From:	Sarah Albright
To:	Public Testimony; Barnes, Lee; Bough, Andrea; Fowler, Dan; Ellington, Brandon; Loar, Teresa; Lucas, Quinton; Decker, Forest
Subject:	Re: Short-term Rental considerations
Date:	Wednesday, May 3, 2023 10:25:58 AM

I cannot state strongly enough how detrimental the impact of non-owner-occupied short term rentals are in neighborhoods. Homes were once filled with children who went trick or treating with mine, couples who helped tackle home projects, teen kids who could shovel your snow and collect cash for school projects… All the things that make a neighborhood a wonderful lifestyle for all ages are completely trashed when those houses cease to be homes and become hotels.

Nothing short of stopping these things in residential areas will return Kansas City to being an actual community again. Do not let these investors steal our city.

Sure we want to see visitors welcomed; that's what LEGAL hotels in commercial districts are for. Not the house next door to tax-paying citizens.

Sarah Albright

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 17, 2023, at 1:22 PM, Jane Albright <sjalbright@aol.com> wrote:

Dear Neighborhood Planning and Development Committee members, Mayor Lucas, and Mr. Decker,

It is disheartening for people like me to establish a home and friendships in a neighborhood where we happily raise a family and expect to spend the rest of our life, only to have property taxes double and actual, caring neighbors replaced with short-term rental property owners who introduce a stream of strangers and endless overflow parking to crowd our previously tranquil block.

Then, the city responds to to short-term rentals as if their only concern is how to make money off of them. The proposals on our last vote showed zero interest in allowing us to have the quality of life we've worked and paid for. They opened the door to continue crowding these commercial businesses into our residential areas without so much as the approval of surrounding home owners.

It should be exceeding clear by now that taxpaying neighbors do not want these homes in our midst to be purchased and marketed commercially by non-resident investors. The city needs to hold the line with not permitting them to operate without neighborhood consent. You should be shutting them down and obligating these investors to buy properties only in zoned commercial areas--not just focusing on how to collect taxes off them. Shut them down and drive people in need of a night's lodging back to our real hotels to get your taxes. Force parties to be held in licensed venue spaces that have adequate parking and bathrooms for crowds.

If all these houses went back on the market, retail values would return to affordable levels and more families could become home owners. If the apartments being offered as short term rentals went back on the market for long-term tenants, increased availability would mean help bringing those spaces back in line with what Kansas City tenants could afford.

It is no surprise that Kansas City's population is dropping as homeowners move in droves to the suburbs and surrounding areas. Our neighborhoods are less and less inviting and desirable because of these business. This could be reversed. The City Council needs to prioritize your citizen, home owner, and Kansas City tenant needs over the financial interests of those capitalizing on this short-term-rental trend.

Sarah Albright