

From: Charlotte Young
Sent: January 25, 2021 2:33 PM
To: Clerks
Subject: Short term rentals in Burnaby

Categories: Yellow Category, Public Hearing

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. **The City will never ask for personal or account information or account password through email.** If you feel this email is malicious or a scam, please forward it to phishing@burnaby.ca

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing today in opposition to the proposed regulatory and enforcement framework for short term rentals.

While I myself don't operate a short term rental, I have friends who do or have done so in the past. They've invested money into renovations and created usable space in their homes, where once there was only storage and junk. The money they earn via short term rentals helps allow them to remain residents of our city. To think that Council would act in such a disproportionately punitive way to homeowners, when a much greater share of affordable rental stock, both around metrotown and other city centres, has been, and continues to be, destroyed with Council approval seems unjust. To me, this seems almost like an attack on small business owners.

I certainly agree that this city needs more rental stock, and more affordable rental stock. I also believe that people who buy up multiple apartments and create short term rentals with them should be stopped. I don't think that the proposed bylaws will accomplish either of these objectives. There may be a small bump in rental stock, as honest homeowners take down their listings. Others will keep them up, knowing that the city can't possibly enforce the bylaws being proposed. Cities who have regulations far less stringent and far larger budgets have had incredible difficulty with enforcement. One need look no further than Vancouver for evidence of this.

Short term rentals are a straw man for much greater issues that need to be approached in conjunction with the provincial and federal governments. This proposal hurts residents, homeowners, and visitors to the city. It would make the city a poorer place to live, work, visit, and do business in. I urge the Council to reconsider their support.

Thank you,

Charlotte Young
6457 Marine Dr
Burnaby, BC
V3N 2Y5