

To the SB County Board of Supervisors

August 23rd 2018

Re: Short Term Rentals

My wife and I have operated a short term/vacation rental for almost 20 years. We have been paying T.O.T tax since its inception.

Although we are in the County we think it is grossly unfair that other homeowners in the City of Santa Barbara and those in the coastal zone are not allowed to rent their homes. The CA Coastal Commission obviously thought the same when they unanimously rejected the County's proposal to prohibit STRs in residential zones in the Coastal Zone for the good reason that it severely restricted access to the beach and coastline.

A short term rental is the ideal vacation arrangement for families who want to be together, cook meals together etc.. Beside the expense, hotel rooms are not a substitute and although a vacationing family may eat some meals in restaurants many cannot afford to eat every meal out in a restaurant and much prefer sitting together around a dining table in a home. If Santa Barbara forbids this those families will simply vacation and spend their money elsewhere .

Palm Springs realized this a while ago putting in place regulations which help home owners and the city whilst minimalizing any potential nuisance to neighbors.

Consequently Palm Springs tourist business is booming.

Santa Barbara could benefit the same way simply by regulating vacation rentals in the Coastal Zone. Perhaps a reasonable limit to STRs might prove workable but prohibiting or even severely limiting them is wrong.

Yours

Michael and Hilary Anderson