# County of Los Angeles Short-Term Rentals Ordinance

#### Background



- March 19, 2019: The Los Angeles County (County) Board of Supervisors adopted a Motion directing County departments to develop an ordinance to regulate STRs in the County's Unincorporated Area.
- A Short-Term Rental (STR) is an accessory use of a Host's primary residence for the purposes of providing temporary lodging for compensation for periods of 30 consecutive calendar days or less.
- STRs are most commonly booked through third party internet hosting platforms such as **Airbnb**, but can be booked through any service including travel sites such as Expedia or Hotwire, or directly with a Host.

## Ordinance Objectives



Preserve long-term rental housing by limiting STR registrations;

 Ensure STRs do not become a nuisance (e.g., "party house");

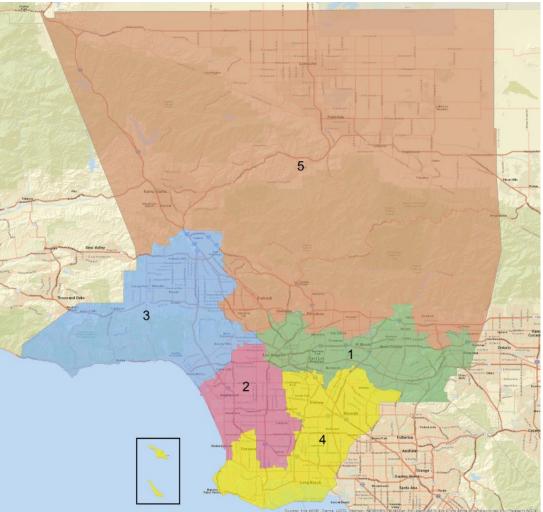
 Protect the character of residential neighborhoods and public safety;

Provide constituents an opportunity to generate income; and

 Secure the collection and remittance of the Transient Occupancy Taxes ("TOT").

## **STR Ordinance**

- Only primary residences. A Host may have only one primary residence and must reside there for minimum of 9 months per calendar year.
- No vacation homes. The Host must be the primary resident.
- STR guests must pay County Transient
   Occupancy Tax (12% of the nightly rate).
- Annual Registration Fee of \$914.
- Register with the County Treasurer and Tax Collector (TTC)



## **Regulations & Restrictions**



- Hosted Stay (Host resides overnight on the property)
  - Unlimited nights per calendar year
  - Minimum 1-night rental
  - Host can stay in an ADU or detached residential unit
- Un-Hosted Stays (Host does not reside overnight):
  - Limited to 90 nights per calendar year
  - Minimum 2-night rental
- Occupancy limit 2 adult guests per bedroom, plus 2
  - Maximum of 12 guests per booking

## **Rent Restricted Housing**



- Rent Restricted Housing is prohibited:
  - Properties subject to rental housing restrictions by deed or agreement with the County, a Public Agency, or Public Authority; or
  - Properties subject to an agreement that provides a housing subsidy for affordable housing; or
  - Properties exempt under State, federal, or administrative regulations.

#### **Nuisance Prevention**

- No Nuisances
  - No illegal parking, disturbances of the peace, excessive noise, vibration, glare, light, odors, littering
- No Parties/Events
  - No open invite gatherings, parties advertised on social media, or commercial gatherings
- On-Site Parking
  - Required when on-site parking exists
- Notice to Neighbors
  - TTC will notice owners of all adjacent & abutting properties of the STR

## **Hosting Platform & Host Responsibilities**



- Hosting Platforms (Airbnb, etc.) must not advertise any STR without a valid County STR registration and must remove any STR listing from its platform upon notification by the County of an ordinance violation.
- STR Hosts must identify a Local Responsible Contact who will be available 24/7 by telephone to address neighborhood disturbances (e.g. "party house rentals"), respond to complaints, and resolve potential ordinance violations.

## Enforcement



Entity	Violation	Fines (under consideration)
Hosts	<ul> <li>Noncompliance with the Code or any other law related to the operation of a STR</li> </ul>	Revoke/suspend or deny Registration + \$285 Noncompliance Fee
	<ul> <li>Imminent threat to public peace, health, or safety</li> </ul>	Immediate suspension or revocation for 30 days pending further investigation
	Nuisance	Nuisance abatement lien on title
	<ul> <li>Any violation of any provision of the Chapter</li> </ul>	Civil action, injunction & penalties up to \$1,000/violation per day + Misdemeanor charge(s) with \$1,000 fine or by imprisonment in County jail for 6 months, or both
	<ul> <li>STR rented for less than 2- night minimum, or beyond the 90-day Un-Hosted Stay limit.</li> </ul>	\$2,000/day or 2 times nightly rate, whichever is greater

## **Enforcement – Additional Tools**



- 24/7 Complaint Hotline & Neighborhood Notices;
- Issue compliance and enforcement notices;
- Monitor rental activity (Hosted vs Un-hosted & address); and
- Coordinate enforcement with County Departments

#### **Contact Information**



#### Please email your STR inquiries to: <u>STRental@ttc.lacounty.gov</u>