

From: Wentz, Michaela [<mailto:Michaela.Wentz@merrillcorp.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 11:13 AM
To: Dadlez, Kady (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Proposed Short Term Rental Zoning Code Amendments and Licensing

Greetings!

I am very sorry I am a bit late in submitting my comment but I would like to strongly oppose allowing Saint Paul residents in a multi-unit building to participate on web sites like air bnb.

I currently live in a building with 4 units that can be accessed via shared front and back doors.

I have a young child. From my past security research, the easiest targets for break-ins are areas where the burglar can work unseen and in peace.

What better opportunity than in a building where you already have the key to the front door?!!!

While there might be no issue 99% of the time, it is creating a situation of terrible vulnerability that is simply not fair and incredibly stressful.

I paid a lot of money for my place and want to live in a peaceful and safe environment for my family.

That is something that I am entitled to!!!

I most sincerely hope that this type of situation will NOT be allowed as it is not fair towards individuals in a multi-unit dwelling.

Please consider this when making safety-related decisions.

Thank you,
Michaela



Michaela Makarianova-Wentz

Quality Assurance

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please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

-----Original Message-----

From: Chris Delaurentis [<mailto:chris@historicbrownstones.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 10:26 AM

To: Dadlez, Kady (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Short term rental testimony

Dear City Council

I live, own and manage 19 units at 614-620 S 9th St Minneapolis MN 55404. For the past year, I have experimented renting a couple units on Airbnb and VRBO listing sites. I have found this to be a wonderful experience bringing travelers from all over the country to our beautiful city. I have discovered that there is a group of people that love staying in my historic brownstone apartment as opposed to the beautiful array of hotels provided downtown. Another interesting behavior I have witnessed is the way my clients like to patronize the local cafes and eateries like Segway and Bandbox or even Keys downtown. Therefore, please pass regulation that would be simple and affordable for local residents and property managers to utilize the opportunities provided by short term rentals.

Thank you

Chris DeLaurentis
612-670-5613

Sent from my iPhone

From: Trudy Ohnsorg [<mailto:tohnsorg@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 9:48 PM
To: Kim Keller; Dadlez, Kady (CI-StPaul)
Subject: An Open Letter to the Cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

On Wednesday, October 11th, 2017, the City Council of Saint Paul will pass a set of ordinances authorizing and regulating short-term rentals - a "sharing-economy" platform most associated with the upstart giant Airbnb. In a few days, the City Council of Minneapolis will follow suit, setting into motion a precedent and structure that will shape and define these two cities for years to come.

We are bombarded daily with messages that the world is full of bad people who do terrible things to each other. We turn on our TVs and hear reports of the latest crimes; we open our Facebook feeds to scenes of political and social disconnection. Numbed, we begin to believe the world is full of danger. That it is safer to shut ourselves off. To communicate through our devices. To fear.

Except that somehow, in the midst of this division and distrust, people, across the planet, have begun to open their homes to strangers. Think about it. What kind of trust does it take to welcome a complete stranger into your personal space?

And yet it happens every day, on a massive scale, around the world.

What we do defines us, as people and as communities. Saint Paul and Minneapolis have taken the courageous step of embracing the concept that welcoming travelers into our homes and communities benefits us all, by bringing revenue to our local businesses, by providing an incentive and means to improve and maintain our properties, by enabling residents to showcase our cities, and by assisting homeowners to remain in their homes, thus stabilizing our neighborhoods.

In addition, the Twin Cities have recognized that the vast majority of humans are good and decent and trustworthy people. By passing these ordinances, they will endorse avenues for people, from across the world, to meaningfully connect with each other. From a global perspective, this is no longer merely transactional. This is transformational.

What we do defines us, and the Twin Cities have emerged as leaders in a gentle revolution that is being staged in homes and living rooms across the globe. We conquer fear when we learn to trust.

We vanquish strangers when they become friends.

Sincerely,

Trudy Ohnsorg, MPH

President, Home Sharing Hosts of the Twin Cities

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