

To:

The North Westlake NC

From:

Keep Neighborhoods First, Coalition to Preserve LA, Los Angeles Tenants Union, and UN4LA

RE: A letter of Community Impact in regard to the home sharing ordinance

The aforementioned groups humbly ask the NWNC to reject the letter of community impact presented to them by AirBnB. AirBnB is asking for the inclusion of RSO housing and to have no cap limiting how many days the property owner can let out the residence for. We would like to present information about the true impact of the Home Sharing ordinance and the far reach it will have on tenants living in Los Angeles, especially if it were to be opened up to include RSO and no cap.

Our RSO housing stock is already “at risk” due to the City of Los Angeles using conflicting data about the vacancy rating. The city needs to do a hard count audit to investigate how many residential units are being used for a purpose not intended. Allowing property owners to offer leases to corporations such as AirBnB means a loss of our housing stock. We continue to have this discussion based on the idea that it is the tenant who would be allowed to profit from this ordinance, when the reality is it empowers property owners to use precious units for hotel purpose and not offer them to residents. Allowing RSO to be used for hotel purpose will only encourages landlords to harass tenants out of their affordable housing to open up the unit for hotel usage. Pitting residents against tourist dollars will only lead to more displacement and an increase in our growing homeless population. I have attached a 24 hour notice that shows a property owner has entered into a lease with a company called “SenStay”. There are hundreds of home sharing sites, not just AirBnB as home sharing has become a very lucrative industry. There needs to be better regulation and understating the narrative as it is for property owners, not renters. Removing caps and allowing RSO units to be used for AirBnB is simply turning our existing and endangered housing stock into hotels. We can not allow the lucrative tax dollars to have priority over the quality of life of our citizens. 65% of our city are renters.

It is up to community groups such as yours to make sure that there are true regulations regarding home sharing. We must take in the full impact and language of such a measure to know exactly how it will influence our quality of life and our housing stock.

We respectfully submit this letter and offer to do a presentation for your NC to better explain why your NC should reject the CIS letter drafted by AirBnB in its entirety.

Thank you for your time.