

From: [Regina DeMoss](#)
To: [Public Testimony](#); [Barnes, Lee](#); [Bough, Andrea](#); [Fowler, Dan](#); [Ellington, Brandon](#); [Loar, Teresa](#)
Cc: [Decker, Forest](#); [Bunch, Eric](#); [Shields, Katheryn](#); [Lucas, Quinton](#)
Subject: STRs-for urgent read
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April 30, 2023

Neighborhood Planning & Development Committee

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Dear Neighborhood Planning & Development Committee,

I am writing as a concerned homeowner in the West Plaza Neighborhood who lives across the street from a current STR.

After the testimony from the April 19, 2023 Neighborhood Planning & Development Committee, I am writing to encourage your support to enact the current (April 19, 2023) Committee Substitutes for Ordinances 230267 and 2368. The proposed ordinances answer many questions and concerns raised by both long-term residents and short-term rental operators and prove to be an amenable solution for both parties. Those concerns and solutions are listed as follows:

- **There is no ban on short-term rentals.** Both owner and non-owner STRs currently permitted will be allowed to continue to operate in R-zones.
- **Homeowners struggle to purchase homes in Kansas City.** Investors are buying residential property before long-term Kansas City residents can purchase. This not only impacts the availability of housing, but also the affordability of housing. Restricting new non-owner STRs from R-zones alleviates this issue.
- **Neighborhoods are less safe.** Restricting new non-owner STRs from R-zones will create greater opportunity for long-term Kansas City residents to purchase or rent homes, thereby reconnecting neighbors, and strengthening the safety network that is inherent in strong neighborhoods.
- **The current registration process is difficult.** Obtaining consent is difficult, especially if you do not know your neighbors. The consent requirement is removed only if future non-owner STRs are designated to non-R zones.
- **Enforcement has been a challenge.** Transferring enforcement to the Neighborhood Services will allow for additional staffing and bandwidth and will allow more time for the Planning Department to focus on responsible planning for our community.
- **What about the World Cup?** Long-term policy should not be driven by a once-in-

a-lifetime event three years in the future. A Special Event Permit to allow for Kansas Citians to safely and responsibly host international visitors is the prudent solution for this once-in-a-lifetime event. Taxes and fees that apply to other short-term rentals would apply to Special Event Short Term Rentals.

As stated previously, I currently live across the street from a non-owner-occupied STR. I recently received a letter from the owner informing me he was renting the home as an STR. He has been operating the STR for over a year, so was clearly in non-compliance. The letter was very confusing in that in one sentence, he was “informing” me and in another part of the letter, it said he needed to get “consent” from me. Nowhere in the letter was information on how I was to give “consent”. Rules for STRs of any kind need to be made clearer, it should be easy to find said rules, and one should know to whom to lodge complaints. I know none of these answers.

I have reviewed the comments and concerns expressed by the Midtown Neighborhoods in their Comments to Substitute Versions of 230267 and 230268, dated April 12, 2023. The April 19, 2023 Committee Substitutes satisfactorily address those concerns with the exception of my concerns in the previous paragraph. I implore the City Council and Mayor to enact an ordinance that resolves those concerns.

Sincerely,

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