

RECEIVED ON: August 12, 2024

Council Meeting: 08/13/2024
Agenda Item No: 10

From: [Bill Dobrenen](#)
To: [WebMail - CCD](#)
Subject: City Council Meeting Public Comments
Date: Monday, August 12, 2024 10:16:57 AM

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Dear Mayor, City Council members, City Manager

Regarding : Conditions for STR's

I am a 43 year resident of the City of Whittier. I support allowing STR's in our city with limited conditions. As an owner operator of a STR in the Uptown District for the past 10 years, I feel that I have the experience operating a STR in the best manner possible. We are located in a commercial/residential zone and are walking distance to shopping, dining, churches and Whittier College. Our STR provides a need in the city, our guests patronize the Uptown businesses and restaurants and are a positive benefit to the city.

When we first started operating a large percentage of people we serviced were from foreign countries. During the past 5 years almost 100 percent of the people are from the United States. A great many of them travel to Whittier for funerals, family weddings, family gatherings, graduations and reunions. Some visit Disneyland or Universal Studios, many who have moved away just want to come back to Whittier to visit . What they all have in common is **“they want to stay together as a family, a unit, all in one house”**.

We have a very strict policy of only 2 guests per bedroom, no parties, no gathering or outside visitors allowed. We screen all guests very carefully, they must state the following before we accept their stay, “ where are you traveling from, who you are traveling with and what is your purpose for traveling to the area”. Regarding parking, our guests usually only have one, maybe two cars.

I live a few minutes away from the property and I'm a very hands-on operator. I care about my city, my neighbors and my property. We address any and all issues immediately. Maintenance on both inside and outside is done on a regular basis and is an ongoing process. In our other straight rental houses we have constant issues with tenants violating the upkeep conditions set forth in the rental agreement.

I SUPPORT limiting the number of STR's in Whittier, grandfathering in the existing STR's, and a requirement that operators must live in the City of Whittier.

I DO NOT SUPPORT requiring STR's to be owner occupied.

CC: CM; ACM; CA; Council; Original to CC; Public Binder; Department

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I DO NOT SUPPORT requiring that STR's can only be used 50 percent of the time during the year.

Sincerely,

Bill Dobrenen
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Whittier 90601