use Management Committee and her assistant Etta Armstrong, as well as the EDC's new legislative assistant, Sharon Gin, on this mail. (The short-term rental matter falls under the jurisdiction of both committees.)

If you wish, you can e-mail your comments below directly to the Councilmembers on the committee(s):
http://lacity.org/city-government/elected-official-offices/city-council/council-directory

Or, if you would like your comments posted to the Council files on this matter, please provide Ms. Dickinson and/or Ms. Gin with the Council file numbers. Ms. Dickinson and Ms. Gin can be reached at their respective e-mail address above if you have any questions or need any additional information. Thank you.

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Legislative Assistant to:
Los Angeles City Council's
- Budget and Finance Committee
- Rules, Elections, Intergovernmental Relations and Neighborhoods

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———— Forwarded message ————
From: <macnet2001@aol.com>
Date: Thu, Aug 20, 2015 at 5:20 PM
Subject: I support Short Term Rentals
To: richard.williams@lacity.org

Dear Mr. Williams:

I read recently about Council member Bonin's proposal to limit short-term rentals in Los Angeles. I support smart, sensible regulation of this business in our city. But I think the current proposal overreaches, and bans elements of this industry that clearly should be kept intact.

For instance, I am retired and I and my husband own a second home near the beach in Los Angeles, and we depend on the income I generate from renting it to guests when we are not using it. The current proposal would make it illegal for us to rent out our own second home, and that doesn't make sense.

I understand the intent of this proposal – to stop property owners from turning apartment buildings into de facto hotels – but limiting short-term rentals strictly to a property owner's primary residence simply goes too far. If somebody owns a single-family home, they should be able to rent that home as they please.

Aside from the issue of property owners' rights, the fact is that there's a huge tourism demand in our city for comfortable, homey, authentic accommodations. The millions of tourists visiting Los Angeles every year shouldn't be limited to choosing between a large hotel and someone's primary residence. We have mostly families of 4 stay with us. These people are able to come to Los Angeles and spend money here that they otherwise would not be able to do with Westside hotels starting at $500 a night for one room.

Again, I have no issue with sensible regulation of the short-term rental business. But we need to be smart about where we draw the line, so that we're not creating unintended consequences that needlessly eliminate parts of this valuable, job-creating industry that clearly have the right to exist.

As someone dependent upon renting out my own second home for income, I strongly urge you to consider all of the consequences of the proposal before us, before making a careless decision that would significantly harm so many Angelino's in my position.

Sincerely,

Diane Duarte