



Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>

CF 14-1635-S2, CF 14-1635-S3

Ed Colman <edcol52@gmail.com>

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To: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

Proposed Home Sharing Ordinance #CF 14-1635-S3

Dear Councilmember,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak at the Friday, April 13th City Council meeting in Van Nuys

As a short-term rental host, I fully support the primary residence mandate in the proposed Home Sharing Ordinance. This crucial provision is the heart of the law. It depends on vigorous enforcement of this mandate to make the law work. If the commercial operators and absentee owners find a way to circumvent the requirement, or if the City does not make effective enforcement and a substantial penalty structure for violating the mandate a priority, we will be right back where we started.

I appreciate that you have created a way for legitimate resident hosts to share their homes year-round. This is crucial for hosts like me who open their homes to visitors from around the world, bring much needed revenue to the City and into their communities, and are vitally concerned with the safety and character of their neighborhoods. Thank you for listening to us.

It would be counterproductive to require those very residents, many of whom are retired, single parents, seniors, disabled, or simply trying to make ends meet, to pay the exorbitant fees the Planning Commission suggested in their latest report. I don't mind reasonable registration and permit costs, but the \$1,100 to \$6,000 outlined in the Planning Commission's report are unconscionably high.

Streamlining the registration and renewal process is another priority. Make the registration process as simple as possible. Rather than setting up an entirely new Department to administer the ordinance, the tasks of permitting and regulating home sharing should be administered by existing departments: Finance, Building and Safety, Housing and when necessary, the Police and District Attorney. That will save the City money in the long run. We don't need another costly bureaucracy.

A fair and sensible ordinance must eliminate the commercial operators, absentee owners, speculators and investors who have exploited home-sharing for their personal economic gain. It must also encourage the individual home-sharing resident, who provides tremendous economic benefit to all, rather than penalize them with intrusive regulations and outrageous fees.

I understand there are many details to be worked out to finalize this ordinance. Please keep the above in mind as you move forward.

Sincerely,

Ed Colman, Venice