

**Statement of Response on Regulating Short-Term Rentals to the Affordable Housing,
Neighborhoods & Finance Committee**

PRESENTED BY: Seattle Short-Term Rental Alliance (SSTRA)
SUBJECT: Aly Pennucci/Nate Van Duzer/David Mendoza LEG Short-Term Rental LUC ORD
SEPA DRAFT

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

In support of HALA report recommendations, SSTRA provides the following response to the Seattle City Council's proposed short-term rental regulations.

Short-term rentals in Seattle positively impact the local economy by creating jobs and supporting small businesses. There is neither evidence-based research nor academic studies demonstrating that short-term rentals negatively impact affordable housing in Seattle. Proposed regulations phasing out short-term rentals in secondary residences will result in unexpected consequences - negatively impacting the local economy, eliminating jobs, putting small business owners out of business, and harming the ability of private citizens to earn a living from income property.

Due to a lack of data linking short-term rentals to affordable housing, and due to the serious potential consequences of pending legislation, SSTRA makes the following recommendations to the Seattle City Council:

1. **SSTRA supports affordable housing in Seattle** and wants to fund affordable housing initiatives as a civic revenue source recommended in section R.9 of the HALA report.
2. **SSTRA requests the commissioning of a report** to study the impact of short-term rentals and table a vote on the proposed regulations as written.
3. **SSTRA requests to participate in a task force** to develop an alternative regulation plan to promote affordable housing and prevent a potential negative impact caused by short-term rentals.

ABOUT SSTRA: The Seattle Short Term Rental Alliance is a group of vacation rental and short-term rental owners, managers, housekeepers, Small Business Owners and Property Rights Advocates. We love the city of Seattle and support the efforts of the Seattle City Council and the mayor's office to help increase the availability of affordable housing in Seattle. Recommendations in the HALA report commissioned by Mayor Ed Murray include creating a tax to fund affordable housing from short-term rentals, and we exhort the city council and the Mayors office to follow HALA recommendations and make us a partner in affordable housing in Seattle.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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