



March 21, 2016

The Honorable Herb Wesson  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 North Spring Street, Room 430  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Honorable Mike Bonin  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 North Spring Street, Room 475  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: Urgent Release of Short-Term Rental Draft Ordinance  
CF #14-1635-S2**

Dear Council President Wesson and Councilmember Bonin:

This letter is submitted on behalf of *Keep Neighborhoods First, the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy, Unite Here! Local 11, the American Hotel & Lodging Association, the Hotel Association of Los Angeles, the California Hotel & Lodging Association, Thai Community Development Center, the Coalition for Economic Survival, Venice Community Housing, and the People Organized for Westside Renewal (POWER)*. Our unprecedented coalition has come together because of a shared concern over short-term rentals. We are working together to ensure that the city’s forthcoming ordinance preserves the scarce existing affordable and rent-stabilized housing in our neighborhoods, maintains safe living conditions in our communities, and combats the rampant threat of illegal hotel operations throughout Los Angeles.

We eagerly anticipate the release of the report and draft ordinance on short-term rentals, and thank you for your leadership on this complex issue. As you know, this is something that affects Los Angeles’ workers, residents, hotels, and businesses alike. However, it has been over nine months since your motion was first introduced, and since then, two City Council committee hearings and three community listening sessions have been held. With an additional 60-day

comment period required before it can be heard by the City Planning Commission, it is due time for the City to release its report and allow the public to weigh-in on the recommendations.

In our estimation, almost 11 housing units have been removed from the city's housing stock per day since October 2014 and converted into short-term rentals.<sup>1</sup> In total, approximately 12,006 entire housing units have been removed - further constricting a depleted housing supply and squeezing Angelenos out.<sup>2</sup> This number unfortunately continues to grow quickly. With no enforcement of the City's current laws prohibiting short-term rentals, we simply cannot afford to wait any longer. We strongly urge you to immediately release the report, and stem the tidal wave of short-term rentals taking over our city.

Sincerely,



Lynn Mohrfield  
California Hotel & Lodging Association



Judy Goldman  
Keep Neighborhoods First



Katherine Lugar  
American Hotel & Lodging Association



James Elmendorf  
Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy



Larry Gross  
Coalition for Economic Survival



Bob Amano  
Hotel Association of Los Angeles



Chancee Martorell  
Thai Community Development Center



Thomas Walsh  
Unite Here Local 11



Becky Dennison  
Venice Community Housing



Bill Przylucki  
People Organized for Westside Renewal (POWER)

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<sup>1</sup> LAANE Report, "AirBnB, Rising Rent, and the Housing Crisis in Los Angeles," March 2015 - <http://www.laane.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/AirBnB-Final.pdf>, Report Addendum August 2015

<sup>2</sup> Murray Cox, [www.insideairbnb.com/los-angeles/index.html](http://www.insideairbnb.com/los-angeles/index.html).

Cc: Vince Bertoni  
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