From:	Derek Ramsay
To:	Bough, Andrea; Ellington, Brandon; Fowler, Dan; Barnes, Lee; Loar, Teresa; Public Testimony
Cc:	Foster, Katrina; Minardi, Lisa; Justis, Amy; McCoy, Keema
Subject:	please support reasonable regulations on STR"s in KCMO
Date:	Wednesday, May 3, 2023 11:18:38 AM
Attachments:	image010.png image011.png image012.png image013.png image016.png image017.png

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"It's a problem of enforcement, first and foremost."

Councilman Eric Bunch, KCUR report, December 8, 2022

"It's our ordinance that is the primary driver of our inability to, let's say, enforce from a desk."

KCMO City Auditor Doug Jones, KCUR report, December 8, 2022

Since the City Council first approved Kansas City's short-term rental program in 2018, only 11% of units have registered and been licensed by the city, according to a recent city auditor's report. Additionally, the report found that 95% of the 311 complaints regarding short-term rentals over that time were related to unlicensed units. (***In other words, only 16 complaints were filed against lawfully operating short-term rentals in four years***). Finally, the audit showed that this lack of enforcement has cost the city over $2.3 million.

"The ordinance that we currently have is not well enforced," Bunch said. "And that's because of lack of our focus as a city on it, and lack of budget dedicated to it." Fortunately for Councilman Bunch and Kansas Citians living near unregulated, problematic short-term rentals, nearly 28,000 (more than 60%) of Kansas City voters recently passed tax increases of 7.5% to help the city better regulate these properties.

Since the pandemic more families are choosing to travel together with children, grandparents, siblings and even pets. Accommodations like short-term rental properties are more conducive to this new way of traveling. **Banning STR's in residentially zoned areas will eliminate these family-friendly, economical options forcing travelers to choose alternate destinations to visit and spend their money.**

Additionally, there is no doubt that Kansas City is on the rise as great things are happening throughout our city. A new airport terminal, new stadiums, the World Cup and so many more exciting projects and events will continue to bring national notoriety, excitement, visitors and tourism dollars to the city. **Short-term rentals are an important component to tourism in Kansas City as the interest in visiting our city builds.**

Finally, as we gear up to host the World Cup, **we must show the world that we are not only the "Soccer Capital of America!", but one of the friendliest and accommodating destinations as well**. According to City Manager Brian Platt, "There is potential for teams to be staying here and in other host cities across the country and the region for weeks and months at a time and their fans follow and stay as well." Sporting KC Coach Peter Vermes added "People don't know what's coming. What's coming is the biggest sporting event in the world."

After four years of doing nothing, ***Kansas City must finally regulate the short-term rental industry***. But we don't have to do it at the expense of an industry that the city will rely on now and in the future. The people have given the City Council the funds to do so with the recent passage of 7.5% new tax revenues. Responsible short-term rental owners support this regulation to protect both their investments and those of their neighbors. The city council should too.

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