



# WASHOE COUNTY

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## STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE: February 23, 2021**

**DATE:** January 22, 2021

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

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**SUBJECT:** Introduction and first reading of ordinances amending Washoe County Code Chapter 110 (Development Code) within Article 302, Allowed Uses, to identify the types of review required for short-term rentals in each regulatory zone and to add an administrative review permit to the list of review types; within Article 304, Use Classification System, to update the residential use type description, add a definition for short-term rental, and update the definition for lodging services; within Article 410, Parking and Loading, to update the off-street parking space requirements table to include a reference to short-term rentals; and within Article 910, Enforcement, to specify that appeals of Administrative Hearing Office decisions related to short-term rentals would be heard by the Board of County Commissioners. Chapter 110 would also be amended to create Article 319, Short-Term Rentals (STRs), to establish standards, location limitations, defining unpermitted short-term rentals as nuisances, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, Tahoe area considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals; and to amend Article 306, Accessory Uses and Structures, by removing the procedural details for Administrative Review Permits, with those details being re-located into a new article that is updated to reflect minor changes related to short-term rentals. That article would be created as Article 809, Administrative Review Permits. The ordinances would also amend Chapter 50 (Public Peace, Safety and Morals) to include a definition of short-term rental and define unpermitted short-term rentals as a public nuisance; and amend Chapter 125 (Administrative Enforcement Code) to establish enforcement provisions related to short-term rentals, including but not limited to definitions, evidence of operation, evidence of violations, appeals and associated timeframes, stop activity orders, warnings, penalties, and penalty notices. Short-term rentals are a type of temporary lodging booked for fewer than 28-days and operated out of private residences such as homes, apartments and condos. They are commonly made available through property management

**AGENDA ITEM # \_\_\_\_\_**

companies and online booking services, and are also referred to as vacation rentals. The amendments also resolve discrepancies arising within existing Washoe County Code chapters as a result of the new code language, and other matters necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto.

And, if introduced, set the public hearing and second reading of the ordinances for March 23, 2021. (All Commission Districts.)

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## **SUMMARY**

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners (Board) is asked to introduce and hold the first reading of ordinances amending the Washoe County Code within Chapters 110, 50 and 125 to establish standards and processes associated with the administration and enforcement of short-term rentals (STRs) in unincorporated Washoe County.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities.

## **PREVIOUS ACTION**

August 25, 2020. The Board was scheduled to hear the first reading of the proposed ordinances, but the meeting was cancelled. The item was not placed on a subsequent agenda due to additional discussions with commissioners and the public regarding potential changes to the draft ordinances.

February 25, 2020. The Board reviewed the proposed ordinances and provided direction to staff in lieu of conducting an introduction and first reading. More details are provided in the next section of this report.

January 7, 2020. The Washoe County Planning Commission (PC) reviewed proposed changes to Chapter 110 and voted unanimously to recommend approval of Development Code Amendment WDCA19-0008 with minor modifications.

December 10, 2019. The Board formally initiated amendments to the Washoe County Code related to STRs.

November 12, 2019. The Board heard an update on the STR project, including staff's recommendations related to standards and a permitting process.

February 26, 2019. The Board determined that by adopting changes to WCC Chapter 25 in 2007 to allow transient lodging and associated room tax, the use is allowed within Washoe County (although not yet defined within Chapter 110). Further, the Board identified it did not want to ban STRs in unincorporated Washoe County. In order to resolve potential conflict between the two WCC chapters, the Board directed staff to start the process of establishing regulations for STRs to properly administer their use.

July 10, 2007. The Board adopted changes to Washoe County Code Chapter 25 relating to transient lodging.

## **UPDATES SINCE FEB. 25, 2020 BOARD MEETING**

This section of the staff report identifies changes to the draft standards resulting from the Board's direction on Feb. 25, 2020. The remainder of this staff report includes similar content to what was provided for the Feb. 25 Board meeting, with the exception that relevant dates have been updated, and the section on proposed standards reflects the changes summarized in the list below.

- **External placard – requirement removed:** The prior draft language included a requirement for an external placard on each STR displaying the STR permit number, maximum occupancy and contact phone numbers. Per Board direction, this requirement has been removed from the current draft.
- **Unscheduled inspections – reference removed:** The prior draft allowed for reasonable unscheduled inspections in circumstances where life safety issues (including related to maximum occupancy) were present. Per Board direction, references to these types of inspections has been removed.
- **Self-certifications/annual inspections:** As directed by the Board, a physical inspection would only be required prior to initial permit issuance and every three years thereafter. In the intermediate years, self-certifications would be accepted for renewal in lieu of a physical inspection if the permit had not lapsed and there were no confirmed STR violations in the previous year. *However*, based on recent direction from the District 1 commissioner, annual inspections are preferred by the community and the commissioner. Therefore, staff is proposing the original draft ordinance proposal of requiring physical inspections annually and no self-certification is proposed.
- **Occupancy – updated calculation method:** In the original draft, occupancy limits were calculated based on square footage of individual sleeping areas. However, at the Feb. 25 meeting, the Board expressed concern about the proposed standards leading to the possibility of some parents not being able to sleep in the same room as their children, if the rooms are small. The Board's subsequent direction was to exempt children under 5 years of age from occupancy limits. Staff from Community Services, the District Attorney's office, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District then met to discuss the Board's direction and options for addressing the stated issues. Due to significant safety and liability concerns with creating age exemptions for occupancy limits, an alternative calculation method is proposed to address the Board direction. The revised method already exists in the International Building Code (adopted by Washoe County) and calculates occupancy limits based on the square footage of the entire home's habitable space, allowing for one occupant per 200 sq. ft. With this method, the home would have an overall occupancy limit, but would not be room-specific (ex. bedrooms). Designated sleeping areas would still need to meet minimum safety standards (smoke detectors, CO detectors, etc.)
- **30-minute response time – clarification added:** The initial draft included a requirement for the STR's local responsible party to be able to respond to complaints within 30 minutes of contact by Washoe County. Per Board direction, clarification was added stating that such response can be by phone or text, and that for circumstances where a subsequent physical response is needed, it should be able to occur within an hour unless there are uncontrollable extenuating circumstances, such as weather or traffic.
- **Number of STRs on a parcel – allowance for accessory dwellings:** In response to Board comments, the draft has been updated to allow a second STR on a parcel, if it is established within a legally permitted accessory dwelling (either attached or detached).

- **Defensible space inspections – approval process updated:** Recognizing that defensible space inspections may be difficult or impossible to conduct when properties are obscured by snow, the ordinance has been updated to allow for a conditional approval when conditions warrant.
- **Emergency restrictions – new language:** As a result of the current pandemic, new draft language has been added to address the potential for restrictions that may be imposed upon STRs during declared emergencies.
- **Timing:** If the ordinances are introduced on February 23, 2021 a second reading and possible adoption is proposed for March 23, 2021. If adopted, it is recommended that the application window for permit submittal opens May 1, 2021, followed by a 3-month grace period in which to obtain a permit (from submittal to issuance). Enforcement of standards would begin August 1, 2021. These dates are intended to allow sufficient time for: creation of the permitting processes, application materials, and online platform; staff training; a public information campaign; outreach to properties with existing STR listings, time to allow STR owners to prepare for application submittal and review, and processing and issuance of permits by staff.

## **BACKGROUND**

Short-term rentals (STRs) are a type of temporary lodging of less than 28 days operated out of private residences such as homes, apartments and condos. They are also referred to as vacation rentals and commonly available through property management companies and online booking services.

As with other industries affected by the sharing economy, the rise of online advertising platforms such as Airbnb and VRBO has disrupted the traditional lodging industry by expanding opportunities for homeowners to tap into the tourist market and offer their home for STR use. Although vacation rentals have been available in various forms for decades, these newer technologies have led to expanded temporary lodging options and a greater awareness of the prevalence of STRs in many communities. Along with that has come increased focus on the impacts of STRs on neighboring residents and the larger community. Washoe County, and especially the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area, is no exception.

Current unofficial estimates put the number of STRs in unincorporated Washoe County between roughly 500 and 1000 distinct units active at any given time, varying greatly with time of year. Over 90% are estimated to be located in Incline Village/Crystal Bay, and over 90% are whole-home rentals. At the high-end, STRs represent approximately 12.5% of housing stock in Incline Village/Crystal Bay. This is on par with other Tahoe-area jurisdictions, with the Mountain Housing Council estimating that STRs comprise 13.5% of housing stock in the Truckee/North Tahoe region.

Appropriate management of STRs is a complex and controversial issue with no simple solution. Stakeholders represent a variety of perspectives, often at opposite ends of the spectrum. Opinions range from a desire to see STRs completely banned within a community, to believing that they are a fundamental property owner right. At the root of these very different opinions is often the question of whether STRs are a residential use or a commercial use. Staff's research shows that jurisdictions and courts alike have differences of opinion on this matter, and that there is no clear consensus. After extensive research and review of public input, it is Washoe County staff's opinion that answering that question is a matter of thresholds. At lower occupancies, the use may easily be considered residential in nature, but

still have characteristics requiring mitigation (as a sort of hybrid residential use). This is because, in general, the impacts on surrounding properties are expected to not be substantially different than if the property were used in the more traditionally long-term residential way. However, at higher occupancies, the impacts (ex. parking, noise, etc.) to neighboring properties are more likely to increase to a level that the use starts to appear less residential and more commercial in nature. In some cases, these impacts may be mitigated through more restrictive standards or conditions of approval. In other cases, they cannot. Some levels of occupancy may be so high that the STR would be inappropriate in residential areas, and more appropriate to be located in commercial areas, especially those that are tourist-oriented.

Most jurisdictions in southern Nevada and around Lake Tahoe have already established or are working to establish standards and a registration/permitting process for STRs in their communities. Due to the relative newness of standards for this type of use, there is limited consensus in how STRs are regulated, with dozens of regulatory options being employed across the U.S. to manage STRs. The most commonly regulated categories deal with quality of life issues such as noise, parking and trash.

The following text provides an overview of the various work that has been completed thus far, outreach that has occurred, and recommendations for the Board to consider.

### **Process Overview**

Due to the complexity of the issue, staff attempted to craft a methodical approach to recommending standards and a permitting process for STRs. This approach is designed with five distinct phases: (1) Project planning and research; (2) Structured public engagement; (3) Drafting and adoption of standards/processes; (4) Grace period, during which public outreach about the new requirements occurs, and technology/training are put into place to support the program; and (5) Program launch, after which STRs are required to meet standards and have appropriate permits to operate. Enforcement of the new requirements will begin during this phase. The project is currently in phase 3 (drafting and adoption of standards/processes). It is also expected that staff will conduct a re-review of standards and fees approximately 6 to 12 months after program launch in order to assess effectiveness.

### **Planning, Research and First Steps**

Following direction from the Board in early 2019, a core group of staff within the Community Services Department began conducting research aimed at better understanding the impacts of STRs, possible strategies for addressing those impacts, legal and financial implications, technology innovations to help address community impacts, and the mechanisms that are most commonly used by cities and counties across the U.S.

The parameters and goals of the project were identified early in the planning process. Based on staff's understanding of the Board's direction and a review of successful STR programs around the country, the following guiding principles were established:

- Create simple, fair and enforceable standards for STRs that reflect best practices and address impacts
- Maximize voluntary compliance
- Encourage safe accommodations for visitors
- Balance competing interests
- Establish a cost-neutral fee and fine structure

During the initial research stage, Washoe County also contracted with technology provider Host Compliance to provide three main services related to STRs: address identification (tying online advertisements from dozens of platforms to real addresses); a 24/7 complaint hotline; and, a mobile registration platform. Host Compliance provides STR enforcement assistance to over 200 local jurisdictions across the United States; however, staff is proposing that enforcement in Washoe County will be conducted through the existing code enforcement process using county staff.

### **Public Outreach and Engagement**

A critical component of the project has been to identify the various stakeholder groups and better understand their perspectives on STRs. These many stakeholders can generally be grouped into the following major categories: neighbor/community members; STR host and property managers/realtors; traditional lodging industry and business; and impacted regulatory agencies.

These categories are not exhaustive; however, they represent most perspectives heard from so far. There were three major components of the initial public outreach process: (1) small-group, targeted stakeholder input meetings; (2) public workshops; and (3) an online survey.

Stakeholder input sessions: In July 2019, staff held a series of small-group stakeholder input sessions aimed at getting a better sense of the perspectives and priorities of those within each major stakeholder group. These meetings helped inform the topics and structure of later public workshops. An informal working group of various agencies was also formed in order to better understand concerns and priorities from the regulatory perspective. The working group included representatives from the Sheriff's Office, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority (RSCVA), Washoe County Manager's Office, business license program, code enforcement program, planning program, and building program. Staff has had several follow-up meetings with many of these agencies/programs since the original working group meetings, as well as with the Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID), Washoe County Health District and District Attorney's Office.

Public workshops: In August 2019, two public workshops were held in Incline Village and one in Reno. There were approximately 250-300+ attendees across the three workshops (some participants attended more than one workshop). These were structured to better understand the priorities and concerns of workshop attendees, and to solicit possible solutions to address these concerns.

Online survey: An online survey was offered as an alternative or supplement to the in-person workshops. The survey was structured similarly to the workshops in terms of asking participants to identify their top areas of concern related to STRs and future standards/permitting processes, provide additional details about those concerns, and offer possible solutions. There were **569** survey responses. About **70%** of respondents represented a neighbor/community perspective, while about **20%** represented the STR host or property manager perspective.

Public response for workshops and survey: Staff's goal during the public outreach process was to identify major concerns of each of the stakeholder groups and, wherever possible, pinpoint areas of overlap. A summary of feedback received via the workshops and online

survey is included with the Planning Commission staff report (Attachment E). An analysis of the input received revealed several recurring themes, including:

- Top areas of concern related to occupancy limits, permitting process, noise and parking.
- There is general community support for regulating STRs. However, respondents vary drastically on the extent of standards that should be put in place.
- It is critical that regulations established for STRs be enforced.
- Property managers believe their existing rules for the STRs they manage are strict and adequately regulated through their state license.
- Many residents, especially in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area, believe STRs are commercial businesses operated by non-residents of the community.
- Many hosts believe better renter education will help mitigate existing issues and are concerned that responsible hosts will be penalized for the actions of irresponsible hosts.

Additional public input received since February 23, 2020: Staff has compiled additional emails, documents, and input provided by the public since the last Board hearing on this item (see Attachment G).

### **Proposed Amendments**

Based on significant research conducted by staff, extensive public input, Board input, and an analysis of potential regulatory mechanisms and options for Washoe County, staff created a series of recommendations that were reviewed by the Board in November 2019. Draft code language was subsequently created and made available for a 21-day public comment period. The draft was then reviewed and recommended for approval by the Planning Commission in January 2020, after which the Board reviewed the initial draft and provided additional direction to staff in February 2020.

Draft code language for Chapter 110 (Development Code) has been provided with Attachment A and summarized on the following pages.

### **General Standards**

- Every STR must have a designated local responsible party available 24/7 through a single phone number who shall respond to complaints within 30 minutes of contact (via text/phone acceptable). If an on-site response is necessary, it should occur within the following hour.
- No events or other gatherings (ex. parties, weddings, etc.) are allowed that would exceed the on-site maximum occupancy associated with the STR permit.
- Permittee must be the property owner.
- Limited to one STR per parcel, with the exception that a second STR may be allowed in legal accessory dwellings; STRs must be a permanent, habitable dwelling unit (i.e. no RVs/boats). The per-parcel limitation is due, in part, to ensure better enforcement capability.
- STRs may be rented to only one group/person at a time (ex. renting out five individual rooms to five separate parties would not be permitted and is a key distinction from lodging services use types).
- Advertising for an STR is prohibited unless a valid STR permit has been issued.
- Advertisements must include the Washoe County permit number, room tax license number, maximum occupancy as allowed by the permit, number of beds (cannot exceed max. occupancy), and number of parking spaces.

- Must comply with all other federal, state, and other applicable laws/statutes, and issuance of a County STR permit does not relieve the property owner of compliance with applicable regulations, including CC&Rs or HOA restrictions.
- Existing STRs are not grandfathered; they must apply for and be issued a County STR permit in order to operate.
- Applicable room tax must be paid to the RSCVA.

### **Permitting**

- An STR permit will be considered similar to a privileged license in that revocation can occur without Board action for issues such as non-payment of fees and noncompliance. Any revocation would provide for appropriate and timely administrative appellate review.
- STR permits must be renewed annually. Property owners should be aware that standards are subject to change over time and that there is no guarantee a permit will be renewed.
- **Three permitting tiers are proposed.** These tiers are intended to recognize that below certain thresholds, and with appropriate standards in place, an STR is expected to reasonably function similarly to other residential uses. However, as occupancy increases, impacts to surrounding properties have the potential to increase. In these cases, further scrutiny may be needed to determine if the scale of the proposed STR is appropriate on the specific property and if additional mitigation can reduce impacts to a reasonable level.
  - **Tier 1:** STRs with a maximum occupancy of 10 persons or less; standard STR permit required. (*Note:* 10 or fewer is a common break point for uses like group homes and within the International Building Code’s “R” occupancies.)
  - **Tier 2:** STRs with a maximum occupancy of 11-20 persons; discretionary permit required in most regulatory zones.
  - **Tier 3:** STRs with a maximum occupancy of 21 or more persons; only allowed in areas where hotels/motels allowed; with discretionary permit; requires commercial standards.

### **Occupancy Limits**

Establishing occupancy limits also has the potential to reduce some of the major impacts commonly associated with STRs. Proposed limits are based on the International Code Council’s International Building Code, a well-recognized code generally addressing building safety standards in the United States and across the world. Proposed standards are as follows:

- One occupant is allowed per 200 sq. ft. of habitable space; total occupancy is not room-specific.
- No distinction would be made between daytime and nighttime occupancy, as impacts are expected to be similar.
- No distinction would be made on occupant age.
- Occupancy may be further limited by available on-site parking or if the property owner chooses to voluntarily limit the maximum number of occupants.

### **Safety and Inspections**

Washoe County staff has worked with both the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District to discuss fire and life safety concerns associated with STRs. As visitors to an STR are less likely to be familiar with a home than someone living in it, basic fire and life safety minimums are proposed to be required. The following summarizes proposed safety standards:

- Safety minimums include requirements for adequate smoke and carbon monoxide detectors; fire extinguishers; adequate egress; well-maintained fireplaces, electrical outlets/systems, hot tubs, deck railings, etc. Additional minimums may be proposed for occupancies over 10 during discretionary permit review processes.
- Areas proposed for sleeping purposes have specific safety feature requirements based in existing, adopted codes.
- Defensible space inspection will be required and conducted by the applicable fire agency.
- Basic structure safety inspection must be passed prior to issuance of an STR permit and annually thereafter; to be conducted by Washoe County building inspectors, with the exception that items such as sprinkler or fire alarm systems (if applicable) would be inspected by fire staff.

## **Parking**

All use types within the Washoe County Development Code have an associated parking standard that identifies the number of off-street spaces required. This ratio is most frequently based on square footage of the structure and/or the maximum number of employees present at any given time. However, some uses base the ratio on additional factors. For example: destination resorts require one parking space per room; indoor entertainment uses require one space per every three seats; bed and breakfast uses require one space per room, plus one per employee; motels require one per room; hostels require .25 per bed; and, single-family detached homes require two per dwelling unit.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the average number of residents per household in Washoe County is 2.5. In the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area, this average drops to 2.23 residents per household. These averages are reflected in the requirement for single-family homes to have a minimum of two off-street parking spaces.

When it comes to STRs, the number of occupants is generally expected to exceed Census averages for single-family dwellings – especially for STRs with multiple bedrooms. Accordingly, inadequate parking is one of the most frequently cited complaints associated with STRs – both across the nation and in the feedback heard from Washoe County residents. This is especially prevalent in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area, where on-street parking can be severely limited or nonexistent. As a result, staff is proposing that the number of parking spaces required be based on the maximum number of occupants permitted for the STR, and that an inability to provide sufficient off-street parking would in turn potentially limit the number of occupants allowed by the STR permit.

Taking all of this into consideration, and in order to reduce potential impacts to neighboring properties, the following STR parking standards are proposed:

- No STR parking is allowed in the right-of-way.
- One parking space is required for every four proposed occupants.  
*Note: The initial ratio proposed to the Board in Nov. 2019 was one space for every three occupants; however, based on Board feedback, that ratio was changed to one space for every four occupants.*
- All parking spaces must be improved to Washoe County standards (or Tahoe Regional Planning Agency standards, if applicable) and developed on-site, within property boundaries. In multi-unit complexes, parking must be in designated parking spaces (if applicable) and limited to the number of spaces allotted to the unit.

It should be noted that parking may be limited by available TRPA coverage, and that staff's recommendation is that such limitations should not result in standards being waived. However, under certain limited circumstances where flexibility may be warranted, the Director of the Planning and Building Division would have the authority to modify the location of required parking spaces based on extenuating site features or other limiting factors. This additional flexibility was also incorporated into the proposed language as a result of Board feedback.

## **Noise**

Excessive noise, parties and loud music are some of the other most commonly heard complaints associated with STRs, and was a significant concern noted by county residents via the public workshops and online survey. Noise issues can also be one of the most difficult types of complaints to address. Many jurisdictions have established quiet hours for STRs. Opponents argue that if quiet hours are important, they should be established for all uses, not just STRs. (*Note: Although the County does not have community-wide quiet hours, there are requirements related to disturbing the peace.*) However, it can also be argued that occupancies of STRs are often higher than that of neighboring residences and that transient guests may not be as familiar with or respectful of community norms associated with noise.

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office has indicated there have been 64 calls for service related to noise in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area in the past year, with three citations issued. It is understood that there is limited staffing by the Sheriff's Office in the Incline area, and that calls for service related to noise will have a lower priority than many other service types. Although the 24/7 STR complaint hotline by Host Compliance is expected to help with noise impacts, noise is still a concern.

Establishing quiet hours specifically for STRs is recommended by staff, allowing confirmed disturbances during these timeframes to be treated as a violation of STR standards. Additionally, due to the difficulty with noise enforcement, staff is providing an additional mechanism for consideration. Decibel-monitoring devices are a technology used by some property managers to ensure their guests are respectful of the community. They monitor decibel-levels only; there are no audio recordings. These can be used by a jurisdiction to better track STRs with repeated noise complaints. The City of Henderson recently adopted standards requiring these devices to be used as part of an STR's overall noise management plan. Staff recommends they be required for STRs with two *confirmed* noise violations.

- Quiet hours 10 p.m. – 7 a.m.
- After a second confirmed noise violation, an STR must be equipped with decibel-monitoring devices with reporting capability and records available for County review.

## **Trash**

In mid-2017, Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID) established a zero-tolerance policy related to proper trash disposal in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area. IVGID staff patrols the community to ensure standards are being followed and educate or cite where necessary. IVGID has indicated that since the program started, trash violations dropped significantly. With that in mind, the following trash standards for STRs are proposed:

- Trash must be managed as required by the Health District, Waste Management and IVGID (if applicable), including times when carts may be placed street-side. Cart size must be sufficient to store waste for the maximum number of occupants each week.

- STRs in IVGID service territory and other bear-prone areas must use wildlife-resistant carts and/or bear sheds, except in multi-family developments where HOAs require and enforce regular trash disposal.
- Trash violations confirmed by IVGID or the Health District count as a violation against the STR and may incur both IVGID penalties and Washoe County STR permit penalties.

### **Other Standards**

Several workshop and survey participants voiced concerns that most standard homeowner policies do not cover STR use. It is common for other jurisdictions to require STR-specific liability insurance, and the following additional standards are recommended:

- Certificate of insurance is required identifying that the property is used as an STR and provides \$500,000 minimum liability coverage per occurrence.
- Educational material provided in unit must contain: community evacuation routes; fire safety info (ex. BBQ operation, proper ash disposal, community fire danger, etc.); bear awareness brochure (if applicable); noise, trash & parking standards, occupancy limits, etc.

### **Enforcement and Revocation**

A three-pronged approach to enforcement is proposed:

- Permitting: Proactively identify unpermitted STRs and pursue permitting compliance; cite, fine and, if necessary, lien non-compliant property owners who continue to operate an STR without the appropriate permit in place. It should be noted that this approach is a departure from current complaint-based code enforcement practices; however, it is considered a necessary component of a successful STR program.
- Inspections: Required upon initial permit application and annually thereafter. Safety minimums must be in place in order to obtain an STR permit and operate.
- Operational: Confirmed violations will result in fines and potential penalties such as permit revocation. The 24/7 complaint hotline (via Host Compliance) will log citizen-initiated complaints and contact the STR's local responsible party for resolution.

Three confirmed and separate STR violations in any 12-month period will result in permit revocation and a 12-month cooling off period within which the property is ineligible to obtain an STR permit. No Board action will be required for this type of revocation, unless on appeal. Any of these individual STR violations could be appealed to the County's Administrative Hearing Office, whose decision may subsequently be appealed to a County board (with that decision appealable to the Second Judicial Court). In the interest of reducing total time to compliance, staff proposes: reducing the appeal period to 14 days (from 30 days) after an STR notice of violation is served; and adjusting the process to appeal an Administrative Hearing decision. Currently, such appeals are heard by the Board of Adjustment (BOA). Staff recommends that appeals of STR-related Administrative Hearing Orders instead be heard by the Board of County Commissioners. Since the BOA has no direct knowledge of or expertise with STR standards (the Planning Commission reviewed the ordinance), and because BOA meetings are only held ten times annually, staff believes the County Commission is better positioned to be the board to hear such appeals in a timely and effective manner. This procedural distinction was not included with the original text provided to the Planning Commission for review; which is why it is called out here.

Attachments B and C reflect additional code changes proposed for Chapters 125 (Administrative Enforcement Code) and 50 (Public Peace, Safety and Morals). The changes

in these two chapters focus on enforcement provisions related to STRs, including but not limited to inspections, evidence of operation, evidence of violations, appeals and associated timeframes, stop activity orders, warnings, penalties, and penalty notices.

### **Other Items for Consideration**

There are several other items the Board may wish to be aware of while considering this topic.

#### *Permit Fees*

Proposed permit fees will be detailed in a separate fee and fine staff report for action by the Board concurrent with the second reading and adoption scheduled for March 23, 2021. In summary, a cost-neutral fee structure is proposed to ensure, to the extent possible, that implementation and enforcement of the STR program is paid for by those who own and operate STRs, not general taxpayer dollars. Thus, the fee structure is designed to incorporate costs such as: safety and fire inspections; permit processing and review; Host Compliance software and services; enforcement of non-permitted STRs and violations of STR standards, etc. Additionally, per requests by the Board, the proposed fee structure will include a discount on the STR permit fee for STRs that use a licensed property manager as the designated local responsible party. It is expected that this fee structure will be reassessed after the first 6 to 12 months of operation in order to ensure costs are appropriately covered, and to propose adjustments at that time, if necessary. *Note: NRS 278.020 provides a governing body general power to regulate land use for purposes of health, safety, morals, and welfare of the community. Included within this authority is the imposition of fees for services to support that regulation, and fines to support its enforcement (NRS 237.060).*

#### *Fines*

Proposed fines will be detailed in a separate fee and fine staff report for action by the Board concurrent with the second reading and adoption scheduled for March 23, 2021. In summary, research related to STRs has made it clear that fines and penalties must be significant enough to deter violations; otherwise, it may just be considered the cost of doing business for an operator. Washoe County's current code enforcement approach for land use violations is focused more on achieving compliance, rather than penalizing the property owner. Therefore, current fines for Development Code violations are set relatively low and are considered insufficient to deter STR violations. As a result, staff is proposing a new and separate higher fine structure, with unpaid fines becoming liens against the property. Funds from paid fines would be used to offset impacts to the Administrative Hearing Office.

#### *Staffing Needs*

One additional code enforcement officer is needed to assist with implementation and enforcement of the program, with the position included in the FY21 budget. Building safety inspections will be conducted by existing Washoe County Building Inspectors. Fire inspectors from the applicable fire district will inspect defensible space and, if applicable, smoke alarm and/or sprinkler systems. The cost of such inspections will be paid for by the STR applicant. Host Compliance's services will be used for matching advertisements to real addresses and the 24/7 complaint hotline. STR permit fees are expected to cover all of these costs.

### *Effective Dates*

Staff recommends at least a three-month grace period from the first date of accepting permit applications. If the Board adopts the ordinance on March 23, 2021, the recommended effective date for allowing application submittals is May 1, 2021. The recommended effective date for enforcement is August 1, 2021. The period between adoption of the ordinance and permit application submittal is needed to provide time to set up the associated internal processes, technology needs, and application materials. The grace period between May 1, 2021 and July 31, 2021 is for the purpose of advertising the new standards to the public and to begin processing and issuing of STR permits. As noted previously, an additional code enforcement officer position is budgeted for FY21 to support the STR efforts, and the hire date for this position is estimated to be in early summer of 2021.

### *Room Tax*

The Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA) requires hosts of STRs to obtain a transient lodging tax (aka room tax) license. The RSCVA assesses a 13% room tax on STRs in Washoe County. That room tax is paid to the RSCVA, which keeps a portion and then distributes the remainder to various state, regional and local agencies. Per State law and various government ordinances, Washoe County receives 1/13th of the room tax paid in unincorporated County areas. Based on a 5-year average, RSCVA receives approximately \$1.6M annually for room taxes associated with STRs in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area. Washoe County receives 1/13th of that amount, which is approximately \$125,000 annually. The amount the County receives from STRs outside of the Incline area is negligible. Room tax distributed to Washoe County currently goes into the General Fund. As part of this project, staff will investigate opportunities to reduce potential overlap in the permitting processes between the two organizations.

### *Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA)*

TRPA recently established a list of regulatory options for jurisdictions to apply to STRs within the Tahoe Basin in order to meet TRPA goals and policies. These will be considered a third criterion in TRPA's scoring system for awarding residential allocations to jurisdictions around Lake Tahoe. The focus is largely on locational, operational and enforcement parameters. Washoe County has been actively involved in these conversations with TRPA. The proposed ordinances are expected to meet many of TRPA's parameters.

### *Demographics*

With the highest concentration of STRs located in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay portion of Washoe County, there has been some interest in the demographics of that area. The following information was pulled from 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for zip code 89451, which represents most, but not all of the area. This information is provided to paint a general picture only. There are approximately 7,800 dwelling units, with approximately 52% comprised of single-family detached homes. The area is characterized by a large contingent of second homes, and just under 53% of the dwelling units are classified by the U.S. Census Bureau as vacant. Slightly more than 34% of the homes are owner-occupied. 75% of the homes were built prior to 1990. The average household size of owner-occupied homes is 2.08. The average household size of long-term renter-occupied homes is 3.02. Approximately 74% of residents moved into their home in the year 2000 or later. Just under 93% of the homes have four bedrooms or fewer.

*Standards for Incline Village/Crystal Bay vs. Rest of Washoe County*

It is important to note that many residents in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area have requested that STR standards within the Tahoe Basin be different than those in the rest of Washoe County. The majority of STRs in the County are located in Incline Village/Crystal Bay and therefore most recommendations were drafted with that area primarily in mind. Regional adjustments are included in the proposed code language for items such as wildlife-resistant carts in bear-prone areas, variations in defensible space requirements/inspections, TRPA parking standards, and regulatory zone differences within the new Tahoe Area Plan (expected to be adopted in the coming months).

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Costs to administer and enforce STR standards and permitting have been calculated, and proposed STR permit fees and fines have been designed to cover these costs. This cost-neutral fee structure is intended to ensure, to the extent possible, that implementation and enforcement of the STR program is paid for by those who own and operate STRs, not general taxpayer dollars. Specific details regarding fees and fines will be provided in a separate staff report for action by the Board concurrent with the second reading and adoption scheduled for March 23, 2021.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board introduce and conduct a first reading of the ordinances provided as Attachments A, B and C and set the public hearing for second reading and possible adoption for March 23, 2021.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be:

“Move to introduce and conduct a first reading of ordinances amending the Washoe County Code at Chapter 110 (Development Code), within Article 302, Allowed Uses, to identify the types of review required for short-term rentals in each regulatory zone and to add an administrative review permit to the list of review types; within Article 304, Use Classification System, to update the residential use type description, add a definition for short-term rental, and update the definition for lodging services; within Article 410, Parking and Loading, to update the off-street parking space requirements table to include a reference to short-term rentals; and within Article 910, Enforcement, to specify that appeals of Administrative Hearing Office decisions related to short-term rentals would be heard by the Board of County Commissioners. Chapter 110 would also be amended to create Article 319, Short-Term Rentals (STRs), to establish standards, location limitations, defining unpermitted short-term rentals as nuisances, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, Tahoe area considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals; and to amend Article 306, Accessory Uses and Structures, by removing the procedural details for Administrative Review Permits, with those details being re-located into a new article that is updated to reflect minor changes related to short-term rentals. That article would be created as Article 809, Administrative Review Permits. Short-term rentals are a type of temporary lodging booked for fewer than 28-days and operated out of private residences such as homes, apartments and condos. They are commonly made available through property management companies and online

booking services, and are also referred to as vacation rentals. The amendments also resolve discrepancies arising within existing Washoe County Code chapters as a result of the new code language, and other matters necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto; and, to introduce Bill Numbers (insert bill numbers as provided by the County Clerk) and set the public hearing for second reading and possible adoption of the ordinances for March 23, 2021.”

Attachments:

- A. Chapter 110 Draft Ordinance (Updated July 2020 and January 2021)
- B. Chapter 50 Draft Ordinance
- C. Chapter 125 Draft Ordinance (Updated July 2020)
- D. Minutes of Feb. 25, 2020 Washoe County Commission Meeting: <https://bit.ly/2X9xbFB>
- E. Planning Commission Signed Resolution 20-01
- F. Planning Commission Staff Report and Addendum for WDCA19-0008
- G. Public Comments Received Since January 2, 2020

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REGULAR TEXT: NO CHANGE IN LANGUAGE

~~STRIKEOUT TEXT: DELETE LANGUAGE~~

**BOLD TEXT: NEW LANGUAGE**

**RED TEXT: CHANGES SINCE FEB. 25, 2020 BOARD MEETING**

\*\*\*\*\*

Notice: Per NRS 239B.030, this document does not contain personal information as defined in NRS 603A.040

***Summary: Establishes standards for short-term rentals, including, but not limited to the establishment of definitions, standards, location limitations, defining unpermitted short-term rentals as nuisances, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, Tahoe area considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement and appeal processes, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals, as well as the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing Washoe County Code chapters as a result of new code language.***

BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Title:

An ordinance amending the Washoe County Code at Chapter 110 (Development Code), within Article 302, Allowed Uses, to identify the types of review required for short-term rentals in each regulatory zone and to add an administrative review permit to the list of review types; within Article 304, Use Classification System, to update the residential use type description, add a definition for short-term rental, and update the definition for lodging services; within Article 410, Parking and Loading, to update the off-street parking space requirements table to include a reference to short-term rentals; and within Article 910, Enforcement, to specify that appeals of Administrative Hearing Office decisions related to short-term rentals would be heard by the Board of County Commissioners. Chapter 110 would also be amended to create Article

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319, Short-Term Rentals (STRs), to establish standards, location limitations, defining unpermitted short-term rentals as nuisances, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, Tahoe area considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals; and to amend Article 306, Accessory Uses and Structures, by removing the procedural details for Administrative Review Permits, with those details being re-located into a new article that is updated to reflect minor changes related to short-term rentals. That article would be created as Article 809, Administrative Review Permits. Short-term rentals are a type of temporary lodging booked for fewer than 28-days and operated out of private residences such as homes, apartments and condos. They are commonly made available through property management companies and online booking services, and are also referred to as vacation rentals. The amendments also resolve discrepancies arising within existing Washoe County Code chapters as a result of the new code language, and other matters necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto.

WHEREAS:

- A. This Commission desires to amend and create articles within the Washoe County Development Code (Chapter 110) in order to establish standards and processes for short-term rentals; and,
- B. Pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030, this Commission initiated the proposed amendments to Washoe County Code Chapter 110, Development Code, on December 10, 2019; and,
- C. The amendments and this ordinance were drafted in concert with the District Attorney, and the Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing for WDCA19-0008 January 7, 2020 and adopted Resolution Number 20-01 recommending adoption of this ordinance; and,
- D. Following a first reading and publication as required by NRS 244.100 (1), and after a duly noticed public hearing, this Commission desires to adopt this Ordinance; and,
- E. This Commission has determined that this ordinance is being adopted pursuant to requirements set forth in Chapter 278 of NRS, therefore it is not a "rule" as defined in NRS 237.060 requiring a business impact statement.

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THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHOE COUNTY DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. The first paragraph of Washoe County Code Section 110.304.15, *Residential Use Types*, is hereby amended as follows:

Section 110.304.15 Residential Use Types. Residential use types include the occupancy of living accommodations, ~~on a wholly or primarily non-transient basis~~ but exclude institutional living arrangements providing twenty-four-hour skilled nursing, **custodial** or medical care and those providing forced residence, such as asylums and prisons.

SECTION 2. Section 110.304.15, *Residential Use Types*, is hereby amended to add new sub-section (d) with the following definitions:

**(d) Short-term rental. Short-term rental (STR) refers to existing single-family dwelling units where, for compensation, lodging is provided within either the entire home or a portion of the home for a rental period of less than 28-days. STRs may be permitted to operate out of legally permitted, permanent dwelling units or accessory dwelling units in accordance with the standards within Article 319. Short-term rentals are distinguishable from commercial lodging use types in that no meals may be provided within short-term rentals as part of the rental agreement and the home may only be rented out for short-term rental use to one group at a time. STRs are also often referred to as vacation rentals and are commonly made available through property management companies or online booking platforms. The following are short-term rental use types:**

- (1) Tier 1 Short-Term Rental. A Tier 1 STR has a maximum occupancy of 10 persons or fewer.**
- (2) Tier 2 Short-Term Rental. A Tier 2 STR has a maximum occupancy of 11-20 persons and due to its higher occupancy, may require additional limitations to ensure compatibility with surrounding residential properties.**
- (3) Tier 3 Short-Term Rental. A Tier 3 STR has a maximum occupancy of 21 or more persons. This highest tier of STRs is still operated out of a pre-existing dwelling unit, but due to the high number of occupants, is expected to have more significant impacts to surrounding properties. As a result, it is considered inappropriate to be located in residential regulatory zones, but may be appropriate on properties with commercial regulatory zones that are located nearer tourist and commercial services.**

SECTION 3. The first paragraph of Section 110.304.25(u), *Lodging Services*, is hereby amended as follows:

**(u) Lodging Services. Lodging services use type refers to establishments primarily engaged in the provision of lodging on a less-than-weekly basis with incidental food, drink, and other sales or services intended for the convenience of guests, **including common facilities**, but excludes those **establishments** classified under residential group home, **short-term rental** and commercial recreation. The following are lodging services use types:**

SECTION 4. Section 110.302.15, *Types of Review*, is hereby amended as follows:

Section 110.302.15 Types of Review. Table 110.302.05.1 through Table 110.302.05.5 indicate the types of review required as follows:

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- (a) Allowed Use. A letter "A" indicates that a use is allowed, but the use shall comply with the provisions of the Development Code.
- (b) Administrative Permit. A letter "P" indicates that a use is allowed only upon approval of an administrative permit pursuant to Article 808, Administrative Permits.
- (c) Planning Commission Special Use Permit. A letter "S<sub>1</sub>" indicates that a use is allowed only upon approval of a special use permit approved by the Planning Commission pursuant to Article 810, Special Use Permits.
- (d) Board of Adjustment Special Use Permit. A letter "S<sub>2</sub>" indicates that a use is allowed only upon approval of a special use permit approved by the Board of Adjustment pursuant to Article 810, Special Use Permits.
- (e) Uses Not Allowed. A designation "--" indicates that a use is not allowed within the regulatory zone.
- (f) **Administrative Review.** A designation "AR" indicates that a use is allowed only upon approval of an administrative review permit pursuant to Article 809, Administrative Review Permits.

SECTION 5. Table 110.302.05.1, *Table of Uses (Residential Use Types)*, is hereby amended as follows:

Table 110.302.05.1

**TABLE OF USES (Residential Use Types)**  
(See Sections 110.302.10 and 110.302.15 for explanation)

<b>Residential Use Types (Section 110.304.15)</b>	LDR	MDR	HDR	LDS/ LDS 2	MDS/ MDS 4	HDS	LDU	MDU	HDU	GC	NC	TC	I	PSP	PR	OS	GR	GRA	
Family Residential																			
Attached Accessory Dwelling	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	A	A	
Detached Accessory Dwelling	AR	AR	AR	AR	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	A	A	
Detached Accessory Structure	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	--	A	--	--	--	--	--	A	A	
Duplex	--	--	--	P	P	P	P	P	A	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Multi Family	--	--	--	--	--	--	P	P	A	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Single Family, Attached	--	--	--	A	A	A	A	A	A	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	P	--	--	A	
Single Family, Detached	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	P	--	A	A	
Non-municipal Air Strips and Glider Ports (Accessory Use)	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--	
Personal Landing Field (Accessory Use)	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--	
Manufactured Home Parks	*	*	*	*	*	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	*	*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	--	
Group Home	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	P	--	A	A	
<b>Short-Term Rental (see Article 319)</b>	<b>Note: All of the below STR Tiers require the issuance of an STR permit, regardless of required review process.</b>																		
<b>Tier 1</b>	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	-	-	-	-	A	A	
<b>Tier 2</b>	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	A	AR	A	-	-	-	-	AR	AR	
<b>Tier 3</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Key: -- = Not allowed; A = Allowed; AR = Administrative Review pursuant to Section 110.306.25(i); P = Administrative Permit; PR = Park Commission Approval pursuant to 110.104.40(c); S<sub>1</sub> = Planning Commission Special Use Permit;

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S<sub>2</sub> = Board of Adjustment Special Use Permit; \* = Allowed with a Board of Adjustment Special Use Permit in areas designated Trailer (TR) Overlay zone prior to adoption of this Development Code.

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SECTION 6. Section 110.410.10.1, *Off-Street Parking Space Requirements (Residential Use Types)*, is hereby amended as follows:

Table 110.410.10.1

**OFF-STREET PARKING SPACE REQUIREMENTS (Residential Use Types)  
(See Section 110.410.10 for explanation)**

<b>Residential Use Types (Section 110.304.15)</b>	<b>Spaces Required</b>
Family Residential	
Attached Accessory Dwelling	1 per attached accessory dwelling unit, in addition to other required spaces
Detached Accessory Dwelling	1 per detached accessory dwelling unit, in addition to other required spaces
Detached Accessory Structure	None
Duplex	2 per dwelling unit, 1 of which must be in an enclosed garage
Fabricated Home	*2 per fabricated home
Multi Family	1.6 for 1 bedroom units, 2.1 for 2 bedroom and larger units; 1 of which must be in an enclosed garage or carport
Single Family Attached	2 per dwelling unit, 1 of which must be in an enclosed garage
Single Family Detached	2 per dwelling unit, 1 of which must be in an enclosed garage
Manufactured Home Parks	1.5 per manufactured home, plus 1 per 5 units for guest parking
Group Home	.25 per bed, plus 1 per employee during peak employment shift
<b>Short-Term Rental (All Tiers)</b>	<b>As identified in Article 319, <i>Short-Term Rentals (STRs)</i></b>

Note: \* = Article 312, Fabricated Housing, may require 1 parking space to be in an enclosed garage or carport.

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SECTION 7. WCC Chapter 110, Article 319, *Short-Term Rentals (STRs)*, is hereby established as a new article as follows:

## Article 319

# SHORT-TERM RENTALS (STRs)

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### Sections:

110.319.00	Purpose
110.319.05	Applicability
110.319.10	Requirements for Application
110.319.15	Standards
110.319.20	Safety Standards
110.319.25	Permit Fees
110.319.30	Enforcement
110.319.35	Inspections
110.319.40	Permit Revocation
110.319.45	Duties of Hosting Platforms
<u>110.319.50</u>	<u>Restrictions During a Declared Emergency</u>

**Section 110.319.00 Purpose.** The purpose of Article 319, *Short-Term Rentals*, is to allow for the inclusion of short-term rentals (STRs) in legally permitted homes within unincorporated areas of Washoe County. The purpose is also to establish standards and a permitting process governing the operation of STRs in order to reduce their potential impacts on neighboring properties. At higher thresholds, such as with Tier 2 and Tier 3 STRs as defined in Section 110.304.15(d), STRs may require additional mitigation. At the highest thresholds, such as with Tier 3 STRs, their anticipated impacts cause them to only be appropriate in areas where hotels and motels are allowed. Enforcement and revocation policies are intended to ensure that mechanisms are in place to allow for streamlined revocation of an STR permit when standards are repeatedly violated, and/or to levy stringent fines when an STR operates without the appropriate permits.

**Section 110.319.05 Applicability.** The provisions of this article shall apply to uses classified as short-term rentals in Article 304, *Use Classification System*. Standards within this article are applicable to properties advertising for an STR, permitted for an STR, and/or proven to be engaging in STR activity, regardless of whether occupants at any given time have entered into an STR lease. If a property ceases to operate as an STR, removes any advertisement of the STR, and relinquishes the STR permit, then the property shall revert to the applicable residential use type.

- (a) **Within the Boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan.** This sub-section becomes applicable upon adoption of an updated Tahoe Area Plan that replaces existing regulatory zones with alternative designations. Prior to adoption of alternative regulatory zones for the Tahoe planning area, the provisions of subsection (b) below will apply.
- (1) **Tier 1.** Tier 1 STRs are considered an allowed use, subject to the issuance of an STR Permit, in all regulatory zones where single family and multiple family dwellings are permitted (allowed by right or otherwise.)
- (2) **Tier 2.** Tier 2 STRs are permitted subject to the issuance of an STR Permit with Administrative Review Permit in all regulatory zones where single family and multiple family dwellings are permitted (allowed by right or otherwise.)

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- (3) **Tier 3.** Tier 3 STRs are permitted subject to the issuance of an STR Permit with Administrative Permit in all regulatory zones where Hotels, Motels and Other Transient Dwelling Units use types are permitted (allowed by right or otherwise.)
- (b) **Outside the Boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan.** STRs are allowed or permitted in those regulatory zones as set forth in Article 302, *Allowed Uses*, with all STRs requiring an STR permit, and Tier 2 and Tier 3 STRs also requiring an additional discretionary permit as identified within Article 302. The provisions for STRs in Article 302 should not be construed to supersede the zoning or permitting requirements or restrictions by Washoe County or other agencies for the construction of a dwelling in any regulatory zone.

**Section 110.319.10 Requirements for Application.** All applications for STR permits shall include the following elements:

- (a) Application and supplemental materials as required by the Washoe County Planning and Building Division;
- (b) Accurately scaled and dimensioned site plan showing, at a minimum: location of property lines; dwelling unit(s) and all other structures on the property; dedicated locations and surface material of required parking spaces; all recorded easements; and, snow storage areas (for properties located within the boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan);
- (c) Accurately scaled floor plan showing entirety of dwelling, including areas proposed to be available for STR use. Each room must be labeled, with dimensions and square footage also provided for areas/rooms proposed to be used for sleeping purposes. The floor plan must also show locations of fire extinguishers, smoke alarms, carbon monoxide (CO) alarms, hot tubs (if applicable), decks (if applicable), and ingress/egress (doors, stairs and windows) from the dwelling and each room;
- (d) For STRs within multi-unit developments, the application must include evidence of the number (and location, if applicable) of parking spaces allocated to the unit;
- (e) Educational materials required by Section 110.319.15(a)(14), and the name, phone number (text-capable) and email address of the local responsible party designated to respond to issues/complaints on the property as required by Section 110.319.15(a)(3);
- (f) Proof of property tax payment for current quarter of current fiscal year;
- (g) Transient lodging tax license number issued by the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA); and
- (h) A notarized certification from the property owner(s) that acknowledges or attests to the following:
  - (1) An STR permit is deemed a privileged permit subject to revocation without action by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for non-payment of fees or noncompliance with required standards, including the revocation standards within Section 110.319.40.
  - (2) An STR permit must be renewed and issued annually in order to advertise or operate. Property owners should be aware that standards are subject to change over time and there is no guarantee that an STR permit will be re-issued.

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- (3) An STR permit does not relieve the property owner of complying with any applicable private restrictions on the property such as CC&Rs or homeowners association rules.
- (4) Inspections must be passed prior to issuance of the STR permit and annual renewals, and the cost of these inspections and any necessary associated improvements will be borne by the property owner. It is the responsibility of the property owner to provide sufficient evidence that the applicable standards have been met.
- ~~(5) The property owner understands and consents to reasonable unscheduled inspections in the event first responders, fire inspectors or Planning & Building inspectors/officers have reason to believe that the maximum occupancy has been exceeded or a life safety issue is present. This consent must also be included within all lease agreements for the STR.~~
- (5) The property owner has reviewed this article and other codes referenced within this article, understands the requirements and agrees to abide by them.
- (6) The property owner is responsible for each occupant's compliance with the Washoe County Code while they are on the property, including but not limited to the standards within this article.
- (7) There are no delinquent transient lodging tax liabilities or liens against the property.
- (8) No alterations will be made to the STR premises without the proper approvals and permits, nor alterations that violate Washoe County adopted codes and ordinances.
- (i) Additional submittal information may be required in order to ensure complete review of the STR permit application.

**Section 110.319.15 Standards.** All STRs shall comply with the standards within this article. No application for a variance, minor deviation, director's modification or other mechanism shall be approved to waive or modify these standards to make them less restrictive, unless explicitly allowed for within this article.

- (a) **General standards.** The following general standards are applicable:
  - (1) A valid STR permit shall be obtained from Washoe County prior to advertising and operation.
  - (2) STR permits must be renewed and issued annually in order to advertise or operate. Previous issuance of an STR permit does not guarantee that a subsequent permit will be issued.
  - (3) Every STR is required to have a designated agent or property manager functioning as a local responsible party who is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to respond via text message or phone to complaints/issues related to the STR within 30 minutes of contact by Washoe County staff or its designated representatives. The local responsible party must also be based in a location where they can physically arrive at the STR within one hour (not including reasonable delays due to traffic or weather) of the initial response. This requirement is intended to address complaints based on violations of this section or Section 110.319.20 and

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should not be interpreted for any other purpose. The STR property owner shall provide a single phone number (text-capable) and email address with which the local responsible party can be reached 24/7.

- (4) No events, parties, or weddings (regardless of payment or familial association), are allowed or may be advertised. A party is defined as any gathering in excess of the approved on-site maximum occupancy associated with the STR permit.
- (5) Applications for an STR permit may be initiated by the property owner or authorized agent of the property owner. However, the permittee must be the property owner(s) of the STR property.
- (6) Only one STR will be permitted per parcel, with the exception that a second STR may be allowed if established within a legally permitted attached or detached accessory dwelling. The STR must be a legally permitted, permanent, habitable dwelling unit (for example, no RVs, boats, detached garages, etc. to be used as an STR).
- (7) An STR permit will only be issued for dwelling units that have already received a certificate of occupancy. STR permits do not supersede, waive or reduce any other code standards or requirements for building permits, planning permits/ applications or other requirements necessary to construct a dwelling unit.
- (8) An STR shall only be rented to one group or person at a time (ex. renting out multiple individual rooms to multiple separate groups is not permitted).
- (9) Advertising for an STR is prohibited unless a valid STR permit has been issued and is in effect at the time of advertisement.
- (10) All advertisements must include the Washoe County permit number, transient lodging tax license number, maximum occupancy as allowed by the permit, ~~number of bedrooms,~~ number of beds (not to exceed maximum occupancy), number of parking spaces, and a note that no off-site street-parking is permitted. This information must be displayed at the top of the STR advertisement.
- ~~(11) At all times while an STR is rented, one 8.5" x 11" placard must be displayed on the front exterior of the residence and clearly visible from the main pathway leading to the primary entrance. The placard shall be legible (with a minimum 12 point font size) and include the following information: Washoe County STR permit number; maximum occupancy allowed by the permit; County's STR complaint hotline phone number; and, phone number of designated local responsible party.~~
- (11) No signage advertising the STR is permitted on the property.
- (12) Certificate of insurance is required identifying that the property is used as a short-term rental and provides a minimum of \$500,000 liability coverage per occurrence.
- (13) Educational material must be made available to all renters in the unit's kitchen or other common area and must contain the following: occupancy limits associated with the permit; exit locations; emergency phone numbers (ex. 911); phone number for the STR's local responsible party; fire/life safety information (ex. proper cigarette and ash disposal, community fire danger, proper BBQ operation, hot tub safety [if applicable], etc.); bear awareness brochure (for properties located in bear-prone areas); and Washoe County noise (quiet hours), trash and parking standards. Within the boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan, the following

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must also be provided: a copy of the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District Vacation Rental Safety Information Sheet and Emergency Preparedness Guide; community evacuation routes; and avalanche warning methods (for properties located in designated avalanche danger zones).

- (14) All STRs must comply with all other federal, state, and other applicable laws/statutes.
  - (15) Per WCC Chapter 25, applicable room tax must be paid to the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, disclosed to the renter and included in any rental agreement.
- (b) **Parking Standards.** The following parking standards shall be adhered to:
- (1) No STR parking is allowed within access easements or the public rights-of-way.
  - (2) All parking spaces must be: improved to Washoe County residential standards (or Tahoe Regional Planning Agency [TRPA] standards, if applicable); developed on-site within property boundaries; and dedicated specifically for parking. In multi-unit complexes, parking must be in designated parking spaces (if applicable) and limited to the number of spaces allotted to the unit.
  - (3) One parking space is required for every four occupants.
  - (4) Within the Tahoe Basin, on-site STR parking may be limited and may require approval of TRPA coverage. Limitations such as these and other factors do not reduce or eliminate the requirement for on-site parking. Inability to develop the appropriate number of parking spaces on-site will subsequently limit the maximum number of occupants allowed by the STR permit.
    - i. In extraordinary and limited circumstances within the Tahoe Basin, the Planning and Building Division Director is authorized to consider reducing or relocating the required parking spaces in circumstances where the property owner has provided sufficient evidence that the request is warranted and will not unduly impact surrounding properties. Such requests shall be made by submitting a director's modification of standards application.
- (c) **Noise Standards.** The following noise standards shall be adhered to:
- (1) Short-term rental quiet hours are in effect daily from 10 p.m. – 7 a.m. Guests shall be instructed to be respectful of the surrounding neighborhood and reduce outdoor activities during this timeframe and shall be informed that proven violations of the quiet hours will result in fines/penalties being levied against the property owner, who may choose to pass on such fines to the renters.
  - (2) Owners of properties that have received two confirmed STR noise violations within a 12-month timeframe shall provide the Planning and Building Division with a comprehensive noise management plan, including the installation of commercially available decibel-monitoring devices with reporting capability. Records from the decibel-monitoring devices must be retained for a minimum of 60-days and made available for Washoe County staff to review upon request.
- (d) **Trash Standards.** The following waste removal standards shall be adhered to:

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- (1) Trash and other waste must be managed as prescribed by Washoe County Health District, Waste Management and, if applicable, the Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID). Waste cart size must be sufficient to store waste for the maximum number of occupants each week.
  - (2) STRs in IVGID's service territory and other bear-prone areas must utilize wildlife-resistant carts and/or bear boxes, except in multi-unit developments where HOAs require and enforce regular trash disposal.
  - (3) Waste carts shall only be placed street-side during the timeframes stipulated by the local authority or waste service provider.
- (e) **Occupancy Limits.** An occupancy limit shall be established for each short-term rental based on individual characteristics of the dwelling unit and property. Overall maximum occupancy of an STR will be determined by the Planning and Building Division Director or her/his designee(s) after considering all the factors below. The maximum number of occupants allowed within an STR is based on the following parameters:
- (1) ~~The occupant load shall be calculated as one occupant for every 200 square feet of habitable space in accordance with Table 1004.5 of the 2018 International Building Code (IBC) or the currently adopted edition. Bedrooms intended for one occupant shall be a minimum of 70 sq. ft. in size in accordance with the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) Section 404.4.1 (or the latest edition).~~
  - (2) ~~Bedrooms intended for two occupants shall be a minimum of 100 sq. ft. in size, with an additional 50 sq. ft. required for each additional occupant in accordance with the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) Section 404.4.1 (or the latest edition).~~
  - (3) ~~Other areas proposed for sleeping purposes, such as living rooms, require a minimum of 200 sq. ft. for each occupant in accordance with the 2018 International Building Code (IBC) Table 1004.5 for residential occupancy (or the currently adopted edition).~~
  - (2) No distinction is made based on the age of the occupant.
  - (3) In order to qualify as a sleeping area, the area shall also have safety features as determined by the Planning and Building Division Director or her/his designee(s), including, but not limited to, the requirements listed in Section 110.319.20.
  - (4) Occupancy may be further limited by the following: available number of on-site parking spaces; voluntary reduced limits as proposed by the property owner; and any other factors that the Planning and Building Division Director or her/his designee(s) determines may affect life safety.
  - (5) Daytime occupancy and nighttime occupancy limits are the same.

**Section 110.319.20 Safety Standards.** The safety standards within this section are applicable to all short-term rentals and must be in place in order to operate. Inspections will be required by the Washoe County Building Program and/or applicable fire protection district in order to verify compliance.

- (a) **Sleeping Areas.** Only ~~habitable space qualified bedrooms and other areas meeting specific standards~~ will be considered for sleeping purposes. Areas such as garages,

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storage areas, kitchens, bathrooms, laundry rooms, hallways, closets, or similar shall not be used for sleeping purposes. Additionally, areas such as basements, under-floors, attics, lofts, garage conversions, or additions that were created without permits shall also not be utilized for sleeping purposes, unless a permit is submitted, approved and final inspections are completed. In addition to the square footage requirements listed in Section 110.319.15(e), the following standards are required of all sleeping areas proposed for short-term rental use and that contribute to the maximum occupancy of the STR:

- (1) **Bedrooms.** ~~Each bedroom shall be evaluated using Section 404.4.1 of the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) or the latest edition.~~ To qualify for STR use, bedrooms must be listed on the Washoe County Assessor's web site and contain all the following items:
    - (i) A minimum ceiling height of seven feet as determined by Section 305 of the 2018 International Residential Code (IRC) or the currently adopted edition.
    - (ii) An emergency escape and rescue opening complying with Section 310.1 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition, or the applicable code in effect at the time of permit of the original structure.
    - (iii) When egress windows or openings are located more than 16-feet above exterior finished grade as measured to the finished sill of the window, or if the lot has extenuating features as determined by the code officials, a safe landing area shall be provided and an emergency ladder shall be permanently fastened to the inside of the wall per the manufacturer's recommendations. The ladder shall extend a maximum of 12 inches above grade.
    - (iv) Safety glass is required for windows located in a hazardous location in compliance with Section 308.4 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition.
    - (v) A smoke alarm(s) and carbon monoxide alarm(s) installed in accordance with Sections 314 and 315 of the 2018 IRC, or National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72, or the currently adopted editions.
    - (vi) All required smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms shall be interconnected in accordance with Sections 314.4 and 315.5 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition.
  - (2) **Other Habitable Rooms Intended for Sleeping Purposes.** Other rooms intended to be utilized for sleeping purposes will be evaluated utilizing Table 1004.5 of the 2018 International Building Code (IBC) or the currently adopted edition. Rooms shall contain all the same safety features as required for bedrooms in sub-section (1).
- (b) **Fire Alarms and Suppression Systems.** ~~Structures with two stories and a basement, or with three or more stories, or with areas greater than 5,000 square feet (total area under roof), shall include a fire suppression system. Required fire suppression systems shall be serviced and tagged annually by a Nevada licensed fire protection contractor. Structures 10,000 square feet and greater shall be equipped with an NFPA 13-compliant fire suppression system and a monitored NFPA 72-compliant fire alarm system. Structures containing both fire alarm and suppression protection systems shall must~~

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have those systems serviced and tagged annually by a licensed State of Nevada fire protection contractor.

(c) **Additional Safety Standards.** The following additional safety standards are applicable to all STRs:

- (1) The property address shall be posted on-site in a location clearly visible from the roadway, and address numbers shall be at least six inches in height.
- (2) The structure shall be maintained in a safe, hazard-free condition. This includes all mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, which shall be maintained in operating condition in accordance with the original permit approval, unless otherwise specified in this Article.
- (3) Structures with a calculated occupant load greater than 10 occupants shall be equipped with a monitored fire alarm system designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 72 and approved by the local fire protection district.
- (4) Every dwelling shall be equipped with fire extinguishers sized and located per the requirements of the currently adopted fire code and current edition of NFPA 10.
- (5) Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in accordance with Sections 314 and 315 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition.
- (6) All stairways, steps, landings, handrails, and guardrails shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the 2018 IRC, or the applicable code in effect at the time of the original permit of the structure.
- (7) Hot tubs, saunas, whirlpool tubs, and similar devices shall be installed in accordance with the current electrical code and shall have a disconnect installed in accordance with the 2017 National Electrical Code (NEC) or the currently adopted edition.
- (8) Temporary wiring shall not be used for permanent fixtures, outlets, or receptacles.
- (9) Solid fuel burning appliances installed in bedrooms or other sleeping areas shall be equipped with oxygen depletion sensors installed in accordance with the 2018 Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC) or the currently adopted edition. All such rooms shall contain smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in accordance with Sections 314 and 315 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition.
- (10) All required exits and egress windows shall remain unobstructed and an emergency exit plan shall be permanently displayed in a clearly visible and central location.
- (11) Portable heaters shall not be used as a primary source of heat for any space.
- (12) A Knox box is required when a fire alarm system or fire sprinkler system is installed.
- (13) Defensible space shall be maintained in accordance with the standards required by the applicable fire protection district.
- (14) Any exterior recreational fire or fire pit fueled by natural gas or propane shall not operate unless permitted by the local fire district.

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- (15) Outdoor wood-burning solid-fuel fireplaces or solid-fuel burning fire pits are prohibited within the boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan. Within the rest of unincorporated Washoe County, these require a permit from the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District.
- (16) Emergency lighting shall be installed to sufficiently illuminate the exit pathways/hallways from sleeping rooms to the exterior of the building. A permanently installed system and/or a plug-in system of lights that turn on in the event of a power outage are both acceptable.
- (17) The STR shall remain accessible to emergency service vehicles and personnel per the applicable fire district and emergency responder's requirements.

**Section 110.319.25 Permit Fees.** Fees associated with STR permits shall be paid in the amounts identified in the master fee schedule and permit application. Non-payment of fees is cause for cancellation of an in-process STR application or revocation or non-renewal of an existing STR permit.

**Section 110.319.30 Enforcement.** The STR standards within this Article shall be enforced through the following procedures and requirements. A combination of the enforcement mechanisms contained in Washoe County Code Chapters 50.300 (*Nuisance Code*), 110.910 (*Enforcement*), and 125 (*Administrative Enforcement*) shall be utilized, as applicable. The intent of this section is to ensure that STR activity does not alter the character of existing residential neighborhoods nor result in detrimental impacts to the public health, safety and welfare.

- (a) **Permit Required.** Any property owner engaging in or intending to engage in the operation of an STR, as defined in WCC 110.304.15 (d), shall obtain an STR permit issued by the Planning and Building Division. Said permit shall be renewed annually.
  - (1) **Permit Considered "Privileged."** The Board of County Commissioners hereby declares the operation of an STR within residential areas as a "privileged" activity subject to additional operational standards above and beyond those of other residential uses and subject to specific enforcement and revocation procedures.
  - (2) **Inspections.** An STR that fails any required inspection shall be issued a stop activity order per the procedures of WCC Chapters 100 and 125. An STR that fails the required annual inspection shall not be reissued a permit until all required inspections are passed.
- (b) **Operating an STR without the Required Permit.** It is unlawful and hereby declared a public nuisance, as defined in WCC 50.308.1, to operate an STR without the required permit. Any property owner found to be operating an STR without the required permit shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, issued a stop activity order, and fined per the procedures outlined in WCC Chapter 125.
- (c) **Noncompliance with Standards.** Any violation of required STR standards shall be enforced through a combination of the enforcement mechanisms contained in Washoe County Code Chapters 50.300 (*Nuisance Code*), 110.910 (*Enforcement*), and 125 (*Administrative Enforcement*), as applicable. The Planning and Building Division Director, or her/his designee, shall determine compliance with these standards. **A violation is considered confirmed when all required due process has been provided, appeals exhausted, and the violation has been found to exist.**

**Section 110.319.35 Inspections.** Prior to issuance of an STR permit, the property must pass inspections for life-safety of the structure and defensible space, with the cost of those inspections and any associated necessary improvements borne by the property owner.

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- (a) These inspections will be conducted by the Planning and Building Division and the applicable fire agency and are required annually.
- (b) Defensible Space Inspections. If a property is obscured by snow to such a degree that a defensible space inspection cannot be completed, the relevant fire district may choose to recommend a conditional approval of the STR permit, subject to the inspection being completed and passed no later than October 1 of the same year (or following year, if the initial inspection attempt occurred between October 2 and December 31).

~~Once an STR permit has been issued, reasonable unscheduled inspections may occur if first responders, fire inspectors or Planning and Building inspectors/ officers have reason to believe occupancy has been exceeded or a life safety issue is present.~~

**Section 110.319.40 Permit Revocation.** Revocation of an STR permit shall be subject to the requirements of this section. In the event an STR permit is revoked through any of the below procedures, a new STR permit shall not be issued for the same property for a period of one (1) year immediately following the date of revocation.

- (a) Initiation of Action. An enforcement official or the Board of County Commissioners may initiate an action to revoke an STR permit, unless the permit is revoked automatically pursuant to the provisions of this section.
- (b) Grounds for Revocation. An STR permit may be revoked by the Board of County Commissioners pursuant to the provisions of this section upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds:
  - (1) That the STR permit was issued based on fraudulent or erroneous information, or was issued in contravention to the requirements of this Article; or,
  - (2) That one (1) or more of the characteristics or conditions upon which the STR permit was issued have changed or been violated; or,
  - (3) Unauthorized/unpermitted alteration of required life safety elements.
- (c) Grounds for Automatic Revocation. An STR permit may be automatically revoked without action by the Board of County Commissioners pursuant to the provisions of this section upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds. A revocation initiated under this section may be appealed to the Board of County Commissioners, which shall make the final administrative decision on the matter.
  - (1) If, after all administrative remedies have been exhausted, a property owner has been found guilty of violating the standards of this Article through three (3) separate instances/investigations during a one (1) year timeframe. The issuance date of the respective penalty notices shall be used as the basis for determining if three (3) separate, but consecutive, violations have occurred during a one (1) year time frame. If multiple violations are discovered during a single investigation, said violations shall count as one (1) instance for the purposes of this section; or,
  - (2) Upon application for any improvement(s) to an existing STR that would change the approved occupancy, or upon discovery that unpermitted work has occurred that altered a standard upon which the permit was issued. In such instances a new or modified permit will be required, at the discretion of the Director of the Planning and Building Division; or,

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- (3) If a felony or violent crime has occurred at the property and is substantially connected with the use of the property as an STR; or,
  - (4) If an emergency event occurred that endangered life safety or resulted in injuries or loss of life due to alteration of or noncompliance with required standards.
- (d) **Action by the Board of County Commissioners.** The Board of County Commissioners shall hold a public hearing upon the revocation of an STR permit initiated under Section 110.319.40(b), or upon the appeal of an STR permit automatically revoked pursuant to Section 110.319.40(c). The hearing shall be conducted pursuant to the provisions of Article 910 and in accordance with the Rules of the Board of County Commissioners. After the public hearing, and upon considering the evidence provided, the Board of County Commissioners may take action to revoke the STR permit.

**Section 110.319.45 Duties of Hosting Platforms.** By adoption of this Article, Washoe County invokes all powers provided to it by NRS 244.1545 in its entirety. This includes, but is not limited to, a requirement for the provision of quarterly reports by STR hosting platforms to Washoe County, and authority for Washoe County to issue and enforce subpoenas as identified within the statute.

**Section 110.319.50 Restrictions During a Declared Emergency. STRs are subject to all lawful orders of the Governor of Nevada during a declared emergency and to all powers granted by law to the local governmental entities. For example, and to the extent allowed by law, this may include but is not limited to additional operating restrictions or the requirement to cease operations until such time as the order is lifted.**

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SECTION 8. Section 110.306.25, *Detached Accessory Dwellings*, subsection (i), *Administrative Review Process*, is amended as follows:

- (i) **Administrative Review Process.** Proposals to establish a detached accessory dwelling unit in the Low Density Rural (LDR), Medium Density Rural (MDR), High Density Rural (HDR), and Low Density Suburban (LDS) Regulatory Zones shall be reviewed pursuant to ~~the following process and requirements:~~ **Article 809, Administrative Review Permits**
- (1) ~~Review.~~ The Director, or his designee, shall review a development application request for a detached accessory dwelling unit for compliance with the Development Code while also taking into consideration any testimony offered by affected property owners and the applicant. The Director, or his designee, may approve, approve with conditions, modify, modify with conditions, or deny the request. All administrative decisions shall be in writing. The administrative decision may be appealed to the Board of Adjustment per the procedures set forth below.
- (2) ~~Affected Property Owners.~~ Upon receipt of a complete application to establish a detached accessory dwelling unit, the Director, or his designee, shall determine the owners of real property that may be affected by the proposed use. All property owners within five hundred (500) feet of the subject parcel, Citizen Advisory Board members, homeowners associations, or architectural control committees that are registered with the Building and Safety Division of the County; and all military installations as defined in Article 902, Definitions, that are within three thousand (3,000) feet of the property that is the subject of the proposed use will be considered affected property owners. A minimum of ten (10) adjacent property owners shall be noticed.
- (3) ~~Processing.~~ Upon receipt of a complete application to establish a detached accessory dwelling unit, the Director, or his designee, shall commence processing and reviewing the request. Affected property owners may provide written testimony on the application for consideration in the review process and inclusion into the public record. The applicant shall be given an opportunity to respond to any testimony provided. All testimony provided shall be considered by the Director, or his designee, in rendering a decision.
- (i) ~~Notice.~~ Notice will be mailed to affected property owners within three (3) working days of receipt of a complete application. An application must be deemed complete or incomplete within three (3) working days of receipt of the application.
- (ii) ~~Affected Property Owner Comment Period.~~ Written testimony from affected property owners must be received by the department within fifteen (15) calendar days of notices being mailed. If the end of the affected property owner period falls on a non-business day, then comments shall be due the next business day.
- (iii) ~~Applicant Responses to Affected Property Owner Comments.~~ Written responses from the applicant must be received by the department within seven (7) calendar days of the end of the affected property owner comment period. If the end of the applicant response period falls on a non-business day, then responses shall be due the next business day.
- (iv) ~~Issuance of Written Decision on the Application.~~ A written decision shall be issued and mailed by the Director, or his designee, within ten (10) working days of the department receiving the applicant responses. The applicant may choose not to respond and begin this ten (10) working day period immediately following the affected property owner comment period. The written decision shall be mailed to all

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~~individuals with addresses listed on the application, the property owner of record, and all affected property owners (as defined in subsection (2) above).~~

- ~~(v) Public Hearing Not Required. No public hearing is required for the completion of this process, unless the administrative decision is appealed to the Board of Adjustment in accordance with the procedures set forth in this article.~~
- ~~(4) Effective Date of Action. Action on the application request, unless otherwise specified, shall be effective upon expiration of the appeal period.~~
- ~~(5) Contents of Notice Approval or Denial. Such notice shall describe the proposed application request; describe the lot, parcel, properties, or area that are the subject of the application request; describe the decision of the Director, or his designee; and, if the application has been approved, any conditions made part of the approval; the appeal and/or appellate procedures that can be taken regarding the decision; and the closing date of filing an appeal of the decision.~~
- ~~(6) Compliance with Noticing Requirements. All owners of real property to be noticed pursuant to this section shall be those owners identified on the latest ownership maps and records of the Washoe County Assessor. Compliance with the noticing requirements is established when notice is mailed to the last known address listed on the records of the Assessor, or if requested by a party to whom notice must be provided, by electronic means if receipt of such an electronic notice can be verified.~~
- ~~(7) Appeals. An administrative decision of the Director, or his designee, made pursuant to this article may be appealed in accordance with the following provisions:
  - ~~(i) An appeal of the administrative decision shall be made within ten (10) calendar days from the date of the notice of decision was mailed. If filed, an appeal stays any further action on the decision until final resolution of the appeal. If the end of the appeal period falls on a non-business day, the appeal period shall be extended to include the next business day.~~
  - ~~(ii) Appeals may be filed only by the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent or by an affected property owner (as defined in subsection (2) above).~~
  - ~~(iii) An Appeal of Decision application shall be filed with the Department of Community Development, accompanied by a filing fee. The appeal shall be in writing and state the basis of the appeal by citing the inadequacy of the decision, reasons for denial, and/or conditions of approval made in the decision.~~
  - ~~(iv) Appeals shall be heard by the Board of Adjustment. The Department of Community Development shall schedule a public hearing on the appeal for the next available meeting date of the Board of Adjustment.~~
  - ~~(v) The public hearing on the appeal shall be noticed pursuant to Section 110.808.40. The notice shall state that an appeal has been filed; describe the request being appealed; describe the lot, parcel, property or areas that are the subject of the application; describe the final decision on the request; and note other pertinent information.~~
  - ~~(vi) The Board of Adjustment shall consider only those items cited in the appeal. In its deliberation, it may use the record and any additional evidence relative to the application and may confirm, reverse, or modify the appealed action based upon its~~~~

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~~interpretation of the standards required and the evidence submitted. The action of the Board of Adjustment may be appealed to the Washoe County Commission for a final determination.~~

- ~~(8) Modification of the terms and/or conditions of an administrative approval shall not be allowed. Proposals to modify the terms and/or conditions of an administrative decision shall require a new application following the same procedure required for the initial application.~~
- ~~(9) A certificate of occupancy for the detached accessory dwelling unit shall be obtained by the time specified in the administrative decision, or if not specified, within two (2) years from the final date of administrative approval. Failure to obtain a certificate of occupancy within the specified timeframe shall render the approval null and void. The time specified in the administrative decision may be extended in writing by the Director, or his designee, for a period of no more than two (2) years. Requests for time extensions shall be in writing and shall be submitted at least two (2) weeks prior to the expiration date. The request shall state the reason for the extension. No more than one (1) extension of time shall be granted.~~
- ~~(10) The Board of Adjustment may initiate an action to revoke an administrative approval issued pursuant to this section. The Board of Adjustment shall hold a public hearing upon the revocation of the administrative approval and provide notice as set forth in Section 110.808.40. After the public hearing, and upon considering the evidence submitted, the Board of Adjustment may take action to revoke the administrative approval based upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds:
  - ~~(i) That the administrative approval was fraudulently obtained or extended;~~
  - ~~(ii) That one (1) or more of the conditions upon which such development approval was granted have been violated; or~~
  - ~~(iii) That the use or facility for which the development approval was granted is so conducted or maintained as to be detrimental to the public health or safety, or as to be a public nuisance.~~~~

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SECTION 9. WCC Chapter 110, Article 809, *Administrative Review Permits*, is hereby established as a new article as follows:

## *Article 809*

# *ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PERMITS*

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### Sections:

110.809.00	Purpose
110.809.05	Requirements for Application
110.809.10	Supplemental Guidelines, Standards and Criteria
110.809.15	Review Procedures
110.809.20	Appeals
110.809.25	Modifications of an Administrative Review Permit
110.809.30	Revocation

**Section 110.809.00 Purpose.** The purpose of Article 809, Administrative Review Permits, is to provide methods for reviewing proposed uses which possess characteristics that require special appraisal in order to determine if the use(s) have the potential to adversely impact other land uses, transportation or services and facilities in the vicinity. The Board of County Commissioners, the Board of Adjustment, or the Planning and Building Division Director may require conditions of approval necessary to eliminate, mitigate, or minimize to an acceptable level any potentially adverse effects of a use or to specify the terms under which commencement and operation of the use must comply.

**Section 110.809.05 Requirements for Application.** Applications for administrative review permits may be initiated by the property owner or authorized agent of the property owner. Applications shall be filed with the Planning and Building Division. A request for an administrative review permit shall include the appropriate application, supplemental materials and site plan which clearly delineates the location and characteristics of the proposed use. No administrative review permit shall be processed until the information necessary to review and decide upon the proposed administrative review permit is deemed complete by the Planning and Building Division.

**Section 110.809.10 Supplemental Guidelines, Standards and Criteria.** In addition to the standards and findings set forth in the Development Code, the Planning and Building Division may prepare supplemental guidelines for the submission of applications and minimum standards and criteria for approval of applications.

**Section 110.809.15 Review Procedures.** The Director, or her/his designee, shall review an administrative review application request for compliance with the Development Code while also taking into consideration any testimony offered by affected property owners and the applicant, as well as characteristics of the property. The Director, or her/his designee, may approve, approve with conditions, modify, modify with conditions, or deny the request. All administrative decisions shall be in writing. The administrative decision may be appealed per the procedures set forth in this article.

- (a) **Affected Property Owners.** Upon receipt of a complete Administrative Review Permit application, the Director, or her/his designee, shall determine the owners of real property that may be affected by the proposed use. All property owners within five hundred (500) feet of the subject parcel, Citizen Advisory Board members, homeowners associations, or County-registered architectural control/construction committees within common-interest

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communities registered with the State of Nevada; and all military installations as defined in Article 902, Definitions, that are within three thousand (3,000) feet of the property that is the subject of the proposed use will be considered affected property owners. A minimum of ten (10) adjacent property owners shall be noticed.

- (b) **Processing.** Upon receipt of a complete Administrative Review Permit application, the Director, or her/his designee, shall commence processing and reviewing the request. Affected property owners may provide written testimony on the application for consideration in the review process and inclusion into the public record. The applicant shall be given an opportunity to respond to any testimony provided. All testimony provided shall be considered by the Director, or her/his designee, in rendering a decision.
- (1) **Notice.** An application must be deemed complete or incomplete within three (3) working days of receipt of the application. Notice will be mailed to affected property owners within three (3) working days of the determination that the application is complete.
  - (2) **Affected Property Owner Comment Period.** Written testimony from affected property owners must be received by the division within fifteen (15) calendar days of notices being mailed. If the end of the affected property owner period falls on a non-business day, then comments shall be due the next business day.
  - (3) **Applicant Responses to Affected Property Owner Comments.** Written responses from the applicant must be received by the division within seven (7) calendar days of the end of the affected property owner comment period. If the end of the applicant response period falls on a non-business day, then responses shall be due the next business day.
  - (4) **Issuance of Written Decision on the Application.** A written decision shall be issued and mailed by the Director, or his designee, within ten (10) working days of the division receiving the applicant responses. The applicant may choose not to respond and begin this ten (10) working day period immediately following the affected property owner comment period. The written decision shall be mailed to all individuals with addresses listed on the application, the property owner of record, and all affected property owners (as defined in subsection (2) above).
  - (5) **Public Hearing Not Required.** No public hearing is required for the completion of this process, unless the Administrative Review Permit decision is appealed in accordance with the procedures set forth in this article.
- (c) **Effective Date of Action.** Action on the application request, unless otherwise specified, shall be effective upon expiration of the appeal period. For Administrative Review Permits associated with a short-term rental permit, the applicant must also successfully obtain a short-term rental permit prior to advertising or operation.
- (d) **Contents of Notice – Approval or Denial.** Such notice shall describe the proposed application request; describe the lot, parcel, properties, or area that are the subject of the application request; describe the decision of the Director, or his designee; and, if the application has been approved, any conditions made part of the approval; the appeal and/or appellate procedures that can be taken regarding the decision; and the closing date of filing an appeal of the decision.
- (e) **Compliance with Noticing Requirements.** All owners of real property to be noticed pursuant to this section shall be those owners identified on the latest ownership maps and records of the Washoe County Assessor. Compliance with the noticing requirements is established

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when notice is mailed to the last known address listed on the records of the Assessor, or if requested by a party to whom notice must be provided, by electronic means if receipt of such an electronic notice can be verified.

**Section 110.809.20 Appeals.** An Administrative Review Permit decision of the Director, or her/his designee, made pursuant to this article may be appealed in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) An appeal of the Administrative Review Permit decision shall be made within ten (10) calendar days from the date of the notice of decision was mailed. If filed, an appeal stays any further action on the decision until final resolution of the appeal. If the end of the appeal period falls on a non-business day, the appeal period shall be extended to include the next business day.
- (b) Appeals may be filed only by the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent or by an affected property owner (as defined in this article).
- (c) An Appeal of Decision application shall be filed with the Planning and Building Division, accompanied by a filing fee. The appeal shall be in writing and state the basis of the appeal by citing the inadequacy of the decision, reasons for denial, and/or conditions of approval made in the decision.
- (d) Appeals of Administrative Review Permit decisions for short-term rentals shall be heard by the Board of County Commissioners. The Planning and Building Division shall schedule a public hearing within sixty (60) calendar days of the filing date of the appeal. The public hearing on the appeal shall be noticed pursuant to Section 110.912.20. The notice shall state that an appeal has been filed; describe the request being appealed; describe the lot, parcel, property or areas that are the subject of the application; describe the Director's final Administrative Review Permit decision on the request; and note other necessary pertinent information. The Board of County Commissioners shall consider only those items cited in the appeal. In its deliberation, it may use the record and any additional evidence relative to the application and may confirm, reverse, or modify the appealed action based upon its interpretation of the standards required and the evidence submitted.
- (e) All other appeals of Administrative Review Permit decisions shall be heard by the Board of Adjustment. The Planning and Building Division shall schedule a public hearing on the appeal for the next available meeting date of the Board of Adjustment. The public hearing on the appeal shall be noticed pursuant to Section 110.808.40. The notice shall state that an appeal has been filed; describe the request being appealed; describe the lot, parcel, property or areas that are the subject of the application; describe the Director's final Administrative Review Permit decision on the request; and note other pertinent information. The Board of Adjustment shall consider only those items cited in the appeal. In its deliberation, it may use the record and any additional evidence relative to the application and may confirm, reverse, or modify the appealed action based upon its interpretation of the standards required and the evidence submitted. The action of the Board of Adjustment may be appealed to the Washoe County Commission for a final determination.

**Section 110.809.25 Modification of an Administrative Review Permit.** Modification of the terms and/or conditions of an Administrative Review Permit approval shall not be allowed. Proposals to modify the terms and/or conditions of an administrative decision shall require a new application following the same procedure required for the initial application.

**Section 110.809.30 Revocation.** The Board of Adjustment (or Board of County Commissioners, for Administrative Review Permits associated with a short-term rental) may initiate an action to revoke an administrative review approval issued pursuant to this section. The Board of Adjustment shall hold a public hearing on the revocation of the Administrative Review Permit approval and provide

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notice as set forth in Section 110.808.40. For items heard by the Board of County Commissioners, that Board shall hold a public hearing on the revocation of the Administrative Review Permit approval and provide notice as set forth in Section 110.912.20. After the public hearing, and upon considering the evidence submitted, the applicable board may take action to revoke the Administrative Review Permit approval based upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds:

- (a) That the Administrative Review Permit approval was fraudulently obtained or extended;
- (b) That one (1) or more of the conditions upon which such development approval was granted have been violated, and the applicable board finds that those violations are substantial in nature, unduly and negatively affecting neighboring property owners, or relating directly to public health, safety or welfare; or
- (c) That the use or facility for which the development approval was granted is so conducted or maintained as to be detrimental to the public health or safety, or as to be a public nuisance, or in the case of an Administrative Review Permit associated with a short-term rental, that unauthorized/unpermitted alteration of required life safety elements has occurred.

SECTION 10. Section 110.910.15(d), *Administrative Enforcement Proceedings*, is hereby amended as follows:

- (d) Administrative Enforcement Proceedings. The enforcement official may construe the violation of any provision in a development regulation as an administrative offense and pursue all procedures and remedies in Washoe County Code Chapter 125, subject to the following provisions:
  - (1) Appeal to Board of Adjustment. Any aggrieved person may appeal a decision or order of an administrative hearing officer to the Board of Adjustment in accordance with the Rules of the Board of Adjustment.
  - (2) Appeal to Board of County Commissioners. If the subject of an administrative hearing is a violation of a Short-Term Rental standard, then any aggrieved person may only appeal a decision or order of an administrative hearing officer to the Board of County Commissioners in accordance with the Rules of the Board of County Commissioners.
  - (23) Grading Violations. If an enforcement official observes grading that is being done without a permit, in violation of a permit, or in violation of a development regulation, the enforcement official may proceed in an expedited manner as provided in Article 438, Grading Standards, of the Development Code.

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SECTION 11. General Terms.

1. All actions, proceedings, matters, and things heretofore taken, had and done by the County and its officers not inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are ratified and approved.
2. The Chairman of the Board and officers of the County are authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this Ordinance. The District Attorney is authorized to make non-substantive edits and corrections to this Ordinance.
3. All ordinances, resolutions, bylaws and orders, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent only of such inconsistency. This repealer shall not be construed to revive any ordinance, resolution, bylaw or order, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.
4. Each term and provision of this Ordinance shall be valid and shall be enforced to the extent permitted by law. If any term or provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof shall be deemed by a court of competent jurisdiction to be in violation of law or public policy, then it shall be deemed modified, ipso facto, to bring it within the limits of validity or enforceability, but if it cannot be so modified, then the offending provision or term shall be excised from this Ordinance. In any event, the remainder of this Ordinance, or the application of such term or provision to circumstances other than those to which it is invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected.

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Passage and Effective Date

Proposed on \_\_\_\_\_ (month) \_\_\_\_\_ (day), 2021.

Proposed by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_.

Passed on \_\_\_\_\_ (month) \_\_\_\_\_ (day), 2021.

Vote:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Lucey, Chair  
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janis Galassini, County Clerk

The provisions of this ordinance related to processing and issuing permit applications shall be in force and effect from and after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month of May of the year 2021. All remaining provisions of this ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month of April of the year 2021.

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INFORMATION ONLY**

REGULAR TEXT: NO CHANGE IN LANGUAGE

~~STRIKEOUT TEXT: DELETE LANGUAGE~~

**BOLD TEXT: NEW LANGUAGE**

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Notice: Per NRS 239B.030, this document does not contain personal information as defined in NRS 603A.040

**Summary: Adds a definition of short-term rental and identifies unpermitted short-term rentals as a public nuisance.**

BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Title:

An ordinance amending the Washoe County Code at Chapter 50 (Public Peace, Safety and Morals) to include a definition of short-term rental and define unpermitted short-term rentals as a public nuisance. Short-term rentals are a type of temporary lodging booked for fewer than 28-days and operated out of private residences such as homes, apartments and condos. They are commonly made available through property management companies and online booking services, and are also referred to as vacation rentals. The amendments also resolve discrepancies arising within existing WCC chapters as a result of the new code language, and other matters necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto.

WHEREAS:

- A. This Commission desires to amend Washoe County Code Chapter 50 as part of its efforts to establish standards and processes for short-term rentals; and,
- B. Pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030, this Commission initiated the proposed amendments to Washoe County Code Chapter 50, on December 10, 2019; and,
- C. The amendments and this ordinance were drafted in concert with the District Attorney; and,

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- D. Following a first reading and publication as required by NRS 244.100 (1), and after a duly noticed public hearing, this Commission desires to adopt this Ordinance; and,
- E. This Commission has determined that this ordinance is being adopted pursuant to requirements set forth in Chapter 278 of NRS, therefore it is not a "rule" as defined in NRS 237.060 requiring a business impact statement.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHOE COUNTY DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. Washoe County Code Section 50.304, *Definitions*, is hereby amended to insert a definition of "Short-Term Rental" as follows under sub-section 21, re-numbering the subsequent definitions as appropriate:

- 21. **"Short-Term Rental." A Short-term rental (STR) refers to existing single-family dwelling units where, for compensation, lodging is provided within either the entire home or a portion of the home for a rental period of less than 28-days. Short-term rentals are distinguishable from commercial lodging use types in that no meals may be provided within short-term rentals as part of the rental agreement and the home may only be rented out for short-term rental use to one group at a time. STRs are also often referred to as vacation rentals and are commonly made available through property management companies or online booking platforms.**

SECTION 2. Section 50.308, *Public Nuisances*, sub-section 1, is hereby amended as follows:

50.308 Public nuisances. In the unincorporated area of the county, a public nuisance is anything described in the Code as such, and is further defined as:

- 1. The existence of any dangerous condition or structure, or any property in a condition adverse or detrimental to public health, safety, or general welfare. **A Short-Term Rental (STR) operated without the required permit shall be deemed a public nuisance due to the potential nuisance impacts related to parking, garbage, noise, and higher occupancy, and by the danger posed to surrounding properties created by an unpermitted use that has not passed required inspections for public health, safety, or general welfare standards applicable to STRs. In addition, per WCC 110.910.10(b), any property or structure that does not conform to the provisions of an applicable development regulation shall be and is hereby declared to be a public nuisance.**

**DRAFT: January 22, 2021**

SECTION 3. General Terms.

1. All actions, proceedings, matters, and things heretofore taken, had and done by the County and its officers not inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are ratified and approved.
2. The Chairman of the Board and officers of the County are authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this Ordinance. The District Attorney is authorized to make non-substantive edits and corrections to this Ordinance.
3. All ordinances, resolutions, bylaws and orders, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent only of such inconsistency. This repealer shall not be construed to revive any ordinance, resolution, bylaw or order, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.
4. Each term and provision of this Ordinance shall be valid and shall be enforced to the extent permitted by law. If any term or provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof shall be deemed by a court of competent jurisdiction to be in violation of law or public policy, then it shall be deemed modified, ipso facto, to bring it within the limits of validity or enforceability, but if it cannot be so modified, then the offending provision or term shall be excised from this Ordinance. In any event, the remainder of this Ordinance, or the application of such term or provision to circumstances other than those to which it is invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected.

**DRAFT: January 22, 2021**

Passage and Effective Date

Proposed on \_\_\_\_\_ (month) \_\_\_\_\_ (day), 2021.

Proposed by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_.

Passed on \_\_\_\_\_ (month) \_\_\_\_\_ (day), 2021.

Vote:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Lucey, Chair  
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janis Galassini, County Clerk

This ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after the  
15 day of the month of April of the year 2021.

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REGULAR TEXT: NO CHANGE IN LANGUAGE

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**BOLD TEXT: NEW LANGUAGE**

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Notice: Per NRS 239B.030, this document does not contain personal information as defined in NRS 603A.040

**Summary: Establish enforcement provisions related to short-term rentals, including but not limited to definitions, evidence of operation, evidence of violations, appeals and associated timeframes, stop activity orders, warnings, penalties, and penalty notices.**

BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Title:

An ordinance amending the Washoe County Code at Chapter 125 (Administrative Enforcement Code) to establish enforcement provisions related to short-term rentals, including but not limited to definitions, evidence of operation, evidence of violations, appeals and associated timeframes, stop activity orders, warnings, penalties, and penalty notices. Short-term rentals are a type of temporary lodging booked for fewer than 28-days and operated out of private residences such as homes, apartments and condos. They are commonly made available through property management companies and online booking services, and are also referred to as vacation rentals. The amendments also resolve discrepancies arising within existing Washoe County Code chapters as a result of the new code language, and other matters necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto.

WHEREAS:

- A. This Commission desires to amend Washoe County Code Chapter 125 as part of its efforts to establish standards and processes for short-term rentals; and,

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- B. Pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030, this Commission initiated the proposed amendments to Washoe County Code Chapter 125, on December 10, 2019; and,
- C. The amendments and this ordinance were drafted in concert with the District Attorney; and,
- D. Following a first reading and publication as required by NRS 244.100 (1), and after a duly noticed public hearing, this Commission desires to adopt this Ordinance; and,
- E. This Commission has determined that this ordinance is being adopted pursuant to requirements set forth in Chapter 278 of NRS, therefore it is not a "rule" as defined in NRS 237.060 requiring a business impact statement.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHOE COUNTY DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. Washoe County Code Section 125.135, *Definitions*, is hereby amended to insert a definition of "Short-Term Rental" as follows

**"Short-Term Rental" (STR) refers to existing single-family dwelling units where, for compensation, lodging is provided within either the entire home or a portion of the home for a rental period of less than 28-days. Short-term rentals are distinguishable from commercial lodging use types in that no meals may be provided within short-term rentals as part of the rental agreement and the home may only be rented out for short-term rental use to one group at a time. STRs are also often referred to as vacation rentals and are commonly made available through property management companies or online booking platforms.**

SECTION 2. Section 125.157, *Stop Activity Order and Remediation Order*, is hereby amended as follows:

125.157 Stop activity order and remediation order.

- 1. If an enforcement official observes construction, grading, burning, loose animals, operating a business without a business license, **operating a Short-Term Rental (STR) without the required permit (to include the act of advertising said STR)**, or other activity in progress that is or is likely to be a violation of the Code, or the work or activity must be stopped to prevent unsafe conditions, or irreparable harm or damages, or is being conducted without first obtaining the required permits or approvals, the enforcement official may issue and serve a stop activity order. Upon issuance of a stop activity order all activity described in the order must cease.
- 2. The stop activity order shall:
  - (a) Name the respondent as well as any person who is ordered to stop the work or activity;
  - (b) Describe the location and nature of the illegal activity observed, **or advertised**, and why it appears to be a violation of the Code, with specific citation to the Code;
  - (c) Describe which activities must stop and the duration of the stop activity order;
  - (d) State what must be done, and a specific date by which to correct the situation;
  - (e) State the possible consequences of a failure to obey the order, including, as applicable:
    - (1) Penalties and fees (specify what those penalties and fees will be);

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- (2) A misdemeanor criminal citation;
    - (3) A court complaint for injunctive relief or damages;
    - (4) Abatement, including summary abatement, by the county; and/or
    - (5) Any other relief authorized by law.
  - (f) Provide the name, address, phone number, and the email address of the enforcement official and any person who should be contacted to discuss or resolve the stop activity order; and,
  - (g) Describe the right to ask for a hearing before an administrative hearing officer.
3. Remediation order. If a violation of the Code threatens health, safety or welfare of the general public and immediate action is necessary to remove an unsafe condition, an enforcement official may issue a remediation order directing a person to:
- (a) Repair, safeguard, or eliminate a dangerous structure or condition;
  - (b) Clear debris, rubbish, refuse, litter, garbage, abandoned or junk vehicles, or junk appliances which are not subject to the provisions of Chapter 459 of NRS;
  - (c) Clear weeds and noxious plant growth; or
  - (d) Repair, clear, correct, safeguard or eliminate any other public nuisance as defined in the Code.
4. The remediation order shall:
- (a) Name the respondent and any/or other person who is ordered to remediate the illegal activity;
  - (b) Describe the location and nature of the violation of the Code (with specific citation to the Code), and explain that the condition is an unsafe condition requiring immediate remediation;
  - (c) List and describe the corrective actions that need to be taken to remedy the unsafe condition;
  - (d) Specify a date by which the respondent must abate the public nuisance;
  - (e) Specify the possible consequences of a failure to obey the order to include, as applicable:
    - (1) Abatement, including summary abatement, by the County;
    - (2) Penalties and fees (specify what those penalties and fees will be);
    - (3) A misdemeanor criminal citation;
    - (4) A court complaint for injunctive relief or damages;
    - (5) Any other relief authorized by law
  - (f) Describe the right to ask for a hearing before an administrative hearing officer, that such a hearing request must be prior to the deadline established to abate the public nuisance as stated in subsection (d) above, and to contact the administrative hearing office to request and schedule a hearing; and
  - (g) Provide name, address, phone number, and email address of enforcement official and any person who should be contacted to discuss or resolve the remediation order.
5. Stop activity orders and remediation orders should be personally served on the person ordered to stop or remedy the violation. In addition, all stop activity and remediation orders shall be sent to the respondent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address indicated on the assessor's records for the property. The order is effective on the earlier date of personal service or service by certified mail. Each person who serves a stop activity order or remediation order shall prepare a sworn affidavit specifying the date, time, and nature of service.
6. Any person who has been named and served with a stop activity order and continues to do any work in violation of the order, except work that is directed or approved by the enforcement official, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and each day or part of a day that the person continues to perform the work, activity, or allows the condition to continue is a separate offense. Any person who has been named in and served with a remediation order who unreasonably fails to perform the required remediation work by the deadline indicated shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and each day or part of a day that the person continues to fail to perform the work shall be a separate offense.
7. The stop activity order or remediation order may provide for the imposition and collection of civil penalties and for the possibility of abatement, including summary abatement, as specified in this chapter. Administrative action fees may be assessed as contained in the master administrative enforcement penalty and fee schedule adopted by **resolution of** the board as part of any administrative enforcement process as set forth in this chapter.
8. Hearing required; appeals. The respondent who has received a stop activity order or remediation order may request an administrative hearing regarding the stop activity order or remediation order by contacting the administrative hearing office within 30 calendar days from the date the stop activity order or remediation order was served. Because of their injunctive nature, if the person who is served with a stop activity order or remediation order asks for a hearing, an administrative

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hearing officer will expeditiously be appointed and a hearing will be conducted within 30 calendar days of the receipt of the appeal by the administrative hearing office. A stop activity order remains in effect pending the hearing. The deadline for a remediation order is suspended pending the hearing. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the provisions for hearings, and the issuance, enforcement, and appeal of administrative orders as set out in this chapter. The decision of the administrative hearing officer may be taken directly to judicial review in accordance with this chapter at the option of the appellant. If appeal is made to the Board of Adjustment for violation of WCC chapters 100 and 110, the decision of the Board of Adjustment is subject to judicial review in accordance with this chapter. **Appeals of a decision of the administrative hearing officer regarding all other chapters of WCC shall proceed directly to petition for judicial review.**

9. A stop activity order or remediation order may be rescinded by the enforcement official that issued it, by the Director of the Community Services Department, by the County Engineer, by the County Building Official, by an administrative hearing officer, and/or by the Board of Adjustment, **with the exception that a stop activity order issued for operating a Short-Term Rental (STR) without the required permit may only be rescinded by the enforcement official that issued it, by an administrative hearing officer as part of an appeal proceeding, or by court order resulting from judicial review.**
10. Enforcement. If a hearing is held before an administrative hearing officer or the Board of Adjustment as provided in this chapter, then the decision or order shall be enforced as provided for in this chapter. If a hearing is not held, the enforcement official may proceed to enforce the stop activity order or remediation order through any of the administrative, civil, or criminal remedies provided in this chapter.

SECTION 3. Section 125.160, *Complaints, Warning, and Administrative Penalty Notice, Procedures*, is hereby amended as follows:

125.160 Complaints, warning, and administrative penalty notice, procedures.

1. Any person who observes a possible violation of the Code may notify the appropriate agency or department in person or by written communication, telephone contact, fax, or e-mail. Such a complaint is considered a public record under the law. After receipt of a complaint, the enforcement official will investigate the complaint if it is warranted.
2. Warnings. Whenever it is determined by the enforcement official that a violation of the Code exists, that is not a serious risk to public health, safety or welfare, the enforcement official shall start the formal enforcement process by providing to the respondent either an oral or a written warning seeking correction, mitigation, or remedy within a time frame specified by the enforcement official, but no more than 30 calendar days from the date the warning was served. The enforcement official may extend this time frame at the official's discretion to provide additional time to complete acts required for compliance with the Code. The enforcement official may also grant a request by the respondent for additional time to complete acts required for compliance with the Code. Extensions of time by the enforcement official are allowed if reasonable progress in the repair, correction, or abatement of violations is underway or there are extenuating circumstances that prohibit compliance within the established timeline, and a plan of action with accompanying time frames is made between the enforcement official and the respondent. **If the enforcement official determines that a violation of the Short-Term Rental (STR) ordinance has occurred, then no warning shall be issued due to the potential for serious risk to public health, safety or welfare created by the operation of a STR in violation of required standards, unless the enforcement official determines that the violation may be corrected through issuance of a warning without endangering the public health, safety or welfare.**
  - (a) The warning shall state:
    - (1) That respondent is in violation of the Code and the nature of the alleged violation, to include the Code citation of the violation;
    - (2) The action(s) needed to correct the alleged violation;
    - (3) The time given to correct the alleged violation, and that an extension of this time period may be requested of the enforcement official either orally or in writing:

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- (i) If reasonable progress in the repair, correction or abatement of violations is underway, or there are extenuating circumstances that prohibit compliance within the established timeline; and
      - (ii) A plan of action with accompanying time frames is made between the enforcement official and the respondent;
    - (4) That an administrative penalty notice will be issued at the end of that period if the violation is not corrected;
    - (5) That an administrative penalty will be assessed at the time of issuance of an administrative penalty notice in the amount set forth in the master administrative enforcement penalty and fee schedule adopted by the board; and
    - (6) That the collections office may charge and collect any subsequent fees, penalties, and costs, to include interest, or follow any administrative actions authorized by state law and/or Washoe County Code, necessary to collect unpaid fees, penalties and costs. The amount of any unpaid fee(s), penalty(ies), and/or costs may be sent to the county collections office for further action, and may result in a lien being placed on the property to recover unpaid fee(s), penalty(ies) and/or costs.
  - (b) If no action is taken to correct the alleged violation within the time allocated by the enforcement official under the warning, the enforcement official shall issue an administrative penalty notice in conformance with this section or, upon consultation with the district attorney's office, seek civil or criminal remedies.
  - (c) The enforcement official shall determine if the alleged violation has been corrected within the time stated in the warning.
3. If, in the opinion of the enforcement official, a more urgent action is needed to safeguard public health, safety, or welfare, the official may, in lieu of a warning, issue an administrative penalty notice, issue a stop activity order and/or remediation order, or proceed with summary abatement in accordance with this chapter.
4. Administrative penalty notice. If the Code violation is not resolved as set forth in subsection 2 above, **or if the enforcement official did not issue an administrative warning pursuant to WCC 125.160.2 regarding the Short-Term Rental (STR) ordinance, then** the enforcement official shall issue an administrative penalty notice to the respondent except when a summary abatement, stop activity order, and/or remediation order is required in accordance with this chapter. Service of this administrative penalty notice shall be made pursuant to this chapter.
5. The administrative penalty notice shall include the following information:
- (a) The name and address of the respondent in violation. The notice shall contain the address, and may contain the assessor's parcel number of the real property, when applicable.
  - (b) If not contained in the warning, **or if a warning was not required pursuant to WCC 125.160.2 regarding the Short-Term Rental (STR) ordinance,** a statement from the enforcement official identifying the conditions or conduct that violate the Code and the specific Code citation of the Code which the respondent violated, **to include reference to the STR ordinance, as applicable.**
  - (c) If applicable, and not contained in the warning, a list of recommended corrections to bring the property or violation into compliance.
  - (d) A statement that the respondent who has received an administrative penalty notice may request an administrative hearing regarding the administrative penalty notice by contacting the administrative hearing office within 30 calendar days from the date the administrative penalty notice was served, **or in the case of a violation of the Short-Term Rental (STR) ordinance, within 14 calendar days from the date the administrative penalty notice was served.** The administrative penalty notice shall also inform the person served that failure to respond to the administrative penalty notice within 30 calendar days, **or within 14 calendar days if the penalty notice was issued for a violation of the STR ordinance,** of the date the administrative penalty notice was served shall be deemed an admission of liability and a waiver of any right to an administrative hearing.
  - (e) A statement of the penalty amount, and **a statement** that Washoe County will accept as payment in full for the administrative penalty one-half of the authorized penalty indicated on the administrative penalty notice if payment is received within 30 calendar days of service, **or in the case of a violation of the Short-Term Rental (STR) ordinance, within 14 calendar days**

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- from the date the administrative penalty notice was served.** A respondent filing an appeal of an administrative penalty notice or paying the penalty after 30 calendar days of service, **or in the case of a violation of the STR ordinance, within 14 calendar days from the date the administrative penalty notice was served,** shall not be entitled to reduction of the administrative penalty provided for in this subsection. A request for an administrative hearing shall stay the required payment of the administrative penalty until the hearing is completed. Any unpaid penalties shall be turned over to the county collections office, **at the discretion and/or timeframe recommended by the enforcement official,** and a collections fee, payable to the collections office for cost recovery of the unpaid penalties, shall apply. The amount of the administrative penalty and collections fee is set forth in the master administrative enforcement penalty and fee schedule adopted by **resolution of** the board. The penalties and any fees assessed are cumulative.
- (f) The name, address, phone number, email address, and signature of the enforcement official, and any person who may be contacted to discuss or resolve the administrative penalty notice.
  - (g) A statement that the administrative penalty notice is not a criminal proceeding.
  - (h) A statement that each and every instance the act or omission exists after the deadline together with any granted extensions constitutes a separate and distinct offense.
6. The administrative penalty notice and/or an electronic facsimile thereof, must be filed with and retained by the issuing department and is deemed to be a public record of matters which are observed pursuant to a duty which is imposed by law and is prima facie evidence of the facts which are alleged therein.
  7. A peace officer or enforcement official may issue an administrative penalty notice to the same respondent for a second or subsequent violation of the same ordinance within a two-year period without being required to issue a warning.
  8. A peace officer or enforcement official may issue a criminal citation for a second or subsequent violation by the respondent of the same ordinance within a two-year period.
  9. The administrative penalty notice may be issued by peace officer or enforcement official based upon a written and signed statement of a complaining party. **Any photographic, audio, or video evidence submitted by the complaining party as part of the written and signed statement shall be time and date stamped, and the location from which the evidence was collected shall be attested to by the complaining party.** In such a case, the complaining party must appear at any hearing subsequently scheduled pursuant to this chapter to testify. If the complaining party does not appear at the hearing in the case, the administrative penalty notice will be dismissed and the respondent released from liability.
  10. An appeal to an administrative hearing may be requested during an administrative proceeding only after the enforcement official issues an administrative penalty notice.

SECTION 4. Section 125.165, *Administrative Fees, Penalties and Costs*, is hereby amended as follows:

125.170 Administrative fees, penalties and costs.

1. Administrative penalties will be assessed for a first, second, **third**, or subsequent violation of the same ordinance, as contained in the master administrative enforcement penalty and fee schedule adopted by **resolution of** the board.
2. Administrative action fees may be assessed as contained in the master administrative enforcement penalty and fee schedule adopted by **resolution of** the board as part of any administrative enforcement process as set forth in this chapter.
3. If any administrative fees, penalties, or costs remain unpaid after the date stated on the notice, the amount shall be sent to the collections office. A collections fee for cost recovery of the unpaid fees, penalties or costs shall be added to the fee, penalty and cost amount. The amount of the collections fee is contained in the master administrative enforcement penalty and fee schedule adopted by **resolution of** the board.
4. Payment of the penalty shall not excuse the failure to correct the violations nor shall it bar further enforcement action by the county.

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SECTION 5. General Terms.

1. All actions, proceedings, matters, and things heretofore taken, had and done by the County and its officers not inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are ratified and approved.
2. The Chairman of the Board and officers of the County are authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this Ordinance. The District Attorney is authorized to make non-substantive edits and corrections to this Ordinance.
3. All ordinances, resolutions, bylaws and orders, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent only of such inconsistency. This repealer shall not be construed to revive any ordinance, resolution, bylaw or order, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.
4. Each term and provision of this Ordinance shall be valid and shall be enforced to the extent permitted by law. If any term or provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof shall be deemed by a court of competent jurisdiction to be in violation of law or public policy, then it shall be deemed modified, ipso facto, to bring it within the limits of validity or enforceability, but if it cannot be so modified, then the offending provision or term shall be excised from this Ordinance. In any event, the remainder of this Ordinance, or the application of such term or provision to circumstances other than those to which it is invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected.

**DRAFT: January 22, 2021**

Passage and Effective Date

Proposed on \_\_\_\_\_ (month) \_\_\_\_\_ (day), 2021.

Proposed by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_.

Passed on \_\_\_\_\_ (month) \_\_\_\_\_ (day), 2021.

Vote:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Lucey, Chair  
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janis Galassini, County Clerk

This ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after the  
15 day of the month of April of the year 2021.

**Minutes of Feb. 25, 2020  
Washoe County Commission Meeting  
are available online at**

**<https://bit.ly/2X9xbFB>**



## RESOLUTION OF THE WASHOE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO WASHOE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 110 (DEVELOPMENT CODE) WITHIN ARTICLE 302, ALLOWED USES, TO IDENTIFY THE TYPES OF REVIEW REQUIRED FOR SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN EACH REGULATORY ZONE AND TO ADD AN ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PERMIT TO THE LIST OF REVIEW TYPES; WITHIN ARTICLE 304, USE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM, TO UPDATE THE RESIDENTIAL USE TYPE DESCRIPTION, ADD A DEFINITION FOR SHORT-TERM RENTAL, AND UPDATE THE DEFINITION FOR LODGING SERVICES; AND WITHIN ARTICLE 410, PARKING AND LOADING, TO UPDATE THE OFF-STREET PARKING SPACE REQUIREMENTS TABLE TO INCLUDE A REFERENCE TO SHORT-TERM RENTALS. CHAPTER 110 WOULD ALSO BE AMENDED TO CREATE ARTICLE 319, SHORT-TERM RENTALS (STRS), TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS, LOCATION LIMITATIONS, DEFINING UNPERMITTED SHORT-TERM RENTALS AS NUISANCES, OCCUPANCY LIMITS, PARKING REQUIREMENTS, SAFETY/SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS, SIGNAGE, NOISE THRESHOLDS, TRASH/GARBAGE COLLECTION RULES, INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS, TAHOE AREA CONSIDERATIONS, PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS, ENFORCEMENT PROCESS, FEES, FINES, AND PENALTIES ASSOCIATED WITH SHORT-TERM RENTALS; AND TO AMEND ARTICLE 306, ACCESSORY USES AND STRUCTURES, BY REMOVING THE PROCEDURAL DETAILS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PERMITS, WITH THOSE DETAILS BEING RE-LOCATED INTO A NEW ARTICLE THAT IS UPDATED TO REFLECT MINOR CHANGES RELATED TO SHORT-TERM RENTALS. THAT ARTICLE WOULD BE CREATED AS ARTICLE 809, ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PERMITS. SHORT-TERM RENTALS ARE A TYPE OF TEMPORARY LODGING OF BRIEF DURATION OPERATED OUT OF PRIVATE RESIDENCES SUCH AS HOMES, APARTMENTS AND CONDOS. THEY ARE COMMONLY MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMPANIES AND ONLINE BOOKING SERVICES, AND ARE ALSO REFERRED TO AS VACATION RENTALS THAT ARE GENERALLY BOOKED FOR FEWER THAN 28-DAYS. THE AMENDMENTS MAY INCLUDE THE RESOLUTION OF DISCREPANCIES THAT MAY ARISE WITHIN EXISTING WCC CHAPTERS AS A RESULT OF ANY NEW CODE LANGUAGE, AND OTHER MATTERS NECESSARILY CONNECTED THEREWITH AND PERTAINING THERETO.

Resolution Number 20-01

### WHEREAS

- A. Pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners initiated amendments to Washoe County Code Chapter 110 (Development Code), on December 10, 2019 as fully described in Exhibit A-1 to this resolution; and
- B. Development Code Amendment Case Number WDCA19-0008, came before the Washoe County Planning Commission for a duly noticed public hearing on January 7, 2020; and
- C. The Washoe County Planning Commission gave reasoned consideration to the information it received regarding the proposed Development Code Amendment; and

Planning Commission Resolution 20-01  
Meeting Date: January 7, 2020  
Page 2

D. Whereas, pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 110.818.15(e), the Washoe County Planning Commission made the following findings necessary to support its recommendation for adoption of the proposed Development Code Amendment Case Number WDCA19-0008:

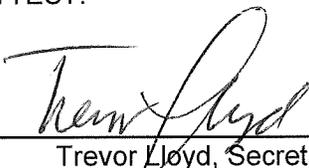
1. Consistency with Master Plan. The proposed amendment is in substantial compliance with the policies and action programs of the Washoe County Master Plan;
2. Promotes the Purpose of the Development Code. The proposed Development Code amendment will not adversely impact the public health, safety or welfare, and will promote the original purposes for the Development Code as expressed in Article 918, Adoption of Development Code;
3. Response to Changed Conditions. The proposed Development Code amendment responds to changed conditions or further studies that have occurred since the Development Code was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, and the requested amendment allow for a more desirable utilization of land within the regulatory zones; and,
4. No Adverse Effects. The proposed Development Code amendment will not adversely affect the implementation of the policies and action programs of the Conservation Element or the Population Element of the Washoe County Master Plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washoe County Planning Commission recommends approval of the ordinance attached hereto as Exhibit A-1.

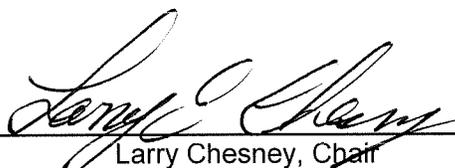
A report describing this amendment, discussion at this public hearing, this recommendation, and the vote on the recommendation will be forwarded to the Washoe County Board of Commissioners within 60 days of this resolution's adoption date.

ADOPTED on January 7, 2020.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Trevor Lloyd, Secretary

WASHOE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Larry Chesney, Chair

DRAFT: December 12, 2019

WORKING COPY  
INFORMATION ONLY

REGULAR TEXT: NO CHANGE IN LANGUAGE

~~STRIKEOUT TEXT: DELETE LANGUAGE~~

**BOLD TEXT: NEW LANGUAGE**

\*\*\*\*\*

Notice: Per NRS 239B.030, this document does not contain personal information as defined in NRS 603A.040

*Summary: Establishes standards for short-term rentals, including, but not limited to the establishment of definitions, standards, location limitations, defining unpermitted short-term rentals as nuisances, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, Tahoe area considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals, as well as the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing Washoe County Code chapters as a result of any new code language.*

BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Title:

An ordinance amending the Washoe County Code at Chapter 110 (Development Code), within Article 302, Allowed Uses, to identify the types of review required for short-term rentals in each regulatory zone and to add an administrative review permit to the list of review types; within Article 304, Use Classification System, to update the residential use type description, add a definition for short-term rental, and update the definition for lodging services; and within Article 410, Parking and Loading, to update the off-street parking space requirements table to include a reference to short-term rentals. Chapter 110 would also be amended to create Article 319, Short-Term Rentals (STRs), to establish standards, location limitations, defining unpermitted short-term rentals as nuisances, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, Tahoe area

**DRAFT: December 12, 2019**

considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals; and to amend Article 306, Accessory Uses and Structures, by removing the procedural details for Administrative Review Permits, with those details being re-located into a new article that is updated to reflect minor changes related to short-term rentals. That article would be created as Article 809, Administrative Review Permits. Short-term rentals are a type of temporary lodging of brief duration operated out of private residences such as homes, apartments and condos. They are commonly made available through property management companies and online booking services, and are also referred to as vacation rentals that are generally booked for fewer than 28-days. The amendments may include the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing WCC chapters as a result of any new code language, and other matters necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto.

**WHEREAS:**

- A. This Commission desires to amend and create articles within the Washoe County Development Code (Chapter 110) in order to establish standards and processes for short-term rentals; and,
- B. Pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030, this Commission initiated the proposed amendments to Washoe County Code Chapter 110, Development Code, on December 10, 2019; and,
- C. The amendments and this ordinance were drafted in concert with the District Attorney, and the Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing for WDCA19-0008 January 7, 2020 and adopted Resolution Number 20-01 recommending adoption of this ordinance; and,
- D. Following a first reading and publication as required by NRS 244.100 (1), and after a duly noticed public hearing, this Commission desires to adopt this Ordinance; and,
- E. This Commission has determined that this ordinance is being adopted pursuant to requirements set forth in Chapter 278 of NRS, therefore it is not a "rule" as defined in NRS 237.060 requiring a business impact statement.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHOE COUNTY DOES HEREBY  
ORDAIN:

DRAFT: December 12, 2019

SECTION 1. The first paragraph of Washoe County Code Section 110.304.15, *Residential Use Types*, is hereby amended as follows:

Section 110.304.15 Residential Use Types. Residential use types include the occupancy of living accommodations, ~~on a wholly or primarily non-transient basis~~ but exclude institutional living arrangements providing twenty-four-hour skilled nursing, **custodial** or medical care and those providing forced residence, such as asylums and prisons.

SECTION 2. Section 110.304.15, *Residential Use Types*, is hereby amended to add new sub-section (d) with the following definitions:

(d) **Short-term rental.** Short-term rental (STR) refers to existing single-family dwelling units where, for compensation, lodging is provided within either the entire home or a portion of the home for a rental period of less than 28-days. STRs may be permitted to operate out of legally permitted, permanent dwelling units or accessory dwelling units in accordance with the standards within Article 319. Short-term rentals are distinguishable from commercial lodging use types in that no meals may be provided within short-term rentals as part of the rental agreement and the home may only be rented out for short-term rental use to one group at a time. STRs are also often referred to as vacation rentals and are commonly made available through property management companies or online booking platforms. The following are short-term rental use types:

- (1) **Tier 1 Short-Term Rental.** A Tier 1 STR has a maximum occupancy of 10 persons or fewer.
- (2) **Tier 2 Short-Term Rental.** A Tier 2 STR has a maximum occupancy of 11-20 persons and due to its higher occupancy, may require additional limitations to ensure compatibility with surrounding residential properties.
- (3) **Tier 3 Short-Term Rental.** A Tier 3 STR has a maximum occupancy of 21 or more persons. This highest tier of STRs is still operated out of a pre-existing dwelling unit, but due to the high number of occupants, is expected to have more significant impacts to surrounding properties. As a result, it is considered inappropriate to be located in residential regulatory zones, but may be appropriate on properties with commercial regulatory zones that are located nearer tourist and commercial services.

SECTION 3. The first paragraph of Section 110.304.25(u), *Lodging Services*, is hereby amended as follows:

- (u) **Lodging Services.** Lodging services use type refers to establishments primarily engaged in the provision of lodging on a less-than-weekly basis within incidental food, drink, and other sales or services intended for the convenience of guests, **including common facilities**, but excludes those **establishments** classified under residential group home, **short-term rental** and commercial recreation. The following are lodging services use types:

SECTION 4. Section 110.302.15, *Types of Review*, is hereby amended as follows:

Section 110.302.15 Types of Review. Table 110.302.05.1 through Table 110.302.05.5 indicate the types of review required as follows:

- (a) **Allowed Use.** A letter "A" indicates that a use is allowed, but the use shall comply with the provisions of the Development Code.

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- (b) Administrative Permit. A letter "P" indicates that a use is allowed only upon approval of an administrative permit pursuant to Article 808, Administrative Permits.
- (c) Planning Commission Special Use Permit. A letter "S<sub>1</sub>" indicates that a use is allowed only upon approval of a special use permit approved by the Planning Commission pursuant to Article 810, Special Use Permits.
- (d) Board of Adjustment Special Use Permit. A letter "S<sub>2</sub>" indicates that a use is allowed only upon approval of a special use permit approved by the Board of Adjustment pursuant to Article 810, Special Use Permits.
- (e) Uses Not Allowed. A designation "--" indicates that a use is not allowed within the regulatory zone.
- (f) Administrative Review. A designation "AR" indicates that a use is allowed only upon approval of an administrative review permit pursuant to Article 809, Administrative Review Permits.

SECTION 5. Table 110.302.05.1, *Table of Uses (Residential Use Types)*, is hereby amended as follows:

Table 110.302.05.1

**TABLE OF USES (Residential Use Types)**  
(See Sections 110.302.10 and 110.302.15 for explanation)

Residential Use Types (Section 110.304.15)	LDR	MDR	HDR	LDS/ LDS 2	MDS/ MDS 4	HDS	LDU	MDU	HDU	GC	NC	TC	I	PSP	PR	OS	GR	GRA	
Family Residential																			
Attached Accessory Dwelling	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	
Detached Accessory Dwelling	AR	AR	AR	AR	S <sub>2</sub>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	
Detached Accessory Structure	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	
Duplex	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	P	A	-	S <sub>2</sub>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Multi Family	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	A	-	S <sub>2</sub>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Single Family, Attached	-	-	-	A	A	A	A	A	A	-	S <sub>2</sub>	-	-	-	P	-	-	A	
Single Family, Detached	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	-	S <sub>2</sub>	-	-	-	P	-	A	A	
Non-municipal Air Strips and Glider Ports (Accessory Use)	S <sub>2</sub>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	-	-	S <sub>2</sub>	-	
Personal Landing Field (Accessory Use)	S <sub>2</sub>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	-	-	S <sub>2</sub>	-	
Manufactured Home Parks	*	*	*	*	*	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	
Group Home	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	-	S <sub>2</sub>	-	-	-	P	-	A	A	
<b>Short-Term Rental (see Article 319)</b>	<b>Note: All of the below STR Tiers require the issuance of an STR permit, regardless of required review process.</b>																		
Tier 1	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	-	-	-	-	A	A
Tier 2	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	A	AR	A	-	-	-	-	AR	AR	
Tier 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Key: -- = Not allowed; A = Allowed; AR = Administrative Review pursuant to Section 110.306.25(4); P = Administrative Permit; PR = Park Commission Approval pursuant to 110.104.40(c); S<sub>1</sub> = Planning Commission Special Use Permit; S<sub>2</sub> = Board of Adjustment Special Use Permit; \* = Allowed with a Board of Adjustment Special Use Permit in areas designated Trailer (TR) Overlay zone prior to adoption of this Development Code.

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SECTION 6. Section 110.410.10.1, *Off-Street Parking Space Requirements (Residential Use Types)*, is hereby amended as follows:

Table 110.410.10.1

**OFF-STREET PARKING SPACE REQUIREMENTS (Residential Use Types)**  
(See Section 110.410.10 for explanation)

<b>Residential Use Types (Section 110.304.15)</b>	<b>Spaces Required</b>
Family Residential	
Attached Accessory Dwelling	1 per attached accessory dwelling unit, in addition to other required spaces
Detached Accessory Dwelling	1 per detached accessory dwelling unit, in addition to other required spaces
Detached Accessory Structure	None
Duplex	2 per dwelling unit, 1 of which must be in an enclosed garage
Fabricated Home	*2 per fabricated home
Multi Family	1.6 for 1 bedroom units, 2.1 for 2 bedroom and larger units; 1 of which must be in an enclosed garage or carport
Single Family Attached	2 per dwelling unit, 1 of which must be in an enclosed garage
Single Family Detached	2 per dwelling unit, 1 of which must be in an enclosed garage
Manufactured Home Parks	1.5 per manufactured home, plus 1 per 5 units for guest parking
Group Home	.25 per bed, plus 1 per employee during peak employment shift
<b>Short-Term Rental (All Tiers)</b>	<b>As identified in Article 319, <i>Short-Term Rentals (STRs)</i></b>

Note: \* = Article 312, Fabricated Housing, may require 1 parking space to be in an enclosed garage or carport.

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SECTION 7. WCC Chapter 110, Article 319, *Short-Term Rentals (STRs)*, is hereby established as a new article as follows:

## Article 319

# SHORT-TERM RENTALS (STRs)

---

### Sections:

110.319.00	Purpose
110.319.05	Applicability
110.319.10	Requirements for Application
110.319.15	Standards
110.319.20	Safety Standards
110.319.25	Permit Fees
110.319.30	Enforcement
110.319.35	Inspections
110.319.40	Permit Revocation
110.319.45	Duties of Hosting Platforms

**Section 110.319.00 Purpose.** The purpose of Article 319, *Short-Term Rentals*, is to allow for the inclusion of short-term rentals (STRs) in legally permitted homes within unincorporated areas of Washoe County. The purpose is also to establish standards and a permitting process governing the operation of STRs in order to reduce their potential impacts on neighboring properties. At higher thresholds, such as with Tier 2 and Tier 3 STRs as defined in Section 110.304.15(d), STRs may require additional mitigation. At the highest thresholds, such as with Tier 3 STRs, their anticipated impacts cause them to only be appropriate in areas where hotels and motels are allowed. Enforcement and revocation policies are intended to ensure that mechanisms are in place to allow for streamlined revocation of an STR permit when standards are repeatedly violated, and/or to levy stringent fines when an STR operates without the appropriate permits.

**Section 110.319.05 Applicability.** The provisions of this article shall apply to uses classified as short-term rentals in Article 304, *Use Classification System*. Standards within this article are applicable to properties advertising for an STR, permitted for an STR, and/or proven to be engaging in STR activity, regardless of whether occupants at any given time have entered into an STR lease. If a property ceases to operate as an STR, removes any advertisement of the STR, and relinquishes the STR permit, then the property shall revert to the applicable residential use type.

- (a) **Within the Boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan.** This sub-section becomes applicable upon adoption of an updated Tahoe Area Plan that replaces existing regulatory zones with alternative designations. Prior to adoption of alternative regulatory zones for the Tahoe planning area, the provisions of subsection (b) below will apply.
- (1) **Tier 1.** Tier 1 STRs are considered an allowed use, subject to the issuance of an STR Permit, in all regulatory zones where single family and multiple family dwellings are permitted (allowed by right or otherwise.)
- (2) **Tier 2.** Tier 2 STRs are permitted subject to the issuance of an STR Permit with Administrative Review Permit in all regulatory zones where single family and multiple family dwellings are permitted (allowed by right or otherwise.)

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- (3) Tier 3. Tier 3 STRs are permitted subject to the issuance of an STR Permit with Administrative Permit in all regulatory zones where Hotels, Motels and Other Transient Dwelling Units use types are permitted (allowed by right or otherwise.)
- (b) Outside the Boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan. STRs are allowed or permitted in those regulatory zones as set forth in Article 302, *Allowed Uses*, with all STRs requiring an STR permit, and Tier 2 and Tier 3 STRs also requiring an additional discretionary permit as identified within Article 302. The provisions for STRs in Article 302 should not be construed to supersede the zoning or permitting requirements or restrictions by Washoe County or other agencies for the construction of a dwelling in any regulatory zone.

Section 110.319.10 Requirements for Application. All applications for STR permits shall include the following elements:

- (a) Application and supplemental materials as required by the Washoe County Planning and Building Division;
- (b) Accurately scaled and dimensioned site plan showing, at a minimum: location of property lines; dwelling unit(s) and all other structures on the property; dedicated locations and surface material of required parking spaces; all recorded easements; and, snow storage areas (for properties located within the boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan);
- (c) Accurately scaled floor plan showing entirety of dwelling, including areas proposed to be available for STR use. Each room must be labeled, with dimensions and square footage also provided for areas/rooms proposed to be used for sleeping purposes. The floor plan must also show locations of fire extinguishers, smoke alarms, carbon monoxide (CO) alarms, hot tubs (if applicable), decks (if applicable), and ingress/egress (doors, stairs and windows) from the dwelling and each room;
- (d) For STRs within multi-unit developments, the application must include evidence of the number (and location, if applicable) of parking spaces allocated to the unit;
- (e) Educational materials required by Section 110.319.15(a)(14), and the name, phone number (text-capable) and email address of the local responsible party designated to respond to issues/complaints on the property as required by Section 110.319.15(a)(3);
- (f) Proof of property tax payment for current quarter of current fiscal year;
- (g) Transient lodging tax license number issued by the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA); and
- (h) A notarized certification from the property owner(s) that acknowledges or attests to the following:
  - (1) An STR permit is deemed a privileged permit subject to revocation without action by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for non-payment of fees or noncompliance with required standards, including the revocation standards within Section 110.319.40.
  - (2) An STR permit must be renewed and issued annually in order to advertise or operate. Property owners should be aware that standards are subject to change over time and there is no guarantee that an STR permit will be re-issued.

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- (3) An STR permit does not relieve the property owner of complying with any applicable private restrictions on the property such as CC&Rs or homeowners association rules.
  - (4) Inspections must be passed prior to issuance of the STR permit and annual renewals, and the cost of these inspections and any necessary associated improvements will be borne by the property owner. It is the responsibility of the property owner to provide sufficient evidence that the applicable standards have been met.
  - (5) The property owner understands and consents to reasonable unscheduled inspections in the event first responders, fire inspectors or Planning & Building inspectors/officers have reason to believe that the maximum occupancy has been exceeded or a life safety issue is present. This consent must also be included within all lease agreements for the STR.
  - (6) The property owner has reviewed this article and other codes referenced within this article, understands the requirements and agrees to abide by them.
  - (7) The property owner is responsible for each occupant's compliance with the Washoe County Code while they are on the property, including but not limited to the standards within this article.
  - (8) There are no delinquent transient lodging tax liabilities or liens against the property.
  - (9) No alterations will be made to the STR premises without the proper approvals and permits, nor alterations that violate Washoe County adopted codes and ordinances.
- (i) Additional submittal information may be required in order to ensure complete review of the STR permit application.

**Section 110.319.15 Standards.** All STRs shall comply with the standards within this article. No application for a variance, minor deviation, director's modification or other mechanism shall be approved to waive or modify these standards to make them less restrictive, unless explicitly allowed for within this article.

(a) **General standards.** The following general standards are applicable:

- (1) A valid STR permit shall be obtained from Washoe County prior to advertising and operation.
- (2) STR permits must be renewed and issued annually in order to advertise or operate. Previous issuance of an STR permit does not guarantee that a subsequent permit will be issued.
- (3) Every STR is required to have a designated agent or property manager functioning as a local responsible party who is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to respond to complaints/issues related to the STR within 30 minutes of contact by Washoe County staff or its designated representatives. The STR property owner shall provide a single phone number (text-capable) and email address with which the local responsible party can be reached 24/7.

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- (4) No events, parties, or weddings (regardless of payment or familial association), are allowed or may be advertised. A party is defined as any gathering in excess of the approved on-site maximum occupancy associated with the STR permit.
- (5) Applications for an STR permit may be initiated by the property owner or authorized agent of the property owner. However, the permittee must be the property owner(s) of the STR property.
- (6) Only one STR will be permitted per parcel. The STR must be a legally permitted, permanent, habitable dwelling unit (for example, no RVs, boats, detached garages, etc. to be used as an STR).
- (7) An STR permit will only be issued for dwelling units that have already received a certificate of occupancy. STR permits do not supersede, waive or reduce any other code standards or requirements for building permits, planning permits/applications or other requirements necessary to construct a dwelling unit.
- (8) An STR shall only be rented to one group or person at a time (ex. renting out multiple individual rooms to multiple separate groups is not permitted).
- (9) Advertising for an STR is prohibited unless a valid STR permit has been issued and is in effect at the time of advertisement.
- (10) All advertisements must include the Washoe County permit number, transient lodging tax license number, maximum occupancy as allowed by the permit, number of bedrooms, number of beds (not to exceed maximum occupancy), number of parking spaces, and a note that no off-site street-parking is permitted. This information must be displayed at the top of the STR advertisement.
- (11) At all times while an STR is rented, one 8.5" x 11" placard must be displayed on the front exterior of the residence and clearly visible from the main pathway leading to the primary entrance. The placard shall be legible (with a minimum 12 point font size) and include the following information: Washoe County STR permit number; maximum occupancy allowed by the permit; County's STR complaint hotline phone number; and, phone number of designated local responsible party.
- (12) No signage advertising the STR is permitted on the property.
- (13) Certificate of insurance is required identifying that the property is used as a short-term rental and provides a minimum of \$500,000 liability coverage per occurrence.
- (14) Educational material must be made available to all renters in the unit's kitchen or other common area and must contain the following: occupancy limits associated with the permit; exit locations; emergency phone numbers (ex. 911); phone number for the STR's local responsible party; fire/life safety information (ex. proper cigarette and ash disposal, community fire danger, proper BBQ operation, hot tub safety [if applicable], etc.); bear awareness brochure (for properties located in bear-prone areas); and Washoe County noise (quiet hours), trash and parking standards. Within the boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan, the following must also be provided: a copy of the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District Vacation Rental Safety Information Sheet and Emergency Preparedness Guide; community evacuation routes; and avalanche warning methods (for properties located in designated avalanche danger zones).

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- (15) All STRs must comply with all other federal, state, and other applicable laws/statutes.
  - (16) Per WCC Chapter 25, applicable room tax must be paid to the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, disclosed to the renter and included in any rental agreement.
- (b) Parking Standards. The following parking standards shall be adhered to:
- (1) No STR parking is allowed within access easements or the public rights-of-way.
  - (2) All parking spaces must be: improved to Washoe County residential standards (or Tahoe Regional Planning Agency [TRPA] standards, if applicable); developed on-site within property boundaries; and dedicated specifically for parking. In multi-unit complexes, parking must be in designated parking spaces (if applicable) and limited to the number of spaces allotted to the unit.
  - (3) One parking space is required for every four occupants.
  - (4) Within the Tahoe Basin, on-site STR parking may be limited and may require approval of TRPA coverage. Limitations such as these and other factors do not reduce or eliminate the requirement for on-site parking. Inability to develop the appropriate number of parking spaces on-site will subsequently limit the maximum number of occupants allowed by the STR permit.
    - i. In extraordinary and limited circumstances within the Tahoe Basin, the Planning and Building Division Director is authorized to consider reducing or relocating the required parking spaces in circumstances where the property owner has provided sufficient evidence that the request is warranted and will not unduly impact surrounding properties. Such requests shall be made by submitting a director's modification of standards application.
- (c) Noise Standards. The following noise standards shall be adhered to:
- (1) Short-term rental quiet hours are in effect daily from 10 p.m. – 7 a.m. Guests shall be instructed to be respectful of the surrounding neighborhood and reduce outdoor activities during this timeframe and shall be informed that proven violations of the quiet hours will result in fines/penalties being levied against the property owner, who may choose to pass on such fines to the renters.
  - (2) Owners of properties that have received two confirmed STR noise violations within a 12-month timeframe shall provide the Planning and Building Division with a comprehensive noise management plan, including the installation of commercially available decibel-monitoring devices with reporting capability. Records from the decibel-monitoring devices must be retained for a minimum of 60-days and made available for Washoe County staff to review upon request.
- (d) Trash Standards. The following waste removal standards shall be adhered to:
- (1) Trash and other waste must be managed as prescribed by Washoe County Health District, Waste Management and, if applicable, the Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID). Waste cart size must be sufficient to store waste for the maximum number of occupants each week.

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- (2) STRs in IVGID's service territory and other bear-prone areas must utilize wildlife-resistant carts and/or bear boxes, except in multi-unit developments where HOAs require and enforce regular trash disposal.
- (3) Waste carts shall only be placed street-side during the timeframes stipulated by the local authority or waste service provider.
- (e) **Occupancy Limits.** An occupancy limit shall be established for each short-term rental based on individual characteristics of the dwelling unit and property. Overall maximum occupancy of an STR will be determined by the Planning and Building Division Director or her/his designee(s) after considering all the factors below. The maximum number of occupants allowed within an STR is based on the following parameters:
  - (1) Bedrooms intended for one occupant shall be a minimum of 70 sq. ft. in size in accordance with the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) Section 404.4.1 (or the latest edition).
  - (2) Bedrooms intended for two occupants shall be a minimum of 100 sq. ft. in size, with an additional 50 sq. ft. required for each additional occupant in accordance with the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) Section 404.4.1 (or the latest edition).
  - (3) Other areas proposed for sleeping purposes, such as living rooms, require a minimum of 200 sq. ft. for each occupant in accordance with the 2018 International Building Code (IBC) Table 1004.5 for residential occupancy (or the currently adopted edition).
  - (4) No distinction is made based on the age of the occupant.
  - (5) In order to qualify as a sleeping area, the area shall also have safety features as determined by the Planning and Building Division Director or her/his designee(s), including, but not limited to, the requirements listed in Section 110.319.20.
  - (6) Occupancy may be further limited by the following: available number of on-site parking spaces; voluntary reduced limits as proposed by the property owner; and any other factors that the Planning and Building Division Director or her/his designee(s) determines may affect life safety.
  - (7) Daytime occupancy and nighttime occupancy limits are the same.

**Section 110.319.20 Safety Standards.** The safety standards within this section are applicable to all short-term rentals and must be in place in order to operate. Inspections will be required by the Washoe County Building Program and/or applicable fire protection district in order to verify compliance.

- (a) **Sleeping Areas.** Only qualified bedrooms and other areas meeting specific standards will be considered for sleeping purposes. Areas such as garages, storage areas, kitchens, bathrooms, laundry rooms, hallways, closets, or similar shall not be used for sleeping purposes. Additionally, areas such as basements, under-floors, attics, lofts, garage conversions, or additions that were created without permits shall also not be utilized for sleeping purposes, unless a permit is submitted, approved and final inspections are completed. In addition to the square footage requirements listed in Section 110.319.15(e), the following standards are required of all sleeping areas proposed for short-term rental use and that contribute to the maximum occupancy of the STR:

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- (1) **Bedrooms.** Each bedroom shall be evaluated using Section 404.4.1 of the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) or the latest edition. To qualify for STR use, bedrooms must be listed on the Washoe County Assessor's web site and contain all the following items:
    - (i) A minimum ceiling height of seven feet as determined by Section 305 of the 2018 International Residential Code (IRC) or the currently adopted edition.
    - (ii) An emergency escape and rescue opening complying with Section 310.1 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition, or the applicable code in effect at the time of permit of the original structure.
    - (iii) When egress windows or openings are located more than 16-feet above exterior finished grade as measured to the finished sill of the window, or if the lot has extenuating features as determined by the code officials, a safe landing area shall be provided and an emergency ladder shall be permanently fastened to the inside of the wall per the manufacturer's recommendations. The ladder shall extend a maximum of 12 inches above grade.
    - (iv) Safety glass is required for windows located in a hazardous location in compliance with Section 308.4 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition.
    - (v) A smoke alarm(s) and carbon monoxide alarm(s) installed in accordance with Sections 314 and 315 of the 2018 IRC, or National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72, or the currently adopted editions.
    - (vi) All required smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms shall be interconnected in accordance with Sections 314.4 and 315.5 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition.
  - (2) **Other Habitable Rooms Intended for Sleeping Purposes.** Other rooms intended to be utilized for sleeping purposes will be evaluated utilizing Table 1004.5 of the 2018 International Building Code (IBC) or the currently adopted edition. Rooms shall contain all the same safety features as required for bedrooms in sub-section (1).
- (b) **Fire Alarms and Suppression Systems.** Structures with two stories and a basement, or with three or more stories, or with areas greater than 5,000 square feet (total area under roof), shall include a fire suppression system. Required fire suppression systems shall be serviced and tagged annually by a Nevada licensed fire protection contractor. Structures 10,000 square feet and greater shall be equipped with an NFPA 13-compliant fire suppression system and a monitored NFPA 72-compliant fire alarm system. Structures containing both fire alarm and suppression systems must have those systems serviced and tagged annually by a licensed State of Nevada fire protection contractor.
  - (c) **Additional Safety Standards.** The following additional safety standards are applicable to all STRs:
    - (1) The property address shall be posted on-site in a location clearly visible from the roadway, and address numbers shall be at least six inches in height.

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- (2) The structure shall be maintained in a safe, hazard-free condition. This includes all mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, which shall be maintained in operating condition in accordance with the original permit approval, unless otherwise specified in this Article.
- (3) Structures with a calculated occupant load greater than 10 occupants shall be equipped with a monitored fire alarm system designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 72 and approved by the local fire protection district.
- (4) Every dwelling shall be equipped with fire extinguishers sized and located per the requirements of the currently adopted fire code and current edition of NFPA 10.
- (5) Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in accordance with Sections 314 and 315 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition.
- (6) All stairways, steps, landings, handrails, and guardrails shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the 2018 IRC, or the applicable code in effect at the time of the original permit of the structure.
- (7) Hot tubs, saunas, whirlpool tubs, and similar devices shall be installed in accordance with the current electrical code and shall have a disconnect installed in accordance with the 2017 National Electrical Code (NEC) or the currently adopted edition.
- (8) Temporary wiring shall not be used for permanent fixtures, outlets, or receptacles.
- (9) Solid fuel burning appliances installed in bedrooms or other sleeping areas shall be equipped with oxygen depletion sensors installed in accordance with the 2018 Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC) or the currently adopted edition. All such rooms shall contain smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in accordance with Sections 314 and 315 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition.
- (10) All required exits and egress windows shall remain unobstructed and an emergency exit plan shall be permanently displayed in a clearly visible and central location.
- (11) Portable heaters shall not be used as a primary source of heat for any space.
- (12) A Knox box is required when a fire alarm system or fire sprinkler system is installed.
- (13) Defensible space shall be maintained in accordance with the standards required by the applicable fire protection district.
- (14) Any exterior recreational fire or fire pit fueled by natural gas or propane shall not operate unless permitted by the local fire district.
- (15) Outdoor wood-burning solid-fuel fireplaces or solid-fuel burning fire pits are prohibited within the boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan. Within the rest of unincorporated Washoe County, these require a permit from the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District.
- (16) Emergency lighting shall be installed to sufficiently illuminate the exit pathways/hallways from sleeping rooms to the exterior of the building. A permanently

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installed system and/or a plug-in system of lights that turn on in the event of a power outage are both acceptable.

- (17) The STR shall remain accessible to emergency service vehicles and personnel per the applicable fire district and emergency responder's requirements.

**Section 110.319.25 Permit Fees.** Fees associated with STR permits shall be paid in the amounts identified in the master fee schedule and permit application. Non-payment of fees is cause for cancellation of an in-process STR application or revocation or non-renewal of an existing STR permit.

**Section 110.319.30 Enforcement.** The STR standards within this Article shall be enforced through the following procedures and requirements. A combination of the enforcement mechanisms contained in Washoe County Code Chapters 50.300 (*Nuisance Code*), 110.910 (*Enforcement*), and 125 (*Administrative Enforcement*) shall be utilized, as applicable. The intent of this section is to ensure that STR activity does not alter the character of existing residential neighborhoods nor result in detrimental impacts to the public health, safety and welfare.

- (a) **Permit Required.** Any property owner engaging in or intending to engage in the operation of an STR, as defined in WCC 110.304.15 (d), shall obtain an STR permit issued by the Planning and Building Division. Said permit shall be renewed annually.
  - (1) **Permit Considered "Privileged."** The Board of County Commissioners hereby declares the operation of an STR within residential areas as a "privileged" activity subject to additional operational standards above and beyond those of other residential uses and subject to specific enforcement and revocation procedures.
  - (2) **Inspections.** An STR that fails any required inspection shall be issued a stop activity order per the procedures of WCC Chapters 100 and 125. An STR that fails the required annual inspection shall not be reissued a permit until all required inspections are passed.
- (b) **Operating an STR without the Required Permit.** It is unlawful and hereby declared a public nuisance, as defined in WCC 50.308.1, to operate an STR without the required permit. Any property owner found to be operating an STR without the required permit shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, issued a stop activity order, and fined per the procedures outlined in WCC Chapter 125.
- (c) **Noncompliance with Standards.** Any violation of required STR standards shall be enforced through a combination of the enforcement mechanisms contained in Washoe County Code Chapters 50.300 (*Nuisance Code*), 110.910 (*Enforcement*), and 125 (*Administrative Enforcement*), as applicable. The Planning and Building Division Director, or her/his designee, shall determine compliance with these standards.

**Section 110.319.35 Inspections.** Prior to issuance of an STR permit, the property must pass inspections for life-safety of the structure and defensible space, with the cost of those inspections and any associated necessary improvements borne by the property owner. These inspections will be conducted by the Planning and Building Division and the applicable fire agency and are required annually. Once an STR permit has been issued, reasonable unscheduled inspections may occur if first responders, fire inspectors or Planning and Building inspectors/ officers have reason to believe occupancy has been exceeded or a life safety issue is present.

**Section 110.319.40 Permit Revocation.** Revocation of an STR permit shall be subject to the requirements of this section. In the event an STR permit is revoked through any of the below procedures, a new STR permit shall not be issued for the same property for a period of one (1) year immediately following the date of revocation.

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- (a) Initiation of Action. An enforcement official or the Board of County Commissioners may initiate an action to revoke an STR permit, unless the permit is revoked automatically pursuant to the provisions of this section.
- (b) Grounds for Revocation. An STR permit may be revoked by the Board of County Commissioners pursuant to the provisions of this section upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds:
  - (1) That the STR permit was issued based on fraudulent or erroneous information, or was issued in contravention to the requirements of this Article; or,
  - (2) That one (1) or more of the characteristics or conditions upon which the STR permit was issued have changed or been violated; or,
  - (3) Unauthorized/unpermitted alteration of required life safety elements.
- (c) Grounds for Automatic Revocation. An STR permit may be automatically revoked without action by the Board of County Commissioners pursuant to the provisions of this section upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds. A revocation initiated under this section may be appealed to the Board of County Commissioners, which shall make the final administrative decision on the matter.
  - (1) If, after all administrative remedies have been exhausted, a property owner has been found guilty of violating the standards of this Article through three (3) separate instances/investigations during a one (1) year timeframe. The issuance date of the respective penalty notices shall be used as the basis for determining if three (3) separate, but consecutive, violations have occurred during a one (1) year time frame. If multiple violations are discovered during a single investigation, said violations shall count as one (1) instance for the purposes of this section; or,
  - (2) Upon application for any improvement(s) to an existing STR that would change the approved occupancy, or upon discovery that unpermitted work has occurred that altered a standard upon which the permit was issued. In such instances a new or modified permit will be required, at the discretion of the Director of the Planning and Building Division; or,
  - (3) If a felony or violent crime has occurred at the property and is substantially connected with the use of the property as an STR; or,
  - (4) If an emergency event occurred that endangered life safety or resulted in injuries or loss of life due to alteration of or noncompliance with required standards.
- (d) Action by the Board of County Commissioners. The Board of County Commissioners shall hold a public hearing upon the revocation of an STR permit initiated under Section 110.319.40(b), or upon the appeal of an STR permit automatically revoked pursuant to Section 110.319.40(c). The hearing shall be conducted pursuant to the provisions of Article 910 and in accordance with the Rules of the Board of County Commissioners. After the public hearing, and upon considering the evidence provided, the Board of County Commissioners may take action to revoke the STR permit.

Section 110.319.45 Duties of Hosting Platforms. By adoption of this Article, Washoe County invokes all powers provided to it by NRS 244.1545 in its entirety. This includes, but is not limited to, a requirement for the provision of quarterly reports by STR hosting platforms to Washoe County, and authority for Washoe County to issue and enforce subpoenas as identified within the statute.

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SECTION 8. Section 110.306.25, *Detached Accessory Dwellings*, subsection (i), *Administrative Review Process*, is amended as follows:

(i) Administrative Review Process. Proposals to establish a detached accessory dwelling unit in the Low Density Rural (LDR), Medium Density Rural (MDR), High Density Rural (HDR), and Low Density Suburban (LDS) Regulatory Zones shall be reviewed pursuant to the following process and requirements: **Article 809, Administrative Review Permits**

(1) Review. The Director, or his designee, shall review a development application request for a detached accessory dwelling unit for compliance with the Development Code while also taking into consideration any testimony offered by affected property owners and the applicant. The Director, or his designee, may approve, approve with conditions, modify, modify with conditions, or deny the request. All administrative decisions shall be in writing. The administrative decision may be appealed to the Board of Adjustment per the procedures set forth below.

(2) Affected Property Owners. Upon receipt of a complete application to establish a detached accessory dwelling unit, the Director, or his designee, shall determine the owners of real property that may be affected by the proposed use. All property owners within five hundred (500) feet of the subject parcel, Citizen Advisory Board members, homeowners associations, or architectural control committees that are registered with the Building and Safety Division of the County; and all military installations as defined in Article 902, Definitions, that are within three thousand (3,000) feet of the property that is the subject of the proposed use will be considered affected property owners. A minimum of ten (10) adjacent property owners shall be noticed.

(3) Processing. Upon receipt of a complete application to establish a detached accessory dwelling unit, the Director, or his designee, shall commence processing and reviewing the request. Affected property owners may provide written testimony on the application for consideration in the review process and inclusion into the public record. The applicant shall be given an opportunity to respond to any testimony provided. All testimony provided shall be considered by the Director, or his designee, in rendering a decision.

(i) Notice. Notice will be mailed to affected property owners within three (3) working days of receipt of a complete application. An application must be deemed complete or incomplete within three (3) working days of receipt of the application.

(ii) Affected Property Owner Comment Period. Written testimony from affected property owners must be received by the department within fifteen (15) calendar days of notices being mailed. If the end of the affected property owner period falls on a non-business day, then comments shall be due the next business day.

(iii) Applicant Responses to Affected Property Owner Comments. Written responses from the applicant must be received by the department within seven (7) calendar days of the end of the affected property owner comment period. If the end of the applicant response period falls on a non-business day, then responses shall be due the next business day.

(iv) Issuance of Written Decision on the Application. A written decision shall be issued and mailed by the Director, or his designee, within ten (10) working days of the department receiving the applicant responses. The applicant may choose not to respond and begin this ten (10) working day period immediately following the affected property owner comment period. The written decision shall be mailed to all

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~~individuals with addresses listed on the application, the property owner of record, and all affected property owners (as defined in subsection (2) above).~~

- ~~(v) Public Hearing Not Required. No public hearing is required for the completion of this process, unless the administrative decision is appealed to the Board of Adjustment in accordance with the procedures set forth in this article.~~
- ~~(4) Effective Date of Action. Action on the application request, unless otherwise specified, shall be effective upon expiration of the appeal period.~~
- ~~(5) Contents of Notice – Approval or Denial. Such notice shall describe the proposed application request; describe the lot, parcel, properties, or area that are the subject of the application request; describe the decision of the Director, or his designee; and, if the application has been approved, any conditions made part of the approval; the appeal and/or appellate procedures that can be taken regarding the decision; and the closing date of filing an appeal of the decision.~~
- ~~(6) Compliance with Noticing Requirements. All owners of real property to be noticed pursuant to this section shall be those owners identified on the latest ownership maps and records of the Washoe County Assessor. Compliance with the noticing requirements is established when notice is mailed to the last known address listed on the records of the Assessor, or if requested by a party to whom notice must be provided, by electronic means if receipt of such an electronic notice can be verified.~~
- ~~(7) Appeals. An administrative decision of the Director, or his designee, made pursuant to this article may be appealed in accordance with the following provisions:
  - ~~(i) An appeal of the administrative decision shall be made within ten (10) calendar days from the date of the notice of decision was mailed. If filed, an appeal stays any further action on the decision until final resolution of the appeal. If the end of the appeal period falls on a non-business day, the appeal period shall be extended to include the next business day.~~
  - ~~(ii) Appeals may be filed only by the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent or by an affected property owner (as defined in subsection (2) above).~~
  - ~~(iii) An Appeal of Decision application shall be filed with the Department of Community Development, accompanied by a filing fee. The appeal shall be in writing and state the basis of the appeal by citing the inadequacy of the decision, reasons for denial, and/or conditions of approval made in the decision.~~
  - ~~(iv) Appeals shall be heard by the Board of Adjustment. The Department of Community Development shall schedule a public hearing on the appeal for the next available meeting date of the Board of Adjustment.~~
  - ~~(v) The public hearing on the appeal shall be noticed pursuant to Section 110.808.40. The notice shall state that an appeal has been filed; describe the request being appealed; describe the lot, parcel, property or areas that are the subject of the application; describe the final decision on the request; and note other pertinent information.~~
  - ~~(vi) The Board of Adjustment shall consider only those items cited in the appeal. In its deliberation, it may use the record and any additional evidence relative to the application and may confirm, reverse, or modify the appealed action based upon its~~~~

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~~interpretation of the standards required and the evidence submitted. The action of the Board of Adjustment may be appealed to the Washoe County Commission for a final determination.~~

- ~~(8) Modification of the terms and/or conditions of an administrative approval shall not be allowed. Proposals to modify the terms and/or conditions of an administrative decision shall require a new application following the same procedure required for the initial application.~~
- ~~(9) A certificate of occupancy for the detached accessory dwelling unit shall be obtained by the time specified in the administrative decision, or if not specified, within two (2) years from the final date of administrative approval. Failure to obtain a certificate of occupancy within the specified timeframe shall render the approval null and void. The time specified in the administrative decision may be extended in writing by the Director, or his designee, for a period of no more than two (2) years. Requests for time extensions shall be in writing and shall be submitted at least two (2) weeks prior to the expiration date. The request shall state the reason for the extension. No more than one (1) extension of time shall be granted.~~
- ~~(10) The Board of Adjustment may initiate an action to revoke an administrative approval issued pursuant to this section. The Board of Adjustment shall hold a public hearing upon the revocation of the administrative approval and provide notice as set forth in Section 110.808.40. After the public hearing, and upon considering the evidence submitted, the Board of Adjustment may take action to revoke the administrative approval based upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds:
  - ~~(i) That the administrative approval was fraudulently obtained or extended;~~
  - ~~(ii) That one (1) or more of the conditions upon which such development approval was granted have been violated; or~~
  - ~~(iii) That the use or facility for which the development approval was granted is so conducted or maintained as to be detrimental to the public health or safety, or as to be a public nuisance.~~~~

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SECTION 9. WCC Chapter 110, Article 809, *Administrative Review Permits*, is hereby established as a new article as follows:

## Article 809

# ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PERMITS

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### Sections:

110.809.00	Purpose
110.809.05	Requirements for Application
110.809.10	Supplemental Guidelines, Standards and Criteria
110.809.15	Review Procedures
110.809.20	Appeals
110.809.25	Modifications of an Administrative Review Permit
110.809.30	Revocation

**Section 110.809.00 Purpose.** The purpose of Article 809, Administrative Review Permits, is to provide methods for reviewing proposed uses which possess characteristics that require special appraisal in order to determine if the use(s) have the potential to adversely impact other land uses, transportation or services and facilities in the vicinity. The Board of County Commissioners, the Board of Adjustment, or the Planning and Building Division Director may require conditions of approval necessary to eliminate, mitigate, or minimize to an acceptable level any potentially adverse effects of a use or to specify the terms under which commencement and operation of the use must comply.

**Section 110.809.05 Requirements for Application.** Applications for administrative review permits may be initiated by the property owner or authorized agent of the property owner. Applications shall be filed with the Planning and Building Division. A request for an administrative review permit shall include the appropriate application, supplemental materials and site plan which clearly delineates the location and characteristics of the proposed use. No administrative review permit shall be processed until the information necessary to review and decide upon the proposed administrative review permit is deemed complete by the Planning and Building Division.

**Section 110.809.10 Supplemental Guidelines, Standards and Criteria.** In addition to the standards and findings set forth in the Development Code, the Planning and Building Division may prepare supplemental guidelines for the submission of applications and minimum standards and criteria for approval of applications.

**Section 110.809.15 Review Procedures.** The Director, or her/his designee, shall review an administrative review application request for compliance with the Development Code while also taking into consideration any testimony offered by affected property owners and the applicant, as well as characteristics of the property. The Director, or her/his designee, may approve, approve with conditions, modify, modify with conditions, or deny the request. All administrative decisions shall be in writing. The administrative decision may be appealed per the procedures set forth in this article.

- (a) **Affected Property Owners.** Upon receipt of a complete Administrative Review Permit application, the Director, or her/his designee, shall determine the owners of real property that may be affected by the proposed use. All property owners within five hundred (500) feet of the subject parcel, Citizen Advisory Board members, homeowners associations, or County-registered architectural control/construction committees within common-interest

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communities registered with the State of Nevada; and all military installations as defined in Article 902, Definitions, that are within three thousand (3,000) feet of the property that is the subject of the proposed use will be considered affected property owners. A minimum of ten (10) adjacent property owners shall be noticed.

- (b) **Processing.** Upon receipt of a complete Administrative Review Permit application, the Director, or her/his designee, shall commence processing and reviewing the request. Affected property owners may provide written testimony on the application for consideration in the review process and inclusion into the public record. The applicant shall be given an opportunity to respond to any testimony provided. All testimony provided shall be considered by the Director, or her/his designee, in rendering a decision.
- (1) **Notice.** An application must be deemed complete or incomplete within three (3) working days of receipt of the application. Notice will be mailed to affected property owners within three (3) working days of the determination that the application is complete.
  - (2) **Affected Property Owner Comment Period.** Written testimony from affected property owners must be received by the division within fifteen (15) calendar days of notices being mailed. If the end of the affected property owner period falls on a non-business day, then comments shall be due the next business day.
  - (3) **Applicant Responses to Affected Property Owner Comments.** Written responses from the applicant must be received by the division within seven (7) calendar days of the end of the affected property owner comment period. If the end of the applicant response period falls on a non-business day, then responses shall be due the next business day.
  - (4) **Issuance of Written Decision on the Application.** A written decision shall be issued and mailed by the Director, or his designee, within ten (10) working days of the division receiving the applicant responses. The applicant may choose not to respond and begin this ten (10) working day period immediately following the affected property owner comment period. The written decision shall be mailed to all individuals with addresses listed on the application, the property owner of record, and all affected property owners (as defined in subsection (2) above).
  - (5) **Public Hearing Not Required.** No public hearing is required for the completion of this process, unless the Administrative Review Permit decision is appealed in accordance with the procedures set forth in this article.
- (c) **Effective Date of Action.** Action on the application request, unless otherwise specified, shall be effective upon expiration of the appeal period. For Administrative Review Permits associated with a short-term rental permit, the applicant must also successfully obtain a short-term rental permit prior to advertising or operation.
- (d) **Contents of Notice – Approval or Denial.** Such notice shall describe the proposed application request; describe the lot, parcel, properties, or area that are the subject of the application request; describe the decision of the Director, or his designee; and, if the application has been approved, any conditions made part of the approval; the appeal and/or appellate procedures that can be taken regarding the decision; and the closing date of filing an appeal of the decision.
- (e) **Compliance with Noticing Requirements.** All owners of real property to be noticed pursuant to this section shall be those owners identified on the latest ownership maps and records of the Washoe County Assessor. Compliance with the noticing requirements is established

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when notice is mailed to the last known address listed on the records of the Assessor, or if requested by a party to whom notice must be provided, by electronic means if receipt of such an electronic notice can be verified.

**Section 110.809.20 Appeals.** An Administrative Review Permit decision of the Director, or her/his designee, made pursuant to this article may be appealed in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) An appeal of the Administrative Review Permit decision shall be made within ten (10) calendar days from the date of the notice of decision was mailed. If filed, an appeal stays any further action on the decision until final resolution of the appeal. If the end of the appeal period falls on a non-business day, the appeal period shall be extended to include the next business day.
- (b) Appeals may be filed only by the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent or by an affected property owner (as defined in this article).
- (c) An Appeal of Decision application shall be filed with the Planning and Building Division, accompanied by a filing fee. The appeal shall be in writing and state the basis of the appeal by citing the inadequacy of the decision, reasons for denial, and/or conditions of approval made in the decision.
- (d) Appeals of Administrative Review Permit decisions for short-term rentals shall be heard by the Board of County Commissioners. The Planning and Building Division shall schedule a public hearing within sixty (60) calendar days of the filing date of the appeal. The public hearing on the appeal shall be noticed pursuant to Section 110.912.20. The notice shall state that an appeal has been filed; describe the request being appealed; describe the lot, parcel, property or areas that are the subject of the application; describe the Director's final Administrative Review Permit decision on the request; and note other necessary pertinent information. The Board of County Commissioners shall consider only those items cited in the appeal. In its deliberation, it may use the record and any additional evidence relative to the application and may confirm, reverse, or modify the appealed action based upon its interpretation of the standards required and the evidence submitted.
- (e) All other appeals of Administrative Review Permit decisions shall be heard by the Board of Adjustment. The Planning and Building Division shall schedule a public hearing on the appeal for the next available meeting date of the Board of Adjustment. The public hearing on the appeal shall be noticed pursuant to Section 110.808.40. The notice shall state that an appeal has been filed; describe the request being appealed; describe the lot, parcel, property or areas that are the subject of the application; describe the Director's final Administrative Review Permit decision on the request; and note other pertinent information. The Board of Adjustment shall consider only those items cited in the appeal. In its deliberation, it may use the record and any additional evidence relative to the application and may confirm, reverse, or modify the appealed action based upon its interpretation of the standards required and the evidence submitted. The action of the Board of Adjustment may be appealed to the Washoe County Commission for a final determination.

**Section 110.809.25 Modification of an Administrative Review Permit.** Modification of the terms and/or conditions of an Administrative Review Permit approval shall not be allowed. Proposals to modify the terms and/or conditions of an administrative decision shall require a new application following the same procedure required for the initial application.

**Section 110.809.30 Revocation.** The Board of Adjustment (or Board of County Commissioners, for Administrative Review Permits associated with a short-term rental) may initiate an action to revoke an administrative review approval issued pursuant to this section. The Board of Adjustment shall hold a public hearing on the revocation of the Administrative Review Permit approval and provide

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notice as set forth in Section 110.808.40. For items heard by the Board of County Commissioners, that Board shall hold a public hearing on the revocation of the Administrative Review Permit approval and provide notice as set forth in Section 110.912.20. After the public hearing, and upon considering the evidence submitted, the applicable board may take action to revoke the Administrative Review Permit approval based upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds:

- (a) That the Administrative Review Permit approval was fraudulently obtained or extended;
- (b) That one (1) or more of the conditions upon which such development approval was granted have been violated, and the applicable board finds that those violations are substantial in nature, unduly and negatively affecting neighboring property owners, or relating directly to public health, safety or welfare; or
- (c) That the use or facility for which the development approval was granted is so conducted or maintained as to be detrimental to the public health or safety, or as to be a public nuisance, or in the case of an Administrative Review Permit associated with a short-term rental, that unauthorized/unpermitted alteration of required life safety elements has occurred.

SECTION 10. General Terms.

1. All actions, proceedings, matters, and things heretofore taken, had and done by the County and its officers not inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are ratified and approved.
2. The Chairman of the Board and officers of the County are authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this Ordinance. The District Attorney is authorized to make non-substantive edits and corrections to this Ordinance.
3. All ordinances, resolutions, bylaws and orders, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent only of such inconsistency. This repealer shall not be construed to revive any ordinance, resolution, bylaw or order, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.
4. Each term and provision of this Ordinance shall be valid and shall be enforced to the extent permitted by law. If any term or provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof shall be deemed by a court of competent jurisdiction to be in violation of law or public policy, then it shall be deemed modified, ipso facto, to bring it within the limits of validity or enforceability, but if it cannot be so modified, then the offending provision or term shall be excised from this Ordinance. In any event, the remainder of this Ordinance, or the application of such term or provision to circumstances other than those to which it is invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected.

DRAFT: December 12, 2019

Passage and Effective Date

Proposed on \_\_\_\_\_ (month) \_\_\_\_\_ (day), 2020.

Proposed by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_.

Passed on \_\_\_\_\_ (month) \_\_\_\_\_ (day), 2020.

Vote:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent:

\_\_\_\_\_  
[ ], Chair  
County Commission

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Parent, County Clerk

This ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after the  
\_\_\_\_\_ day of the month of \_\_\_\_\_ of the year \_\_\_\_\_.



# Planning Commission Staff Report

Meeting Date: January 7, 2020

Agenda Item: 8B

DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENT CASE: WDCA19-0008 (Short-Term Rentals)

BRIEF SUMMARY OF REQUEST: To amend Washoe County Development Code Articles 302, 304, 306 and 410, and to create Articles 319 and 809 in order to establish standards and processes related to short-term rentals.

STAFF PLANNER: Kelly Mullin, AICP, Senior Planner, 775.328.3608, kmullin@washoecounty.us

## **DESCRIPTION**

For possible action, hearing, and discussion to amend Washoe County Code Chapter 110 (Development Code) within Article 302, *Allowed Uses*, to identify the types of review required for short-term rentals in each regulatory zone and to add an administrative review permit to the list of review types; within Article 304, *Use Classification System*, to update the residential use type description, add a definition for short-term rental, and update the definition for lodging services; and within Article 410, *Parking and Loading*, to update the off-street parking space requirements table to include a reference to short-term rentals. Chapter 110 would also be amended to create Article 319, *Short-Term Rentals (STRs)*, to establish standards, location limitations, defining unpermitted short-term rentals as nuisances, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, Tahoe area considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals; and to amend Article 306, *Accessory Uses and Structures*, by removing the procedural details for Administrative Review Permits, with those details being re-located into a new article that is updated to reflect minor changes related to short-term rentals. That article would be created as Article 809, *Administrative Review Permits*. Short-term rentals are a type of temporary lodging of brief duration operated out of private residences such as homes, apartments and condos. They are commonly made available through property management companies and online booking services, and are also referred to as vacation rentals that are generally booked for fewer than 28-days. The amendments may include the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing WCC chapters as a result of any new code language, and other matters necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto.

The Planning Commission may recommend approval of the proposed ordinance as submitted, recommend approval with modifications based on input and discussion at the public hearing, or recommend denial. Any material modifications that exceed the scope of the amendments being considered at this hearing may require continuation of the hearing for possible action at a future meeting.

## **POSSIBLE MOTION**

I move that, after giving reasoned consideration to the information contained in the staff report and information received during the public hearing, the Washoe County Planning Commission recommend approval of WDCA19-0008, to amend Washoe County Code Chapter 110 (Development Code) within Articles 302, 304, 306, and 410, and with new Articles 319 and 809 created as identified in Exhibit A. I further move to authorize the Chair to sign the resolution contained in Exhibit A on behalf of the Planning Commission and to direct staff to present a report of this Commission's recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners within 60 days of today's date. This recommendation for approval is based on the following four findings within Washoe County Code Section 110.818.15(e).

*(Motion with Findings on Page 12)*

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**Exhibit Contents**

Resolution with Proposed Amendment Language (Ch. 110) .....Exhibit A

Initiation Staff Report for Dec. 10, 2019 County Commission Meeting .....Exhibit B

Staff Report for Nov. 12, 2019 County Commission Meeting..... <https://bit.ly/2Kp5PoT>

Excerpt of minutes from Nov. 12, 2019 County Commission Meeting ..... Exhibit C

Public Comment Letters Received Since Nov. 12 Meeting..... Exhibit D

Summary Report of Feedback from Public Workshops and Online Survey .....Exhibit E

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**Process for Development Code Amendments**

The Washoe County Development Code is Chapter 110 of the Washoe County Code (WCC). The Development Code broadly regulates allowable and permitted land uses, subdivision of land, planning permit requirements and procedures, signage, infrastructure availability, land use development standards, and other related matters. Because the Development Code covers so many varying aspects of land use and development standards, it is expected that from time to time it may be necessary to change or amend one or more portions of the Development Code to keep it up to date with the most current and desirable trends in planning and development.

The Development Code amendment process provides a method of review and analysis for such proposed changes. Development Code amendments may be initiated by the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners (BCC), Planning Commission (PC), or an owner of real property. Development Code amendments are generally initiated by resolution of the BCC or PC. Real property owners may apply to initiate a Development Code amendment.

After initiation, the PC considers the proposed amendment in a public hearing. The PC may recommend approval, approval with modifications or denial of the proposed amendment. The PC records its recommendation by resolution. The BCC hears all amendments recommended for approval, and amendments recommended for denial upon appeal. The BCC will hold an introduction and first reading of the ordinance (proposed amendment), followed by a second reading and possible ordinance adoption in a public hearing at a second meeting at least two weeks after the first reading. Unless otherwise specified, ordinances are effective 10 days after adoption.

## **Background**

Short-term rentals (STRs) are a type of temporary lodging of brief duration operated out of private residences such as homes, apartments and condos. They are commonly available through property management companies and online booking services. They are also referred to as vacation rentals and generally booked for fewer than 28-days.

As with other industries affected by the sharing economy, the rise of online advertising platforms such as Airbnb and VRBO has disrupted the traditional lodging industry by expanding opportunities for the average homeowner to tap into the tourist market and offer their home for short-term rental use. Although vacation rentals have been available in various forms for decades, these newer technologies have led to expanded temporary lodging options and a greater awareness of the prevalence of short-term rentals in many communities. Along with that has come increased focus on the impacts of STRs on neighboring residents and the larger community. Washoe County, and especially the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area, is no exception.

Current unofficial estimates put the number of STRs in unincorporated Washoe County between roughly 500 and 1000 distinct units active at any given time, varying greatly with time of year. Over 90% are estimated to be located in Incline Village/Crystal Bay, and over 90% are whole-home rentals. At the high-end, STRs represent approximately 12.5% of housing stock in Incline Village/Crystal Bay. This is on par with other Tahoe-area jurisdictions, with the Mountain Housing Council estimating that STRs comprise 13.5% of housing stock in the Truckee/North Tahoe region.

Appropriate management of STRs is a complex and controversial issue with no simple solution. Stakeholders represent a variety of perspectives, often at opposite ends of the spectrum. Opinions range from a desire to see STRs completely banned within a community, to believing that they are a fundamental property owner right. At the root of these starkly different opinions is often the question of whether STRs are a residential use or a commercial use. Staff's research shows that jurisdictions and courts alike have differences of opinion on this matter, and that there is no clear consensus. After extensive research and review of public input, it is Washoe County staff's opinion that answering that question is a matter of thresholds. At lower occupancies, the use may easily be considered residential in nature, but still have characteristics requiring mitigation (as a sort of hybrid residential use). This is because, in general, the impacts on surrounding properties are expected to not be substantially different than if the property were used in the more traditionally long-term residential way. However, at higher occupancies, the impacts (ex. parking, noise, etc.) to neighboring properties are more likely to increase to a level that the use starts to appear less residential and more commercial in nature. In some cases, these impacts may be mitigated through more restrictive standards or conditions of approval. In other cases, they cannot. Some levels of occupancy may be so high that the STR would be inappropriate in residential areas, and more appropriate to be located in commercial areas, especially those that are tourist-oriented.

Most jurisdictions in southern Nevada and around Lake Tahoe have already established or are working to establish standards and a registration/permitting process for STRs in their communities. Due to the relative newness of standards for this type of use, there is limited consensus in how STRs are regulated, with dozens of regulatory options being employed across the U.S. to manage STRs. The most commonly regulated categories deal with quality of life issues such as noise, parking and trash.

The following text provides an overview of the various work that has been completed thus far, outreach that has occurred, and recommendations for the Planning Commission to consider.

## Process Overview

Due to the complexity of the issue, staff attempted to craft a methodical approach to recommending standards and a permitting process for STRs. This approach is designed with five distinct phases: (1) Project planning and research; (2) Structured public engagement; (3) Drafting and adoption of standards/processes; (4) Grace period, during which public outreach about the new requirements occurs, and technology/training are put into place to support the program; and (5) Program launch, after which STRs are required to meet standards and have appropriate permits to operate. Enforcement of the new requirements will begin during this phase. The project is currently in phase 3 (drafting and adoption of standards/processes). It is also expected that staff will conduct a re-review of standards and fees approximately 12-18 months after program launch in order to assess effectiveness.

## Planning, Research and First Steps

Following direction from the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) in February 2019, a core group of staff within the Community Services Department began conducting research aimed at better understanding the impacts of short-term rentals, possible strategies for addressing those impacts, legal and financial implications, technology innovations to help address community impacts, and the mechanisms that are most commonly used by cities and counties across the U.S.

The parameters and goals of the project were identified early in the planning process. Based on staff's understanding of the BCC's direction and a review of successful STR programs around the country, the following guiding principles were established:

- Create simple, fair and enforceable standards for STRs that reflect best practices and address impacts
- Maximize voluntary compliance
- Encourage safe accommodations for visitors
- Balance competing interests
- Establish a cost-neutral fee and fine structure

During the initial research stage, Washoe County also contracted with technology provider Host Compliance to provide three main services related to STRs: address identification (tying online advertisements from dozens of platforms to real addresses); a 24/7 complaint hotline; and, a mobile registration platform. Host Compliance provides STR enforcement assistance to over 200 local jurisdictions across the United States.

## Public Outreach and Engagement

A critical component of the project has been to identify the various stakeholder groups and better understand their perspectives on STRs. Generally speaking, these many stakeholders can be grouped into the following major categories: neighbor/community members; STR host and property managers/realtors; traditional lodging industry and business; and impacted regulatory agencies.

These categories are not exhaustive; however, they represent the majority of perspectives heard from so far. There were three major components of the initial public outreach process: (1) small-group, targeted stakeholder input meetings; (2) public workshops; and (3) an online survey.

Stakeholder input sessions: In July 2019, staff held a series of small-group stakeholder input sessions aimed at getting a better sense of the perspectives and priorities of those within each major stakeholder group. These meetings helped inform the topics and structure of later public

workshops. An informal working group of various agencies was also formed in order to better understand concerns and priorities from the regulatory perspective. The working group included representatives from the Sheriff's Office, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority (RSCVA), Washoe County Manager's Office, business license program, code enforcement program, planning program, and building program. Staff has had several follow-up meetings with many of these agencies/programs since the original working group meetings, as well as with the Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID), Washoe County Health District and District Attorney's Office.

Public workshops: In August 2019, two public workshops were held in Incline Village and one in Reno. There were approximately 250-300+ attendees across the three workshops (some participants attended more than one workshop). These were structured to better understand the priorities and concerns of workshop attendees, and to solicit possible solutions to address these concerns.

Online survey: An online survey was offered as an alternative or supplement to the in-person workshops. The survey was structured similarly to the workshops in terms of asking participants to identify their top areas of concern related to STRs and future standards/permitting processes, provide additional details about those concerns, and offer possible solutions. There were **569** survey responses. About **70%** of respondents represented a neighbor/community perspective, while about **20%** represented the STR host or property manager perspective.

Public response for workshops and survey: Staff's goal during the public outreach process was to identify major concerns of each of the stakeholder groups and, wherever possible, pinpoint areas of overlap. A summary of feedback received via the workshops and online survey has been provided as Exhibit E. An analysis of the input received revealed several recurring themes, including:

- Top areas of concern were related to occupancy limits, the permitting process, noise and parking.
- There is general community support for regulating STRs. However, respondents vary drastically on the extent of standards that should be put in place.
- It is critical that regulations established for STRs be enforced.
- Property managers believe their existing rules for the STRs they manage are strict and adequately regulated through their state license.
- Many residents, especially in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area, believe STRs are commercial businesses operated by non-residents of the community.
- Many hosts believe better renter education will help mitigate existing issues and are concerned that responsible hosts will be penalized for the actions of irresponsible hosts.

### **Proposed Amendments**

Based on the significant research conducted by staff, extensive public input, BCC input, and an analysis of potential regulatory mechanisms and options for Washoe County, staff created a series of recommendations that were heard by the BCC at their Nov. 12, 2019 meeting, where they provided policy direction (staff report available at <https://bit.ly/2Kp5PoT> and the minutes of the meeting are provided as Exhibit C). Draft code language was subsequently created and made available for a 21-day public comment period, the results of which are attached as Exhibit D. Limited changes were made to the initial draft ordinance as a result of the public comment period; however, the PC is encouraged to review and consider the comments in their entirety. The following changes were made to the initial draft: incorporating the provisions of NRS 244.1545 regarding the duties of hosting platforms; translating existing regulatory zones to

those proposed as part of the new Tahoe Area Plan (expected to be adopted in 2020), and other minor edits.

Draft code language for Chapter 110 (Development Code) has been provided with Exhibit A and summarized on the following pages. Additional code changes related to enforcement have been created for Chapters 125 (Administrative Enforcement Code) and 50 (Public Peace, Safety and Morals); however, administration of those chapters is outside the purview of the PC and therefore not included for review here. Changes to those chapters will be reviewed directly by the BCC.

### General Standards

- Every STR must have a designated 24/7 agent or property manager available through a single phone number who shall respond to complaints/issues within 30 minutes of contact.
- No events or other gatherings (ex. parties, weddings, etc.) are allowed that would exceed the on-site maximum occupancy associated with the short-term rental permit.
- Permittee must be the property owner.
- Limited to one STR per parcel; must be a permanent, habitable dwelling unit (i.e. no RVs/boats). The per-parcel limitation is due, in part, to ensure better enforcement capability.
- STR may be rented to only one group/person at a time (ex. renting out five individual rooms to five separate parties would not be permitted).
- Advertising for an STR is prohibited unless a valid STR permit has been issued.
- Advertisements must include the Washoe County permit number, room tax license number, maximum occupancy as allowed by the permit, number of bedrooms, number of beds (cannot exceed max. occupancy), and number of parking spaces.
- Must comply with all other federal, state, and other applicable laws/statutes, and issuance of a County STR permit does not relieve the property owner of compliance with applicable regulations, including CC&Rs or HOA restrictions.
- Existing STRs are not grandfathered; they must apply for and be issued a County STR permit in order to operate.
- Applicable room tax must be paid to the RSCVA.

### Permitting

- An STR permit will be considered similar to a privileged license in that revocation can occur without Board action for issues such as non-payment of fees and noncompliance. Any revocations would provide for appropriate and timely administrative appellate review.
- STR permits must be renewed annually. Property owners should be aware that standards are subject to change over time and that there is no guarantee a permit will be renewed.
- **Three permitting tiers are proposed.** These tiers are intended to recognize that below certain thresholds, and with appropriate standards in place, an STR is expected to reasonably function similarly to other residential uses. However, as occupancy increases, impacts to surrounding properties have the potential to increase. In these cases, further scrutiny may be necessary to determine if the scale of the proposed STR is appropriate on the specific property and if additional mitigation can reduce potential impacts to a reasonable level.
  - **Tier 1:** STRs with a maximum occupancy of 10 persons or less; standard STR permit required. (*Note:* 10 or fewer is a common break point for uses like group homes and within the International Building Code's "R" occupancy.)
  - **Tier 2:** STRs with a maximum occupancy of 11-20 persons; discretionary permit required in most regulatory zones.

- **Tier 3:** STRs with a maximum occupancy of 21 or more persons; acceptable only in areas where hotels/motels allowed; with discretionary permit; requires commercial standards.

## Parking

Inadequate parking is one of the most frequently cited complaints associated with STRs – both across the nation and in the feedback heard from Washoe County residents. This is especially prevalent in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area, where on-street parking can be severely limited or nonexistent. In order to reduce potential impacts to neighboring properties, the following parking standards are proposed:

- No STR parking is allowed in the right-of-way.
- One parking space is required for every four proposed occupants. *Note:* In a study conducted for the Incline Village General Improvement District, visitors in the winter were found to average approximately 2.5 people per vehicle. In the summer, this average increased to 4 people per vehicle.
- All parking spaces must be improved to Washoe County standards (or Tahoe Regional Planning Agency standards, if applicable) and developed on-site, within property boundaries. In multi-unit complexes, parking must be in designated parking spaces (if applicable) and limited to the number of spaces allotted to the unit.

It should be noted that parking may be limited by available TRPA coverage, and that staff's recommendation is that such limitations should not result in standards being waived. Additionally, inability to develop the appropriate number of parking spaces on-site may limit the number of occupants allowed by the STR permit. However, under certain limited circumstances where flexibility may be warranted, the Director of the Planning and Building Division would have the authority to modify the location of required parking spaces.

## Occupancy Limits

Establishing occupancy limits also has the potential to reduce some of the major impacts commonly associated with short-term rentals. Proposed limits are based on the International Code Council's International Property Maintenance Code, which is a well-recognized code generally addressing building safety standards in the United States and across the world. Proposed limits are as follows:

- Bedrooms intended for one occupant must be a minimum of 70 sq. ft. in size.
- Bedrooms intended for two occupants must be a minimum of 100 sq. ft. in size, with an additional 50 sq. ft. required for each additional occupant.
- Other areas proposed for sleeping purposes, such as living rooms, would require a minimum of 200 sq. ft. for each occupant.
- Each of these areas would be required to have minimum safety features in order to qualify. No distinction would be made based on the age of the occupant.
- No distinction would be made between daytime occupancy and nighttime occupancy, as impacts would be expected to be similar.

It should also be noted that occupancy may be further limited by the available number of parking spaces.

## Safety and Inspections

Washoe County staff has been working with both the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District to discuss fire and life safety concerns associated with STRs. As visitors to a short-term rental are less likely to be familiar with a home than

someone living in it, basic fire and life safety minimums are proposed to be required. The following summarizes proposed safety standards:

- Safety minimums include requirements for adequate smoke and carbon monoxide detectors; fire extinguishers; adequate egress; well-maintained fireplaces, electrical outlets/systems, hot tubs, deck railings, etc. Additional minimums may be proposed for occupancies over 10 during discretionary permit review processes.
- Defensible space inspection will be required; to be conducted by the applicable fire agency.
- Basic structure safety inspection will be required; to be conducted by Washoe County building inspectors, with the exception that items such as sprinkler or fire alarm systems (if applicable) would be inspected by fire staff. Inspection must be passed prior to issuance of STR permit.
- Unscheduled inspections may occur if building or fire inspectors have reason to believe occupancy has been exceeded or a life safety issue is present.

### **External Signage**

To ease enforcement, ensure nuisance issues can be more quickly addressed, and help first responders more quickly assess occupancy, the following signage standards are proposed.

- While the STR is being rented, information shall be displayed on the outside of the unit that includes the Washoe County STR permit number, occupancy limit, complaint hotline and local STR agent/property manager contact number.
- No advertising signage is permitted.

### **Noise**

Excessive noise, parties and loud music are some of the other most commonly heard complaints associated with short-term rentals. This was also a significant concern noted by County residents at the public workshops and in the online survey. Noise issues can also be one of the most difficult types of complaints to address. Many jurisdictions have established quiet hours for STRs. Opponents argue that if quiet hours are important, they should be established for all members of the community, not just STRs. However, it can also be argued that occupancies of STRs are often higher than that of neighboring residences and that transient guests may not be as familiar with or respectful of community norms associated with noise.

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office has indicated there have been 64 calls for service related to noise in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area in the past year, with three citations issued. It is understood that there is limited staffing by the Sheriff's Office in the Incline area, and that calls for service related to noise will have a lower priority than many other service types. Although the 24/7 STR complaint hotline by Host Compliance is expected to help with noise impacts, noise is still a concern.

Establishing quiet hours specifically for STRs is recommended by staff. Additionally, due to the difficulty with noise enforcement, staff would like to provide an additional mechanism for consideration. Decibel-monitoring devices are a technology being used by some property managers to ensure their transient guests are respectful of the community. They monitor decibel-levels only; there are no audio recordings. These are also a tool that can be used by a jurisdiction to better track STRs with repeated noise complaints. The City of Henderson recently adopted standards requiring these devices to be used as part of an STR's overall noise management plan. Staff recommends they be required for STRs with two confirmed noise violations.

- Quiet hours 10 p.m. – 7 a.m.
- After a second confirmed noise violation, an STR must be equipped with decibel-monitoring devices with reporting capability. Records must be available for County review.

### Trash

In mid-2017, Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID) established a zero-tolerance policy related to proper trash disposal in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area. IVGID staff patrols the community to ensure standards are being followed and educate or cite where necessary. IVGID has indicated that since the program started, trash violations have dropped significantly. With that in mind, the following trash standards for STRs are proposed:

- Trash must be managed as prescribed by Health District, Waste Management and IVGID (if applicable). Cart size must be sufficient to store waste for maximum number of occupants each week.
- STRs in IVGID service territory and other bear-prone areas must utilize wildlife-resistant carts and/or bear boxes, except in multi-family developments where HOAs require and enforce regular trash disposal.
- Trash violations confirmed by IVGID count as a violation against the STR and may incur both IVGID penalties and Washoe County STR permit penalties.
- Carts shall only be placed street-side during the timeframes stipulated by the local authority or waste hauler.

### Other Standards

Several workshop and survey participants voiced concerns that most standard homeowner policies do not cover STR use. It is common for other jurisdictions to require STR-specific liability insurance, and the following additional standards are recommended:

- Certificate of insurance is required identifying that the property is used as a short-term rental and provides \$500,000 minimum liability coverage per occurrence.
- Educational material provided in unit must contain: community evacuation routes; fire safety info (ex. BBQ operation, proper cigarette and ash disposal, community fire danger, etc.); bear awareness brochure (if applicable); noise, trash and parking standards, occupancy limits, etc.

### Enforcement and Revocation

A three-pronged approach to enforcement is proposed:

- Licensing: Proactively identify unlicensed STRs and pursue licensing compliance; cite, fine and, if necessary, lien non-compliant property owners who continue to operate an STR without the appropriate permit in place. It should be noted that this approach is a departure from current complaint-based code enforcement practices; however, it is considered a necessary component of a successful STR program.
- Inspections: Required upon initial permit application and annually thereafter. Safety minimums must be in place in order to obtain an STR permit and operate.
- Operational: Confirmed violations will result in fines and potential penalties such as permit revocation. The 24/7 complaint hotline (via Host Compliance) will log citizen-initiated complaints and immediately contact the STR's local responsible party for resolution.

More than three confirmed separate violations in any six-month period will result in permit revocation and a 12-month cooling off period whereby the property is ineligible to obtain an STR permit and operate a short-term rental. To increase program effectiveness and reduce time

leading to compliance, no BCC action will be required for this type of revocation (unless on appeal).

### **Other Items for Consideration**

There are several other items the Commission may wish to be aware of during their consideration of this topic.

#### *Permit Fees*

A cost-neutral fee structure has been recommended to the BCC to ensure, to the extent possible, that implementation and enforcement of the short-term rental program is paid for by those who own and operate STRs. Thus, the fee structure will be designed to incorporate costs such as: safety and fire inspections; permit processing and review; Host Compliance software and services; enforcement of non-licensed STRs and violations of STR standards, etc. It is expected that this fee structure would be reassessed after the first 12-18 months of operation in order to ensure costs are appropriately covered, and to propose adjustments at that time if necessary. Proposed fees will be reviewed and set directly by the BCC.

#### *Fines*

Although the BCC will be directly reviewing proposed fines, the PC may find the following context useful. Research related to STRs has made it clear that fines and penalties must be significant enough to deter violations; otherwise, it may just be considered the cost of doing business for an operator. Washoe County's current code enforcement approach for land use violations is focused more on achieving compliance rather than penalizing the property owner. Therefore, current fines for Development Code violations are set relatively low and are considered insufficient to deter STR violations. As a result, staff will be proposing a higher fine structure, with unpaid fines becoming liens against the property.

#### *Staffing Needs*

At least one additional code enforcement staff member is expected to be needed to assist with implementation and enforcement of the program. Standard building safety inspections will be conducted by existing Washoe County Building Inspectors. Fire inspectors from the applicable fire district are anticipated to inspect defensible space and, if applicable, smoke alarm and/or sprinkler systems. The cost of such inspections will be paid for by the STR applicant. Host Compliance's services will be used for matching advertisements to real addresses, the 24/7 complaint hotline and establishment of the mobile registration platform.

#### *Room Tax*

The Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA) requires hosts of STRs to obtain a transient lodging tax (aka room tax) license. As part of this project, staff will be investigating opportunities to reduce potential overlap in the permitting processes between the two organizations.

#### *Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA)*

TRPA recently established a list of regulatory options for jurisdictions to apply to STRs within the Tahoe Basin in order to meet TRPA goals and policies. These will be considered a third criterion in TRPA's scoring system for awarding residential allocations to jurisdictions around Lake Tahoe. The focus is largely on locational, operational and enforcement parameters. Washoe County has been actively involved in these conversations with TRPA. County staff's recommendations for STRs are expected to meet many of the parameters laid out by TRPA.

## *Demographics*

With the highest concentration of STRs located in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay portion of Washoe County, there has been some interest in the demographics of that area. The following information was pulled from 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for zip code 89451, which represents most, but not all of the area. This information is provided to paint a general picture only. There are approximately 7,800 dwelling units, with approximately 52% comprised of single-family detached homes. The area is characterized by a large contingent of second homes, and just under 53% of the dwelling units are classified by the U.S. Census Bureau as vacant. Slightly more than 34% of the homes are owner-occupied. 75% of the homes were built prior to 1990. The average household size of owner-occupied homes is 2.08. The average household size of long-term renter-occupied homes is 3.02. Approximately 74% of residents moved into their home in the year 2000 or later. Just under 93% of the homes have four bedrooms or fewer.

### *Standards for Incline Village/Crystal Bay vs. Rest of Washoe County*

It is important to note that many residents in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area requested that STR standards within the Tahoe Basin be different than those in the rest of Washoe County. The majority of STRs in the County are located in Incline Village/Crystal Bay and therefore most recommendations were drafted with that area primarily in mind. Regional adjustments are included in the proposed code language for items such as wildlife-resistant carts in bear-prone areas, variations in defensible space requirements/inspections, TRPA parking standards, and regulatory zone differences within the new Tahoe Area Plan (expected to be adopted in 2020).

### *Incline Village/Crystal Bay Citizen Advisory Board Meeting*

The Incline Village/Crystal Bay Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) requested that the topic of STRs be presented at one of their meetings. An overview of the proposed recommendations was provided to the CAB on Dec. 12, 2019, where there were approximately 20 people present. The minutes of the meeting will be provided as an addendum to this staff report when they are available. In general, questions and comments during the meeting covered the following areas: protection of the Lake Tahoe watershed; bear and trash concerns; parking needs; transient lodging tax distribution and use; responsible hosting of STRs; residential use vs. commercial use; compliance with Nevada Revised Statutes; density concerns; impacts on infrastructure; enforcement/response capabilities; role of property managers; STR permitting process, including tiered approach; noise complaint resolution; program costs; data to support recommendations; and renter education.

## **Findings**

Washoe County Code Section 110.818.15(e) requires the Planning Commission to make **at least one** of the following findings of fact. Staff has completed an evaluation for each of the findings of fact and recommends that the Planning Commission make all four findings in support of the proposed amendment.

1. **Consistency with Master Plan.** The proposed Development Code amendment is in substantial compliance with the policies and action programs of the Washoe County Master Plan.

**Staff comment:** As proposed, the amendments do not conflict with the policies and action programs of the Master Plan and are designed to be compatible with the current draft of the new Tahoe Area Plan expected to be adopted in 2020.

2. Promotes the Purpose of the Development Code. The proposed Development Code amendment will not adversely impact the public health, safety or welfare, and will promote the original purposes for the development code as expressed in Article 918, Adoption of Development Code.

*Staff comment:* The intent of this code amendment is to identify and address the impacts of STRs by regulating their use and creating a permitting/enforcement process. These changes are intended to reduce potential adverse impacts of STRs on public health, safety and welfare.

3. Response to Changed Conditions. The proposed Development Code amendment responds to changed conditions or further studies that have occurred since the Development Code was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, and the requested amendment allow for a more desirable utilization of land within the regulatory zones.

*Staff comment:* The proposed changes are a direct result of the increased awareness and use of short-term rentals in unincorporated Washoe County, and the BCC's recognition that their impacts must be addressed.

4. No Adverse Effects. The proposed Development Code amendment will not adversely affect the implementation of the policies and action programs of the Conservation Element or the Population Element of the Washoe County Master Plan.

*Staff comment:* The amendments are designed to address impacts of an existing use currently unregulated within Washoe County. They reflect several of the recommendations of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency related to neighborhood compatibility and are not expected to adversely impact the policies of the Master Plan Elements.

### **Public Notice**

Pursuant to WCC Section 110.818.20, notice of this public hearing was published in the newspaper at least 10 days prior to this meeting, and the Chair and membership of all Citizen Advisory Boards were likewise notified of the public hearing. Staff can provide proof of notification if requested.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Planning Commission recommend approval of WDCA19-0008, to amend the Development Code as described in this staff report, with the details provided in Exhibit A. The following motion is provided for your consideration.

### **Motion**

I move that, after giving reasoned consideration to the information contained in the staff report and information received during the public hearing, the Washoe County Planning Commission recommend approval of WDCA19-0008, to amend Washoe County Code Chapter 110 (Development Code) within Articles 302, 304, 306, and 410, and with new Articles 319 and 809 created as identified in Exhibit A. I further move to authorize the Chair to sign the resolution contained in Exhibit A on behalf of the Planning Commission and to direct staff to present a report of this Commission's recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners within 60 days of today's date. This recommendation for approval is based on the following four findings within Washoe County Code Section 110.818.15(e):

1. Consistency with Master Plan. The proposed Development Code amendment is in substantial compliance with the policies and action programs of the Washoe County Master Plan;
2. Promotes the Purpose of the Development Code. The proposed Development Code amendment will not adversely impact the public health, safety or welfare, and will promote the original purposes for the Development Code as expressed in Article 918, Adoption of Development Code;
3. Response to Changed Conditions. The proposed Development Code amendment responds to changed conditions or further studies that have occurred since the Development Code was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, and the requested amendment allow for a more desirable utilization of land within the regulatory zones; and,
4. No Adverse Effects. The proposed Development Code amendment will not adversely affect the implementation of the policies and action programs of the Conservation Element or the Population Element of the Washoe County Master Plan.

### **Appeal Process**

An appeal of the Planning Commission's denial of a Development Code amendment may be made to the Washoe County Board of Commissioners within 10 calendar days from the date that the Planning Commission's decision is filed with the Secretary to the Planning Commission, pursuant to Washoe County Code Sections 110.818.25 and 110.912.20.

xc: David Solaro, Assistant County Manager  
Nathan Edwards, Deputy District Attorney  
Mojra Hauenstein, Planning and Building Division Director



## RESOLUTION OF THE WASHOE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO WASHOE COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 110 (DEVELOPMENT CODE) WITHIN ARTICLE 302, ALLOWED USES, TO IDENTIFY THE TYPES OF REVIEW REQUIRED FOR SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN EACH REGULATORY ZONE AND TO ADD AN ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PERMIT TO THE LIST OF REVIEW TYPES; WITHIN ARTICLE 304, USE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM, TO UPDATE THE RESIDENTIAL USE TYPE DESCRIPTION, ADD A DEFINITION FOR SHORT-TERM RENTAL, AND UPDATE THE DEFINITION FOR LODGING SERVICES; AND WITHIN ARTICLE 410, PARKING AND LOADING, TO UPDATE THE OFF-STREET PARKING SPACE REQUIREMENTS TABLE TO INCLUDE A REFERENCE TO SHORT-TERM RENTALS. CHAPTER 110 WOULD ALSO BE AMENDED TO CREATE ARTICLE 319, SHORT-TERM RENTALS (STRS), TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS, LOCATION LIMITATIONS, DEFINING UNPERMITTED SHORT-TERM RENTALS AS NUISANCES, OCCUPANCY LIMITS, PARKING REQUIREMENTS, SAFETY/SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS, SIGNAGE, NOISE THRESHOLDS, TRASH/GARBAGE COLLECTION RULES, INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS, TAHOE AREA CONSIDERATIONS, PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS, ENFORCEMENT PROCESS, FEES, FINES, AND PENALTIES ASSOCIATED WITH SHORT-TERM RENTALS; AND TO AMEND ARTICLE 306, ACCESSORY USES AND STRUCTURES, BY REMOVING THE PROCEDURAL DETAILS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PERMITS, WITH THOSE DETAILS BEING RE-LOCATED INTO A NEW ARTICLE THAT IS UPDATED TO REFLECT MINOR CHANGES RELATED TO SHORT-TERM RENTALS. THAT ARTICLE WOULD BE CREATED AS ARTICLE 809, ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PERMITS. SHORT-TERM RENTALS ARE A TYPE OF TEMPORARY LODGING OF BRIEF DURATION OPERATED OUT OF PRIVATE RESIDENCES SUCH AS HOMES, APARTMENTS AND CONDOS. THEY ARE COMMONLY MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMPANIES AND ONLINE BOOKING SERVICES, AND ARE ALSO REFERRED TO AS VACATION RENTALS THAT ARE GENERALLY BOOKED FOR FEWER THAN 28-DAYS. THE AMENDMENTS MAY INCLUDE THE RESOLUTION OF DISCREPANCIES THAT MAY ARISE WITHIN EXISTING WCC CHAPTERS AS A RESULT OF ANY NEW CODE LANGUAGE, AND OTHER MATTERS NECESSARILY CONNECTED THEREWITH AND PERTAINING THERETO.

Resolution Number 20-01

### WHEREAS

- A. Pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners initiated amendments to Washoe County Code Chapter 110 (Development Code), on December 10, 2019 as fully described in Exhibit A-1 to this resolution; and
- B. Development Code Amendment Case Number WDCA19-0008, came before the Washoe County Planning Commission for a duly noticed public hearing on January 7, 2020; and
- C. The Washoe County Planning Commission gave reasoned consideration to the information it received regarding the proposed Development Code Amendment; and

- D. Whereas, pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 110.818.15(e), the Washoe County Planning Commission made the following findings necessary to support its recommendation for adoption of the proposed Development Code Amendment Case Number WDCA19-0008:
1. Consistency with Master Plan. The proposed amendment is in substantial compliance with the policies and action programs of the Washoe County Master Plan;
  2. Promotes the Purpose of the Development Code. The proposed Development Code amendment will not adversely impact the public health, safety or welfare, and will promote the original purposes for the Development Code as expressed in Article 918, Adoption of Development Code;
  3. Response to Changed Conditions. The proposed Development Code amendment responds to changed conditions or further studies that have occurred since the Development Code was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, and the requested amendment allow for a more desirable utilization of land within the regulatory zones; and,
  4. No Adverse Effects. The proposed Development Code amendment will not adversely affect the implementation of the policies and action programs of the Conservation Element or the Population Element of the Washoe County Master Plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washoe County Planning Commission recommends approval of the ordinance attached hereto as Exhibit A-1.

A report describing this amendment, discussion at this public hearing, this recommendation, and the vote on the recommendation will be forwarded to the Washoe County Board of Commissioners within 60 days of this resolution's adoption date.

ADOPTED on January 7, 2020.

WASHOE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

ATTEST:

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Trevor Lloyd, Secretary

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Larry Chesney, Chair

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WORKING COPY  
INFORMATION ONLY

REGULAR TEXT: NO CHANGE IN LANGUAGE

~~STRIKEOUT TEXT: DELETE LANGUAGE~~

**BOLD TEXT: NEW LANGUAGE**

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Notice: Per NRS 239B.030, this document does not contain personal information as defined in NRS 603A.040

**Summary:** *Establishes standards for short-term rentals, including, but not limited to the establishment of definitions, standards, location limitations, defining unpermitted short-term rentals as nuisances, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, Tahoe area considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals, as well as the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing Washoe County Code chapters as a result of any new code language.*

BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Title:

An ordinance amending the Washoe County Code at Chapter 110 (Development Code), within Article 302, Allowed Uses, to identify the types of review required for short-term rentals in each regulatory zone and to add an administrative review permit to the list of review types; within Article 304, Use Classification System, to update the residential use type description, add a definition for short-term rental, and update the definition for lodging services; and within Article 410, Parking and Loading, to update the off-street parking space requirements table to include a reference to short-term rentals. Chapter 110 would also be amended to create Article 319, Short-Term Rentals (STRs), to establish standards, location limitations, defining unpermitted short-term rentals as nuisances, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, Tahoe area

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considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals; and to amend Article 306, Accessory Uses and Structures, by removing the procedural details for Administrative Review Permits, with those details being re-located into a new article that is updated to reflect minor changes related to short-term rentals. That article would be created as Article 809, Administrative Review Permits. Short-term rentals are a type of temporary lodging of brief duration operated out of private residences such as homes, apartments and condos. They are commonly made available through property management companies and online booking services, and are also referred to as vacation rentals that are generally booked for fewer than 28-days. The amendments may include the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing WCC chapters as a result of any new code language, and other matters necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto.

WHEREAS:

- A. This Commission desires to amend and create articles within the Washoe County Development Code (Chapter 110) in order to establish standards and processes for short-term rentals; and,
- B. Pursuant to Washoe County Code Section 2.030, this Commission initiated the proposed amendments to Washoe County Code Chapter 110, Development Code, on December 10, 2019; and,
- C. The amendments and this ordinance were drafted in concert with the District Attorney, and the Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing for WDCA19-0008 January 7, 2020 and adopted Resolution Number 20-01 recommending adoption of this ordinance; and,
- D. Following a first reading and publication as required by NRS 244.100 (1), and after a duly noticed public hearing, this Commission desires to adopt this Ordinance; and,
- E. This Commission has determined that this ordinance is being adopted pursuant to requirements set forth in Chapter 278 of NRS, therefore it is not a "rule" as defined in NRS 237.060 requiring a business impact statement; however, one has been provided.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHOE COUNTY DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:

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SECTION 1. The first paragraph of Washoe County Code Section 110.304.15, *Residential Use Types*, is hereby amended as follows:

Section 110.304.15 Residential Use Types. Residential use types include the occupancy of living accommodations, ~~on a wholly or primarily non-transient basis~~ but exclude institutional living arrangements providing twenty-four-hour skilled nursing, **custodial** or medical care and those providing forced residence, such as asylums and prisons.

SECTION 2. Section 110.304.15, *Residential Use Types*, is hereby amended to add new sub-section (d) with the following definitions:

**(d) Short-term rental. Short-term rental (STR) refers to existing single-family dwelling units where, for compensation, lodging is provided within either the entire home or a portion of the home for a rental period of less than 28-days. STRs may be permitted to operate out of legally permitted, permanent dwelling units or accessory dwelling units in accordance with the standards within Article 319. Short-term rentals are distinguishable from commercial lodging use types in that no meals may be provided within short-term rentals as part of the rental agreement and the home may only be rented out for short-term rental use to one group at a time. STRs are also often referred to as vacation rentals and are commonly made available through property management companies or online booking platforms. The following are short-term rental use types:**

- (1) Tier 1 Short-Term Rental. A Tier 1 STR has a maximum occupancy of 10 persons or fewer.**
- (2) Tier 2 Short-Term Rental. A Tier 2 STR has a maximum occupancy of 11-20 persons and due to its higher occupancy, may require additional limitations to ensure compatibility with surrounding residential properties.**
- (3) Tier 3 Short-Term Rental. A Tier 3 STR has a maximum occupancy of 21 or more persons. This highest tier of STRs is still operated out of a pre-existing dwelling unit, but due to the high number of occupants, is expected to have more significant impacts to surrounding properties. As a result, it is considered inappropriate to be located in residential regulatory zones, but may be appropriate on properties with commercial regulatory zones that are located nearer tourist and commercial services.**

SECTION 3. The first paragraph of Section 110.304.25(u), *Lodging Services*, is hereby amended as follows:

**(u) Lodging Services. Lodging services use type refers to establishments primarily engaged in the provision of lodging on a less-than-weekly basis with incidental food, drink, and other sales or services intended for the convenience of guests, **including common facilities**, but excludes those **establishments** classified under residential group home, **short-term rental** and commercial recreation. The following are lodging services use types:**

SECTION 4. Section 110.302.15, *Types of Review*, is hereby amended as follows:

Section 110.302.15 Types of Review. Table 110.302.05.1 through Table 110.302.05.5 indicate the types of review required as follows:

**(a) Allowed Use. A letter "A" indicates that a use is allowed, but the use shall comply with the provisions of the Development Code.**

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- (b) Administrative Permit. A letter "P" indicates that a use is allowed only upon approval of an administrative permit pursuant to Article 808, Administrative Permits.
- (c) Planning Commission Special Use Permit. A letter "S<sub>1</sub>" indicates that a use is allowed only upon approval of a special use permit approved by the Planning Commission pursuant to Article 810, Special Use Permits.
- (d) Board of Adjustment Special Use Permit. A letter "S<sub>2</sub>" indicates that a use is allowed only upon approval of a special use permit approved by the Board of Adjustment pursuant to Article 810, Special Use Permits.
- (e) Uses Not Allowed. A designation "--" indicates that a use is not allowed within the regulatory zone.
- (f) Administrative Review. A designation "AR" indicates that a use is allowed only upon approval of an administrative review permit pursuant to Article 809, Administrative Review Permits.

SECTION 5. Table 110.302.05.1, *Table of Uses (Residential Use Types)*, is hereby amended as follows:

Table 110.302.05.1

**TABLE OF USES (Residential Use Types)**  
(See Sections 110.302.10 and 110.302.15 for explanation)

Residential Use Types (Section 110.304.15)	LDR	MDR	HDR	LDS/ LDS 2	MDS/ MDS 4	HDS	LDU	MDU	HDU	GC	NC	TC	I	PSP	PR	OS	GR	GRA
Family Residential																		
Attached Accessory Dwelling	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	A	A
Detached Accessory Dwelling	AR	AR	AR	AR	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	A	A
Detached Accessory Structure	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	--	A	--	--	--	--	--	A	A
Duplex	--	--	--	P	P	P	P	P	A	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Multi Family	--	--	--	--	--	--	P	P	A	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Single Family, Attached	--	--	--	A	A	A	A	A	A	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	P	--	--	A
Single Family, Detached	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	P	--	A	A
Non-municipal Air Strips and Glider Ports (Accessory Use)	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--
Personal Landing Field (Accessory Use)	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--
Manufactured Home Parks	*	*	*	*	*	S <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>2</sub>	*	*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	--
Group Home	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	--	S <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	P	--	A	A
<b>Short-Term Rental (see Article 319)</b>	<b>Note: All of the below STR Tiers require the issuance of an STR permit, regardless of required review process.</b>																	
<b>Tier 1</b>	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	-	-	-	-	A	A
<b>Tier 2</b>	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	AR	A	AR	A	-	-	-	-	AR	AR
<b>Tier 3</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	-

Key: -- = Not allowed; A = Allowed; AR = Administrative Review pursuant to Section 110.306.25(i); P = Administrative Permit; PR = Park Commission Approval pursuant to 110.104.40(c); S<sub>1</sub> = Planning Commission Special Use Permit; S<sub>2</sub> = Board of Adjustment Special Use Permit; \* = Allowed with a Board of Adjustment Special Use Permit in areas designated Trailer (TR) Overlay zone prior to adoption of this Development Code.

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SECTION 6. Section 110.410.10.1, *Off-Street Parking Space Requirements (Residential Use Types)*, is hereby amended as follows:

Table 110.410.10.1

**OFF-STREET PARKING SPACE REQUIREMENTS (Residential Use Types)**  
(See Section 110.410.10 for explanation)

<b>Residential Use Types (Section 110.304.15)</b>	<b>Spaces Required</b>
Family Residential	
Attached Accessory Dwelling	1 per attached accessory dwelling unit, in addition to other required spaces
Detached Accessory Dwelling	1 per detached accessory dwelling unit, in addition to other required spaces
Detached Accessory Structure	None
Duplex	2 per dwelling unit, 1 of which must be in an enclosed garage
Fabricated Home	*2 per fabricated home
Multi Family	1.6 for 1 bedroom units, 2.1 for 2 bedroom and larger units; 1 of which must be in an enclosed garage or carport
Single Family Attached	2 per dwelling unit, 1 of which must be in an enclosed garage
Single Family Detached	2 per dwelling unit, 1 of which must be in an enclosed garage
Manufactured Home Parks	1.5 per manufactured home, plus 1 per 5 units for guest parking
Group Home	.25 per bed, plus 1 per employee during peak employment shift
<b>Short-Term Rental (All Tiers)</b>	<b>As identified in Article 319, <i>Short-Term Rentals (STRs)</i></b>

Note: \* = Article 312, Fabricated Housing, may require 1 parking space to be in an enclosed garage or carport.

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SECTION 7. WCC Chapter 110, Article 319, *Short-Term Rentals (STRs)*, is hereby established as a new article as follows:

## Article 319

# SHORT-TERM RENTALS (STRs)

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### Sections:

110.319.00	Purpose
110.319.05	Applicability
110.319.10	Requirements for Application
110.319.15	Standards
110.319.20	Safety Standards
110.319.25	Permit Fees
110.319.30	Enforcement
110.319.35	Inspections
110.319.40	Permit Revocation
110.319.45	Duties of Hosting Platforms

**Section 110.319.00 Purpose.** The purpose of Article 319, *Short-Term Rentals*, is to allow for the inclusion of short-term rentals (STRs) in legally permitted homes within unincorporated areas of Washoe County. The purpose is also to establish standards and a permitting process governing the operation of STRs in order to reduce their potential impacts on neighboring properties. At higher thresholds, such as with Tier 2 and Tier 3 STRs as defined in Section 110.304.15(d), STRs may require additional mitigation. At the highest thresholds, such as with Tier 3 STRs, their anticipated impacts cause them to only be appropriate in areas where hotels and motels are allowed. Enforcement and revocation policies are intended to ensure that mechanisms are in place to allow for streamlined revocation of an STR permit when standards are repeatedly violated, and/or to levy stringent fines when an STR operates without the appropriate permits.

**Section 110.319.05 Applicability.** The provisions of this article shall apply to uses classified as short-term rentals in Article 304, *Use Classification System*. Standards within this article are applicable to properties advertising for an STR, permitted for an STR, and/or proven to be engaging in STR activity, regardless of whether occupants at any given time have entered into an STR lease. If a property ceases to operate as an STR, removes any advertisement of the STR, and relinquishes the STR permit, then the property shall revert to the applicable residential use type.

- (a) **Within the Boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan.** This sub-section becomes applicable upon adoption of an updated Tahoe Area Plan that replaces existing regulatory zones with alternative designations. Prior to adoption of alternative regulatory zones for the Tahoe planning area, the provisions of subsection (b) below will apply.
- (1) **Tier 1.** Tier 1 STRs are considered an allowed use, subject to the issuance of an STR Permit, in all regulatory zones where single family and multiple family dwellings are permitted (allowed by right or otherwise.)
- (2) **Tier 2.** Tier 2 STRs are permitted subject to the issuance of an STR Permit with Administrative Review Permit in all regulatory zones where single family and multiple family dwellings are permitted (allowed by right or otherwise.)

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- (3) **Tier 3.** Tier 3 STRs are permitted subject to the issuance of an STR Permit with Administrative Permit in all regulatory zones where Hotels, Motels and Other Transient Dwelling Units use types are permitted (allowed by right or otherwise.)
- (b) **Outside the Boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan.** STRs are allowed or permitted in those regulatory zones as set forth in Article 302, *Allowed Uses*, with all STRs requiring an STR permit, and Tier 2 and Tier 3 STRs also requiring an additional discretionary permit as identified within Article 302. The provisions for STRs in Article 302 should not be construed to supersede the zoning or permitting requirements or restrictions by Washoe County or other agencies for the construction of a dwelling in any regulatory zone.

**Section 110.319.10 Requirements for Application.** All applications for STR permits shall include the following elements:

- (a) Application and supplemental materials as required by the Washoe County Planning and Building Division;
- (b) Accurately scaled and dimensioned site plan showing, at a minimum: location of property lines; dwelling unit(s) and all other structures on the property; dedicated locations and surface material of required parking spaces; all recorded easements; and, snow storage areas (for properties located within the boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan);
- (c) Accurately scaled floor plan showing entirety of dwelling, including areas proposed to be available for STR use. Each room must be labeled, with dimensions and square footage also provided for areas/rooms proposed to be used for sleeping purposes. The floor plan must also show locations of fire extinguishers, smoke alarms, carbon monoxide (CO) alarms, hot tubs (if applicable), decks (if applicable), and ingress/egress (doors, stairs and windows) from the dwelling and each room;
- (d) For STRs within multi-unit developments, the application must include evidence of the number (and location, if applicable) of parking spaces allocated to the unit;
- (e) Educational materials required by Section 110.319.15(a)(14), and the name, phone number (text-capable) and email address of the local responsible party designated to respond to issues/complaints on the property as required by Section 110.319.15(a)(3);
- (f) Proof of property tax payment for current quarter of current fiscal year;
- (g) Transient lodging tax license number issued by the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA); and
- (h) A notarized certification from the property owner(s) that acknowledges or attests to the following:
  - (1) An STR permit is deemed a privileged permit subject to revocation without action by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for non-payment of fees or noncompliance with required standards, including the revocation standards within Section 110.319.40.
  - (2) An STR permit must be renewed and issued annually in order to advertise or operate. Property owners should be aware that standards are subject to change over time and there is no guarantee that an STR permit will be re-issued.

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- (3) An STR permit does not relieve the property owner of complying with any applicable private restrictions on the property such as CC&Rs or homeowners association rules.
  - (4) Inspections must be passed prior to issuance of the STR permit and annual renewals, and the cost of these inspections and any necessary associated improvements will be borne by the property owner. It is the responsibility of the property owner to provide sufficient evidence that the applicable standards have been met.
  - (5) The property owner understands and consents to reasonable unscheduled inspections in the event first responders, fire inspectors or Planning & Building inspectors/officers have reason to believe that the maximum occupancy has been exceeded or a life safety issue is present. This consent must also be included within all lease agreements for the STR.
  - (6) The property owner has reviewed this article and other codes referenced within this article, understands the requirements and agrees to abide by them.
  - (7) The property owner is responsible for each occupant's compliance with the Washoe County Code while they are on the property, including but not limited to the standards within this article.
  - (8) There are no delinquent transient lodging tax liabilities or liens against the property.
  - (9) No alterations will be made to the STR premises without the proper approvals and permits, nor alterations that violate Washoe County adopted codes and ordinances.
- (i) Additional submittal information may be required in order to ensure complete review of the STR permit application.

**Section 110.319.15 Standards.** All STRs shall comply with the standards within this article. No application for a variance, minor deviation, director's modification or other mechanism shall be approved to waive or modify these standards to make them less restrictive, unless explicitly allowed for within this article.

- (a) **General standards.** The following general standards are applicable:
- (1) A valid STR permit shall be obtained from Washoe County prior to advertising and operation.
  - (2) STR permits must be renewed and issued annually in order to advertise or operate. Previous issuance of an STR permit does not guarantee that a subsequent permit will be issued.
  - (3) Every STR is required to have a designated agent or property manager functioning as a local responsible party who is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to respond to complaints/issues related to the STR within 30 minutes of contact by Washoe County staff or its designated representatives. The STR property owner shall provide a single phone number (text-capable) and email address with which the local responsible party can be reached 24/7.

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- (4) No events, parties, or weddings (regardless of payment or familial association), are allowed or may be advertised. A party is defined as any gathering in excess of the approved on-site maximum occupancy associated with the STR permit.
- (5) Applications for an STR permit may be initiated by the property owner or authorized agent of the property owner. However, the permittee must be the property owner(s) of the STR property.
- (6) Only one STR will be permitted per parcel. The STR must be a legally permitted, permanent, habitable dwelling unit (for example, no RVs, boats, detached garages, etc. to be used as an STR).
- (7) An STR permit will only be issued for dwelling units that have already received a certificate of occupancy. STR permits do not supersede, waive or reduce any other code standards or requirements for building permits, planning permits/ applications or other requirements necessary to construct a dwelling unit.
- (8) An STR shall only be rented to one group or person at a time (ex. renting out multiple individual rooms to multiple separate groups is not permitted).
- (9) Advertising for an STR is prohibited unless a valid STR permit has been issued and is in effect at the time of advertisement.
- (10) All advertisements must include the Washoe County permit number, transient lodging tax license number, maximum occupancy as allowed by the permit, number of bedrooms, number of beds (not to exceed maximum occupancy), number of parking spaces, and a note that no off-site street-parking is permitted. This information must be displayed at the top of the STR advertisement.
- (11) At all times while an STR is rented, one 8.5" x 11" placard must be displayed on the front exterior of the residence and clearly visible from the main pathway leading to the primary entrance. The placard shall be legible (with a minimum 12 point font size) and include the following information: Washoe County STR permit number; maximum occupancy allowed by the permit; County's STR complaint hotline phone number; and, phone number of designated local responsible party.
- (12) No signage advertising the STR is permitted on the property.
- (13) Certificate of insurance is required identifying that the property is used as a short-term rental and provides a minimum of \$500,000 liability coverage per occurrence.
- (14) Educational material must be made available to all renters in the unit's kitchen or other common area and must contain the following: occupancy limits associated with the permit; exit locations; emergency phone numbers (ex. 911); phone number for the STR's local responsible party; fire/life safety information (ex. proper cigarette and ash disposal, community fire danger, proper BBQ operation, hot tub safety [if applicable], etc.); bear awareness brochure (for properties located in bear-prone areas); and Washoe County noise (quiet hours), trash and parking standards. Within the boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan, the following must also be provided: a copy of the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District Vacation Rental Safety Information Sheet and Emergency Preparedness Guide; community evacuation routes; and avalanche warning methods (for properties located in designated avalanche danger zones).

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- (15) All STRs must comply with all other federal, state, and other applicable laws/statutes.
  - (16) Per WCC Chapter 25, applicable room tax must be paid to the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, disclosed to the renter and included in any rental agreement.
- (b) **Parking Standards.** The following parking standards shall be adhered to:
- (1) No STR parking is allowed within access easements or the public rights-of-way.
  - (2) All parking spaces must be: improved to Washoe County residential standards (or Tahoe Regional Planning Agency [TRPA] standards, if applicable); developed on-site within property boundaries; and dedicated specifically for parking. In multi-unit complexes, parking must be in designated parking spaces (if applicable) and limited to the number of spaces allotted to the unit.
  - (3) One parking space is required for every four occupants.
  - (4) Within the Tahoe Basin, on-site STR parking may be limited and may require approval of TRPA coverage. Limitations such as these and other factors do not reduce or eliminate the requirement for on-site parking. Inability to develop the appropriate number of parking spaces on-site will subsequently limit the maximum number of occupants allowed by the STR permit.
    - i. In extraordinary and limited circumstances within the Tahoe Basin, the Planning and Building Division Director is authorized to consider reducing or relocating the required parking spaces in circumstances where the property owner has provided sufficient evidence that the request is warranted and will not unduly impact surrounding properties. Such requests shall be made by submitting a director's modification of standards application.
- (c) **Noise Standards.** The following noise standards shall be adhered to:
- (1) Short-term rental quiet hours are in effect daily from 10 p.m. – 7 a.m. Guests shall be instructed to be respectful of the surrounding neighborhood and reduce outdoor activities during this timeframe and shall be informed that proven violations of the quiet hours will result in fines/penalties being levied against the property owner, who may choose to pass on such fines to the renters.
  - (2) Owners of properties that have received two confirmed STR noise violations within a 12-month timeframe shall provide the Planning and Building Division with a comprehensive noise management plan, including the installation of commercially available decibel-monitoring devices with reporting capability. Records from the decibel-monitoring devices must be retained for a minimum of 60-days and made available for Washoe County staff to review upon request.
- (d) **Trash Standards.** The following waste removal standards shall be adhered to:
- (1) Trash and other waste must be managed as prescribed by Washoe County Health District, Waste Management and, if applicable, the Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID). Waste cart size must be sufficient to store waste for the maximum number of occupants each week.

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- (2) STRs in IVGID's service territory and other bear-prone areas must utilize wildlife-resistant carts and/or bear boxes, except in multi-unit developments where HOAs require and enforce regular trash disposal.
  - (3) Waste carts shall only be placed street-side during the timeframes stipulated by the local authority or waste service provider.
- (e) **Occupancy Limits.** An occupancy limit shall be established for each short-term rental based on individual characteristics of the dwelling unit and property. Overall maximum occupancy of an STR will be determined by the Planning and Building Division Director or her/his designee(s) after considering all the factors below. The maximum number of occupants allowed within an STR is based on the following parameters:
- (1) Bedrooms intended for one occupant shall be a minimum of 70 sq. ft. in size in accordance with the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) Section 404.4.1 (or the latest edition).
  - (2) Bedrooms intended for two occupants shall be a minimum of 100 sq. ft. in size, with an additional 50 sq. ft. required for each additional occupant in accordance with the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) Section 404.4.1 (or the latest edition).
  - (3) Other areas proposed for sleeping purposes, such as living rooms, require a minimum of 200 sq. ft. for each occupant in accordance with the 2018 International Building Code (IBC) Table 1004.5 for residential occupancy (or the currently adopted edition).
  - (4) No distinction is made based on the age of the occupant.
  - (5) In order to qualify as a sleeping area, the area shall also have safety features as determined by the Planning and Building Division Director or her/his designee(s), including, but not limited to, the requirements listed in Section 110.319.20.
  - (6) Occupancy may be further limited by the following: available number of on-site parking spaces; voluntary reduced limits as proposed by the property owner; and any other factors that the Planning and Building Division Director or her/his designee(s) determines may affect life safety.
  - (7) Daytime occupancy and nighttime occupancy limits are the same.

**Section 110.319.20 Safety Standards.** The safety standards within this section are applicable to all short-term rentals and must be in place in order to operate. Inspections will be required by the Washoe County Building Program and/or applicable fire protection district in order to verify compliance.

- (a) **Sleeping Areas.** Only qualified bedrooms and other areas meeting specific standards will be considered for sleeping purposes. Areas such as garages, storage areas, kitchens, bathrooms, laundry rooms, hallways, closets, or similar shall not be used for sleeping purposes. Additionally, areas such as basements, under-floors, attics, lofts, garage conversions, or additions that were created without permits shall also not be utilized for sleeping purposes, unless a permit is submitted, approved and final inspections are completed. In addition to the square footage requirements listed in Section 110.319.15(e), the following standards are required of all sleeping areas proposed for short-term rental use and that contribute to the maximum occupancy of the STR:

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- (1) **Bedrooms.** Each bedroom shall be evaluated using Section 404.4.1 of the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) or the latest edition. To qualify for STR use, bedrooms must be listed on the Washoe County Assessor's web site and contain all the following items:
    - (i) A minimum ceiling height of seven feet as determined by Section 305 of the 2018 International Residential Code (IRC) or the currently adopted edition.
    - (ii) An emergency escape and rescue opening complying with Section 310.1 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition, or the applicable code in effect at the time of permit of the original structure.
    - (iii) When egress windows or openings are located more than 16-feet above exterior finished grade as measured to the finished sill of the window, or if the lot has extenuating features as determined by the code officials, a safe landing area shall be provided and an emergency ladder shall be permanently fastened to the inside of the wall per the manufacturer's recommendations. The ladder shall extend a maximum of 12 inches above grade.
    - (iv) Safety glass is required for windows located in a hazardous location in compliance with Section 308.4 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition.
    - (v) A smoke alarm(s) and carbon monoxide alarm(s) installed in accordance with Sections 314 and 315 of the 2018 IRC, or National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72, or the currently adopted editions.
    - (vi) All required smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms shall be interconnected in accordance with Sections 314.4 and 315.5 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition.
  - (2) **Other Habitable Rooms Intended for Sleeping Purposes.** Other rooms intended to be utilized for sleeping purposes will be evaluated utilizing Table 1004.5 of the 2018 International Building Code (IBC) or the currently adopted edition. Rooms shall contain all the same safety features as required for bedrooms in sub-section (1).
- (b) **Fire Alarms and Suppression Systems.** Structures with two stories and a basement, or with three or more stories, or with areas greater than 5,000 square feet (total area under roof), shall include a fire suppression system. Required fire suppression systems shall be serviced and tagged annually by a Nevada licensed fire protection contractor. Structures 10,000 square feet and greater shall be equipped with an NFPA 13-compliant fire suppression system and a monitored NFPA 72-compliant fire alarm system. Structures containing both fire alarm and suppression systems must have those systems serviced and tagged annually by a licensed State of Nevada fire protection contractor.
- (c) **Additional Safety Standards.** The following additional safety standards are applicable to all STRs:
- (1) The property address shall be posted on-site in a location clearly visible from the roadway, and address numbers shall be at least six inches in height.

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- (2) The structure shall be maintained in a safe, hazard-free condition. This includes all mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, which shall be maintained in operating condition in accordance with the original permit approval, unless otherwise specified in this Article.
- (3) Structures with a calculated occupant load greater than 10 occupants shall be equipped with a monitored fire alarm system designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 72 and approved by the local fire protection district.
- (4) Every dwelling shall be equipped with fire extinguishers sized and located per the requirements of the currently adopted fire code and current edition of NFPA 10.
- (5) Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in accordance with Sections 314 and 315 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition.
- (6) All stairways, steps, landings, handrails, and guardrails shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the 2018 IRC, or the applicable code in effect at the time of the original permit of the structure.
- (7) Hot tubs, saunas, whirlpool tubs, and similar devices shall be installed in accordance with the current electrical code and shall have a disconnect installed in accordance with the 2017 National Electrical Code (NEC) or the currently adopted edition.
- (8) Temporary wiring shall not be used for permanent fixtures, outlets, or receptacles.
- (9) Solid fuel burning appliances installed in bedrooms or other sleeping areas shall be equipped with oxygen depletion sensors installed in accordance with the 2018 Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC) or the currently adopted edition. All such rooms shall contain smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in accordance with Sections 314 and 315 of the 2018 IRC or the currently adopted edition.
- (10) All required exits and egress windows shall remain unobstructed and an emergency exit plan shall be permanently displayed in a clearly visible and central location.
- (11) Portable heaters shall not be used as a primary source of heat for any space.
- (12) A Knox box is required when a fire alarm system or fire sprinkler system is installed.
- (13) Defensible space shall be maintained in accordance with the standards required by the applicable fire protection district.
- (14) Any exterior recreational fire or fire pit fueled by natural gas or propane shall not operate unless permitted by the local fire district.
- (15) Outdoor wood-burning solid-fuel fireplaces or solid-fuel burning fire pits are prohibited within the boundaries of the Tahoe Area Plan. Within the rest of unincorporated Washoe County, these require a permit from the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District.
- (16) Emergency lighting shall be installed to sufficiently illuminate the exit pathways/hallways from sleeping rooms to the exterior of the building. A permanently

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installed system and/or a plug-in system of lights that turn on in the event of a power outage are both acceptable.

- (17) The STR shall remain accessible to emergency service vehicles and personnel per the applicable fire district and emergency responder's requirements.

**Section 110.319.25 Permit Fees.** Fees associated with STR permits shall be paid in the amounts identified in the master fee schedule and permit application. Non-payment of fees is cause for cancellation of an in-process STR application or revocation or non-renewal of an existing STR permit.

**Section 110.319.30 Enforcement.** The STR standards within this Article shall be enforced through the following procedures and requirements. A combination of the enforcement mechanisms contained in Washoe County Code Chapters 50.300 (*Nuisance Code*), 110.910 (*Enforcement*), and 125 (*Administrative Enforcement*) shall be utilized, as applicable. The intent of this section is to ensure that STR activity does not alter the character of existing residential neighborhoods nor result in detrimental impacts to the public health, safety and welfare.

- (a) **Permit Required.** Any property owner engaging in or intending to engage in the operation of an STR, as defined in WCC 110.304.15 (d), shall obtain an STR permit issued by the Planning and Building Division. Said permit shall be renewed annually.
  - (1) **Permit Considered "Privileged."** The Board of County Commissioners hereby declares the operation of an STR within residential areas as a "privileged" activity subject to additional operational standards above and beyond those of other residential uses and subject to specific enforcement and revocation procedures.
  - (2) **Inspections.** An STR that fails any required inspection shall be issued a stop activity order per the procedures of WCC Chapters 100 and 125. An STR that fails the required annual inspection shall not be reissued a permit until all required inspections are passed.
- (b) **Operating an STR without the Required Permit.** It is unlawful and hereby declared a public nuisance, as defined in WCC 50.308.1, to operate an STR without the required permit. Any property owner found to be operating an STR without the required permit shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, issued a stop activity order, and fined per the procedures outlined in WCC Chapter 125.
- (c) **Noncompliance with Standards.** Any violation of required STR standards shall be enforced through a combination of the enforcement mechanisms contained in Washoe County Code Chapters 50.300 (*Nuisance Code*), 110.910 (*Enforcement*), and 125 (*Administrative Enforcement*), as applicable. The Planning and Building Division Director, or her/his designee, shall determine compliance with these standards.

**Section 110.319.35 Inspections.** Prior to issuance of an STR permit, the property must pass inspections for life-safety of the structure and defensible space, with the cost of those inspections and any associated necessary improvements borne by the property owner. These inspections will be conducted by the Planning and Building Division and the applicable fire agency and are required annually. Once an STR permit has been issued, reasonable unscheduled inspections may occur if first responders, fire inspectors or Planning and Building inspectors/ officers have reason to believe occupancy has been exceeded or a life safety issue is present.

**Section 110.319.40 Permit Revocation.** Revocation of an STR permit shall be subject to the requirements of this section. In the event an STR permit is revoked through any of the below procedures, a new STR permit shall not be issued for the same property for a period of one (1) year immediately following the date of revocation.

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- (a) **Initiation of Action.** An enforcement official or the Board of County Commissioners may initiate an action to revoke an STR permit, unless the permit is revoked automatically pursuant to the provisions of this section.
- (b) **Grounds for Revocation.** An STR permit may be revoked by the Board of County Commissioners pursuant to the provisions of this section upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds:
- (1) That the STR permit was issued based on fraudulent or erroneous information, or was issued in contravention to the requirements of this Article; or,
  - (2) That one (1) or more of the characteristics or conditions upon which the STR permit was issued have changed or been violated; or,
  - (3) Unauthorized/unpermitted alteration of required life safety elements.
- (c) **Grounds for Automatic Revocation.** An STR permit may be automatically revoked without action by the Board of County Commissioners pursuant to the provisions of this section upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds. A revocation initiated under this section may be appealed to the Board of County Commissioners, which shall make the final administrative decision on the matter.
- (1) If, after all administrative remedies have been exhausted, a property owner has been found guilty of violating the standards of this Article through three (3) separate instances/investigations during a one (1) year timeframe. The issuance date of the respective penalty notices shall be used as the basis for determining if three (3) separate, but consecutive, violations have occurred during a one (1) year time frame. If multiple violations are discovered during a single investigation, said violations shall count as one (1) instance for the purposes of this section; or,
  - (2) Upon application for any improvement(s) to an existing STR that would change the approved occupancy, or upon discovery that unpermitted work has occurred that altered a standard upon which the permit was issued. In such instances a new or modified permit will be required, at the discretion of the Director of the Planning and Building Division; or,
  - (3) If a felony or violent crime has occurred at the property and is substantially connected with the use of the property as an STR; or,
  - (4) If an emergency event occurred that endangered life safety or resulted in injuries or loss of life due to alteration of or noncompliance with required standards.
- (d) **Action by the Board of County Commissioners.** The Board of County Commissioners shall hold a public hearing upon the revocation of an STR permit initiated under Section 110.319.40(b), or upon the appeal of an STR permit automatically revoked pursuant to Section 110.319.40(c). The hearing shall be conducted pursuant to the provisions of Article 910 and in accordance with the Rules of the Board of County Commissioners. After the public hearing, and upon considering the evidence provided, the Board of County Commissioners may take action to revoke the STR permit.

**Section 110.319.45 Duties of Hosting Platforms.** By adoption of this Article, Washoe County invokes all powers provided to it by NRS 244.1545 in its entirety. This includes, but is not limited to, a requirement for the provision of quarterly reports by STR hosting platforms to Washoe County, and authority for Washoe County to issue and enforce subpoenas as identified within the statute.

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SECTION 8. Section 110.306.25, *Detached Accessory Dwellings*, sub-section (i), *Administrative Review Process*, is amended as follows:

- (i) Administrative Review Process. Proposals to establish a detached accessory dwelling unit in the Low Density Rural (LDR), Medium Density Rural (MDR), High Density Rural (HDR), and Low Density Suburban (LDS) Regulatory Zones shall be reviewed pursuant to the following process and requirements: **Article 809, Administrative Review Permits**
- (1) Review. The Director, or his designee, shall review a development application request for a detached accessory dwelling unit for compliance with the Development Code while also taking into consideration any testimony offered by affected property owners and the applicant. The Director, or his designee, may approve, approve with conditions, modify, modify with conditions, or deny the request. All administrative decisions shall be in writing. The administrative decision may be appealed to the Board of Adjustment per the procedures set forth below.
- (2) Affected Property Owners. Upon receipt of a complete application to establish a detached accessory dwelling unit, the Director, or his designee, shall determine the owners of real property that may be affected by the proposed use. All property owners within five hundred (500) feet of the subject parcel, Citizen Advisory Board members, homeowners associations, or architectural control committees that are registered with the Building and Safety Division of the County; and all military installations as defined in Article 902, Definitions, that are within three thousand (3,000) feet of the property that is the subject of the proposed use will be considered affected property owners. A minimum of ten (10) adjacent property owners shall be noticed.
- (3) Processing. Upon receipt of a complete application to establish a detached accessory dwelling unit, the Director, or his designee, shall commence processing and reviewing the request. Affected property owners may provide written testimony on the application for consideration in the review process and inclusion into the public record. The applicant shall be given an opportunity to respond to any testimony provided. All testimony provided shall be considered by the Director, or his designee, in rendering a decision.
- (i) Notice. Notice will be mailed to affected property owners within three (3) working days of receipt of a complete application. An application must be deemed complete or incomplete within three (3) working days of receipt of the application.
- (ii) Affected Property Owner Comment Period. Written testimony from affected property owners must be received by the department within fifteen (15) calendar days of notices being mailed. If the end of the affected property owner period falls on a non-business day, then comments shall be due the next business day.
- (iii) Applicant Responses to Affected Property Owner Comments. Written responses from the applicant must be received by the department within seven (7) calendar days of the end of the affected property owner comment period. If the end of the applicant response period falls on a non-business day, then responses shall be due the next business day.
- (iv) Issuance of Written Decision on the Application. A written decision shall be issued and mailed by the Director, or his designee, within ten (10) working days of the department receiving the applicant responses. The applicant may choose not to respond and begin this ten (10) working day period immediately following the affected property owner comment period. The written decision shall be mailed to all

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- ~~individuals with addresses listed on the application, the property owner of record, and all affected property owners (as defined in subsection (2) above).~~
- ~~(v) Public Hearing Not Required. No public hearing is required for the completion of this process, unless the administrative decision is appealed to the Board of Adjustment in accordance with the procedures set forth in this article.~~
- ~~(4) Effective Date of Action. Action on the application request, unless otherwise specified, shall be effective upon expiration of the appeal period.~~
- ~~(5) Contents of Notice—Approval or Denial. Such notice shall describe the proposed application request; describe the lot, parcel, properties, or area that are the subject of the application request; describe the decision of the Director, or his designee; and, if the application has been approved, any conditions made part of the approval; the appeal and/or appellate procedures that can be taken regarding the decision; and the closing date of filing an appeal of the decision.~~
- ~~(6) Compliance with Noticing Requirements. All owners of real property to be noticed pursuant to this section shall be those owners identified on the latest ownership maps and records of the Washoe County Assessor. Compliance with the noticing requirements is established when notice is mailed to the last known address listed on the records of the Assessor, or if requested by a party to whom notice must be provided, by electronic means if receipt of such an electronic notice can be verified.~~
- ~~(7) Appeals. An administrative decision of the Director, or his designee, made pursuant to this article may be appealed in accordance with the following provisions:~~
- ~~(i) An appeal of the administrative decision shall be made within ten (10) calendar days from the date of the notice of decision was mailed. If filed, an appeal stays any further action on the decision until final resolution of the appeal. If the end of the appeal period falls on a non-business day, the appeal period shall be extended to include the next business day.~~
- ~~(ii) Appeals may be filed only by the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent or by an affected property owner (as defined in subsection (2) above).~~
- ~~(iii) An Appeal of Decision application shall be filed with the Department of Community Development, accompanied by a filing fee. The appeal shall be in writing and state the basis of the appeal by citing the inadequacy of the decision, reasons for denial, and/or conditions of approval made in the decision.~~
- ~~(iv) Appeals shall be heard by the Board of Adjustment. The Department of Community Development shall schedule a public hearing on the appeal for the next available meeting date of the Board of Adjustment.~~
- ~~(v) The public hearing on the appeal shall be noticed pursuant to Section 110.808.40. The notice shall state that an appeal has been filed; describe the request being appealed; describe the lot, parcel, property or areas that are the subject of the application; describe the final decision on the request; and note other pertinent information.~~
- ~~(vi) The Board of Adjustment shall consider only those items cited in the appeal. In its deliberation, it may use the record and any additional evidence relative to the application and may confirm, reverse, or modify the appealed action based upon its~~

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~~interpretation of the standards required and the evidence submitted. The action of the Board of Adjustment may be appealed to the Washoe County Commission for a final determination.~~

- ~~(8) Modification of the terms and/or conditions of an administrative approval shall not be allowed. Proposals to modify the terms and/or conditions of an administrative decision shall require a new application following the same procedure required for the initial application.~~
- ~~(9) A certificate of occupancy for the detached accessory dwelling unit shall be obtained by the time specified in the administrative decision, or if not specified, within two (2) years from the final date of administrative approval. Failure to obtain a certificate of occupancy within the specified timeframe shall render the approval null and void. The time specified in the administrative decision may be extended in writing by the Director, or his designee, for a period of no more than two (2) years. Requests for time extensions shall be in writing and shall be submitted at least two (2) weeks prior to the expiration date. The request shall state the reason for the extension. No more than one (1) extension of time shall be granted.~~
- ~~(10) The Board of Adjustment may initiate an action to revoke an administrative approval issued pursuant to this section. The Board of Adjustment shall hold a public hearing upon the revocation of the administrative approval and provide notice as set forth in Section 110.808.40. After the public hearing, and upon considering the evidence submitted, the Board of Adjustment may take action to revoke the administrative approval based upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds:
  - ~~(i) That the administrative approval was fraudulently obtained or extended;~~
  - ~~(ii) That one (1) or more of the conditions upon which such development approval was granted have been violated; or~~
  - ~~(iii) That the use or facility for which the development approval was granted is so conducted or maintained as to be detrimental to the public health or safety, or as to be a public nuisance.~~~~

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SECTION 9. WCC Chapter 110, Article 809, *Administrative Review Permits*, is hereby established as a new article as follows:

## *Article 809*

# *ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PERMITS*

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### Sections:

110.809.00	Purpose
110.809.05	Requirements for Application
110.809.10	Supplemental Guidelines, Standards and Criteria
110.809.15	Review Procedures
110.809.20	Appeals
110.809.25	Modifications of an Administrative Review Permit
110.809.30	Revocation

**Section 110.809.00 Purpose.** The purpose of Article 809, Administrative Review Permits, is to provide methods for reviewing proposed uses which possess characteristics that require special appraisal in order to determine if the use(s) have the potential to adversely impact other land uses, transportation or services and facilities in the vicinity. The Board of County Commissioners, the Board of Adjustment, or the Planning and Building Division Director may require conditions of approval necessary to eliminate, mitigate, or minimize to an acceptable level any potentially adverse effects of a use or to specify the terms under which commencement and operation of the use must comply.

**Section 110.809.05 Requirements for Application.** Applications for administrative review permits may be initiated by the property owner or authorized agent of the property owner. Applications shall be filed with the Planning and Building Division. A request for an administrative review permit shall include the appropriate application, supplemental materials and site plan which clearly delineates the location and characteristics of the proposed use. No administrative review permit shall be processed until the information necessary to review and decide upon the proposed administrative review permit is deemed complete by the Planning and Building Division.

**Section 110.809.10 Supplemental Guidelines, Standards and Criteria.** In addition to the standards and findings set forth in the Development Code, the Planning and Building Division may prepare supplemental guidelines for the submission of applications and minimum standards and criteria for approval of applications.

**Section 110.809.15 Review Procedures.** The Director, or her/his designee, shall review an administrative review application request for compliance with the Development Code while also taking into consideration any testimony offered by affected property owners and the applicant, as well as characteristics of the property. The Director, or her/his designee, may approve, approve with conditions, modify, modify with conditions, or deny the request. All administrative decisions shall be in writing. The administrative decision may be appealed per the procedures set forth in this article.

- (a) **Affected Property Owners.** Upon receipt of a complete Administrative Review Permit application, the Director, or her/his designee, shall determine the owners of real property that may be affected by the proposed use. All property owners within five hundred (500) feet of the subject parcel, Citizen Advisory Board members, homeowners associations, or County-registered architectural control/construction committees within common-interest

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communities registered with the State of Nevada; and all military installations as defined in Article 902, Definitions, that are within three thousand (3,000) feet of the property that is the subject of the proposed use will be considered affected property owners. A minimum of ten (10) adjacent property owners shall be noticed.

- (b) **Processing.** Upon receipt of a complete Administrative Review Permit application, the Director, or her/his designee, shall commence processing and reviewing the request. Affected property owners may provide written testimony on the application for consideration in the review process and inclusion into the public record. The applicant shall be given an opportunity to respond to any testimony provided. All testimony provided shall be considered by the Director, or her/his designee, in rendering a decision.
- (1) **Notice.** An application must be deemed complete or incomplete within three (3) working days of receipt of the application. Notice will be mailed to affected property owners within three (3) working days of the determination that the application is complete.
  - (2) **Affected Property Owner Comment Period.** Written testimony from affected property owners must be received by the division within fifteen (15) calendar days of notices being mailed. If the end of the affected property owner period falls on a non-business day, then comments shall be due the next business day.
  - (3) **Applicant Responses to Affected Property Owner Comments.** Written responses from the applicant must be received by the division within seven (7) calendar days of the end of the affected property owner comment period. If the end of the applicant response period falls on a non-business day, then responses shall be due the next business day.
  - (4) **Issuance of Written Decision on the Application.** A written decision shall be issued and mailed by the Director, or his designee, within ten (10) working days of the division receiving the applicant responses. The applicant may choose not to respond and begin this ten (10) working day period immediately following the affected property owner comment period. The written decision shall be mailed to all individuals with addresses listed on the application, the property owner of record, and all affected property owners (as defined in subsection (2) above).
  - (5) **Public Hearing Not Required.** No public hearing is required for the completion of this process, unless the Administrative Review Permit decision is appealed in accordance with the procedures set forth in this article.
- (c) **Effective Date of Action.** Action on the application request, unless otherwise specified, shall be effective upon expiration of the appeal period. For Administrative Review Permits associated with a short-term rental permit, the applicant must also successfully obtain a short-term rental permit prior to advertising or operation.
- (d) **Contents of Notice – Approval or Denial.** Such notice shall describe the proposed application request; describe the lot, parcel, properties, or area that are the subject of the application request; describe the decision of the Director, or his designee; and, if the application has been approved, any conditions made part of the approval; the appeal and/or appellate procedures that can be taken regarding the decision; and the closing date of filing an appeal of the decision.
- (e) **Compliance with Noticing Requirements.** All owners of real property to be noticed pursuant to this section shall be those owners identified on the latest ownership maps and records of the Washoe County Assessor. Compliance with the noticing requirements is established

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when notice is mailed to the last known address listed on the records of the Assessor, or if requested by a party to whom notice must be provided, by electronic means if receipt of such an electronic notice can be verified.

**Section 110.809.20 Appeals.** An Administrative Review Permit decision of the Director, or her/his designee, made pursuant to this article may be appealed in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) An appeal of the Administrative Review Permit decision shall be made within ten (10) calendar days from the date of the notice of decision was mailed. If filed, an appeal stays any further action on the decision until final resolution of the appeal. If the end of the appeal period falls on a non-business day, the appeal period shall be extended to include the next business day.
- (b) Appeals may be filed only by the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent or by an affected property owner (as defined in this article).
- (c) An Appeal of Decision application shall be filed with the Planning and Building Division, accompanied by a filing fee. The appeal shall be in writing and state the basis of the appeal by citing the inadequacy of the decision, reasons for denial, and/or conditions of approval made in the decision.
- (d) Appeals of Administrative Review Permit decisions for short-term rentals shall be heard by the Board of County Commissioners. The Planning and Building Division shall schedule a public hearing within sixty (60) calendar days of the filing date of the appeal. The public hearing on the appeal shall be noticed pursuant to Section 110.912.20. The notice shall state that an appeal has been filed; describe the request being appealed; describe the lot, parcel, property or areas that are the subject of the application; describe the Director's final Administrative Review Permit decision on the request; and note other necessary pertinent information. The Board of County Commissioners shall consider only those items cited in the appeal. In its deliberation, it may use the record and any additional evidence relative to the application and may confirm, reverse, or modify the appealed action based upon its interpretation of the standards required and the evidence submitted.
- (e) All other appeals of Administrative Review Permit decisions shall be heard by the Board of Adjustment. The Planning and Building Division shall schedule a public hearing on the appeal for the next available meeting date of the Board of Adjustment. The public hearing on the appeal shall be noticed pursuant to Section 110.808.40. The notice shall state that an appeal has been filed; describe the request being appealed; describe the lot, parcel, property or areas that are the subject of the application; describe the Director's final Administrative Review Permit decision on the request; and note other pertinent information. The Board of Adjustment shall consider only those items cited in the appeal. In its deliberation, it may use the record and any additional evidence relative to the application and may confirm, reverse, or modify the appealed action based upon its interpretation of the standards required and the evidence submitted. The action of the Board of Adjustment may be appealed to the Washoe County Commission for a final determination.

**Section 110.809.25 Modification of an Administrative Review Permit.** Modification of the terms and/or conditions of an Administrative Review Permit approval shall not be allowed. Proposals to modify the terms and/or conditions of an administrative decision shall require a new application following the same procedure required for the initial application.

**Section 110.809.30 Revocation.** The Board of Adjustment (or Board of County Commissioners, for Administrative Review Permits associated with a short-term rental) may initiate an action to revoke an administrative review approval issued pursuant to this section. The Board of Adjustment shall hold a public hearing on the revocation of the Administrative Review Permit approval and provide

DRAFT: December 12, 2019

notice as set forth in Section 110.808.40. For items heard by the Board of County Commissioners, that Board shall hold a public hearing on the revocation of the Administrative Review Permit approval and provide notice as set forth in Section 110.912.20. After the public hearing, and upon considering the evidence submitted, the applicable board may take action to revoke the Administrative Review Permit approval based upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds:

- (a) That the Administrative Review Permit approval was fraudulently obtained or extended;
- (b) That one (1) or more of the conditions upon which such development approval was granted have been violated, and the applicable board finds that those violations are substantial in nature, unduly and negatively affecting neighboring property owners, or relating directly to public health, safety or welfare; or
- (c) That the use or facility for which the development approval was granted is so conducted or maintained as to be detrimental to the public health or safety, or as to be a public nuisance, or in the case of an Administrative Review Permit associated with a short-term rental, that unauthorized/unpermitted alteration of required life safety elements has occurred.

SECTION 10. General Terms.

- 1. All actions, proceedings, matters, and things heretofore taken, had and done by the County and its officers not inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are ratified and approved.
- 2. The Chairman of the Board and officers of the County are authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this Ordinance. The District Attorney is authorized to make non-substantive edits and corrections to this Ordinance.
- 3. All ordinances, resolutions, bylaws and orders, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent only of such inconsistency. This repealer shall not be construed to revive any ordinance, resolution, bylaw or order, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.
- 4. Each term and provision of this Ordinance shall be valid and shall be enforced to the extent permitted by law. If any term or provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof shall be deemed by a court of competent jurisdiction to be in violation of law or public policy, then it shall be deemed modified, ipso facto, to bring it within the limits of validity or enforceability, but if it cannot be so modified, then the offending provision or term shall be excised from this Ordinance. In any event, the remainder of this Ordinance, or the application of such term or provision to circumstances other than those to which it is invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected.

DRAFT: December 12, 2019

Passage and Effective Date

Proposed on \_\_\_\_\_ (month) \_\_\_\_\_ (day), 2020.

Proposed by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_.

Passed on \_\_\_\_\_ (month) \_\_\_\_\_ (day), 2020.

Vote:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent:

\_\_\_\_\_  
[ ], Chair  
County Commission

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Parent, County Clerk

This ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after the  
\_\_\_\_\_ day of the month of \_\_\_\_\_ of the year \_\_\_\_\_.



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

[www.washoecounty.us](http://www.washoecounty.us)

Attachment F  
Page 39

## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: December 10, 2019

**DATE:** November 15, 2019

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Kelly Mullin, AICP, Senior Planner, Planning and Building Division, Community Services Department, 328-3608, kmullin@washoecounty.us

**THROUGH:** Dave Solaro, Arch., P.E., Assistant County Manager 328-3600, dsolaro@washoecounty.us

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to take possible action to initiate amendments to Chapter 25 (Business Licenses, Permits and Regulations), Chapter 50 (Public Peace, Safety and Morals), Chapter 110 (Development Code), and Chapter 125 (Administrative Enforcement Code) to create the necessary code language to facilitate the Board's policy direction regarding short-term rentals as provided during their regular meeting of November 12, 2019. Short-term rentals are a type of temporary lodging of brief duration operated out of private residences such as homes, apartments and condos. They are commonly made available through property management companies and online booking services, and are also referred to as vacation rentals that are generally booked for fewer than 28-days. The amendments may include, but are not limited to, the establishment of definitions, standards, location limitations, defining unpermitted short-term rentals as nuisances, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, county staffing levels, Tahoe area considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals, as well as the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing WCC chapters as a result of any new code language. (All Commission Districts.)

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### SUMMARY

On November 12, 2019, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners (Board), provided policy direction regarding staff recommendations for short-term rentals (STRs) in unincorporated Washoe County. Although direction was provided, official action was not taken to initiate the necessary code amendments. The current request is a housekeeping item to ensure the required code amendment processes continue.

Pursuant to WCC Sections 2.030 and 110.818.05, the Board is asked to initiate amendments to Chapters 25, 50, 110 and 125 to create the necessary code language to facilitate the Board's policy direction. The amendments may include, but are not limited to, the items listed in the subject of this staff report.

AGENDA ITEM # \_\_\_\_\_

WDCA19-0008  
EXHIBIT B

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities.

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

On November 12, 2019, the Board heard an update on staff's recommendations regarding short-term rentals and provided policy direction.

On February 26, 2019, the Board determined that by adopting changes to WCC Chapter 25 in 2007 to allow transient lodging and associated room tax, the use is allowed within Washoe County (although it is not yet defined within Chapter 110). Further, the Board identified it did not want to ban short-term rentals in unincorporated Washoe County. In order to resolve potential conflict between the two WCC chapters, the Board directed staff to start the process of establishing regulations for STRs to properly administer their use.

On July 10, 2007, the Board adopted changes to WCC Chapter 25 relating to transient lodging.

### **BACKGROUND**

On November 12, 2019, the Board provided policy direction regarding staff recommendations for STRs in unincorporated Washoe County. The original staff report for that item is available online at <https://bit.ly/2Kp5PoT>. Although direction was provided, official action was not taken to initiate the necessary code amendments. The current request is a housekeeping item to ensure the required code amendment processes continue.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Specific fiscal impact associated with direction from the Board will be defined in future staff reports for Board action. Direction at this time will result in the use of additional staff time to create proper ordinances. This item is a priority item of Commissioner Berkbigler, is linked to the Economic Impact strategic goal, and has been factored into the current work plan.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended the Board initiate amendments to Chapters 25, 50, 110 and 125 to create the necessary code language to facilitate the Board's policy direction of November 12, 2019. This includes, but is not limited to, the categories listed in the possible motion below.

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be:

“Move to initiate amendments to Chapter 25 (Business Licenses, Permits and Regulations), Chapter 50 (Public Peace, Safety and Morals), Chapter 110 (Development Code), and Chapter 125 (Administrative Enforcement Code) to create the necessary code language to facilitate the Board's policy direction of November 12, 2019. This may include, but is not limited to, the establishment of definitions, standards, location limitations, defining unpermitted STRs as nuisances, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, county staffing levels, Tahoe area considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals, as well as the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing WCC chapters as a result of any new code language.”

Attachment A: Letter from Interim County Manager requesting code amendments



# WASHOE COUNTY

## COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Attachment A  
Page 41  
1001 EAST 9TH STREET  
RENO, NEVADA 89512  
PHONE (775) 328.3600  
FAX (775) 328.6133

November 15, 2019

Nancy Parent  
Washoe County Clerk  
1001 East Ninth Street  
Reno, NV 89512

RE: Request to initiate proceedings to amend the Washoe County Code

Dear Ms. Parent,

In accordance with Washoe County Code (WCC) Section 2.030, please submit this correspondence to the Board of County Commissioners. I request that proceedings be initiated to amend WCC Chapters 110 (Development Code), 25 (Business Licenses, Permits and Regulations), 50 (Public Peace, Safety and Morals) and 125 (Administrative Enforcement Code) to create the necessary code language facilitating the Board's direction of Nov. 12, 2019 related to short-term rentals in unincorporated Washoe County.

Amendments to these chapters may include, but are not limited to, the establishment of definitions, standards, location limitations, defining unpermitted short-term rentals as nuisances, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, county staffing levels, Tahoe area considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals, as well as the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing WCC chapters as a result of any new code language.

Included is a staff report seeking the Board's approval to formally initiate the amendment and provide you with direction to submit the request to the District Attorney to prepare a code amendment.

Respectfully,

David M. Solaro  
Interim County Manager and  
Director, Community Services Department



INTEGRITY



EFFECTIVE  
COMMUNICATION



QUALITY  
PUBLIC SERVICE

WDCA19-0008  
EXHIBIT B

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

NOVEMBER 12, 2019

PRESENT:

**Vaughn Hartung, Chair**  
**Bob Lucey, Vice Chair**  
**Marsha Berkgigler, Commissioner**  
**Kitty Jung, Commissioner**  
**Jeanne Herman, Commissioner**  
  
**Nancy Parent, County Clerk**  
**Dave Solaro, Interim County Manager**  
**Paul Lipparelli, Assistant District Attorney**

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners convened at 10:00 a.m. in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerk called the roll and the Board conducted the following business:

...

**1:30 p.m.**      **The Board reconvened.**

**19-0885**      **AGENDA ITEM 28**      Discussion and possible action on staff recommendations for the regulation of short-term rentals within unincorporated Washoe County, including either confirming the policy recommendations or providing additional policy direction prior to staff bringing back specific ordinance language. Short-term rentals are a type of temporary lodging of brief duration operated out of private residences such as homes, apartments and condos. They are commonly made available through property management companies and online booking services, and are also referred to as vacation rentals that are generally booked for fewer than 28-days. And, pursuant to Washoe County Code (WCC) Sections 2.030 and 110.818.05, possible action to initiate amendments to Chapter 110 (Development Code), Chapter 25 (Business Licenses, Permits and Regulations) and Chapter 125 (Administrative Enforcement Code) to create the necessary code language to facilitate the Board’s policy direction. This includes, but is not limited to, the establishment of definitions, standards, location limitations, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, county staffing levels, Tahoe area considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties associated with short-term rentals, as well as the resolution of discrepancies that may arise within existing WCC chapters as a result of any new code language. Community Services. (All Commission Districts.)

County Clerk Nancy Parent noted the Community Services Department (CSD) had provided a printout of their PowerPoint presentation during the recess. A copy had been distributed to each Board member, along with copies of correspondence submitted to the CSD by members of the community after publication of the staff report for Agenda Item 28. Ms. Parent said copies of these items were available if anyone wished to view them.

CSD Senior Planner Kelly Mullin conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. She reviewed slides with the following titles: Policy Discussion: Short-Term Rentals; Today’s Discussion; What is a Short-Term Rental; Board Direction in Feb. 2019; Project Baseline (2 slides); Mission Statement; Public Engagement: Process; Public Engagement: Results; Benefits of STRs; Impacts/Concerns; Staff Recommendations (8 slides); Next Steps; Requests to the Board; and Questions.

Ms. Mullin clarified the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) was not being asked to adopt staff recommendations at this time, but rather to review the CSD’s progress and provide feedback. She noted the “Staff Recommendations” slides contained questions for the BCC to consider or provide direction on. She spoke about the history of short-term rentals (STRs) in Washoe County, and the diverse perspectives and feedback staff had heard from the community. She said staff had begun the project with the

understanding that there were many differing perspectives regarding STRs in the community, consensus would be unlikely, and compromise would be needed. She also noted any standards put in place would likely evolve over time and might need fine-tuning later. She discussed the extensive public outreach process staff had undertaken to gain feedback from the community, and spoke about the wide range of benefits and concerns residents had identified.

Ms. Mullin noted the initial staff report had recommended each applicant be required to attest that their STR would not violate any Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions (CC&Rs) applicable to the property. However, the District Attorney's office had voiced concerns about potential liability for the County if the issuance of STR permits was based on what was essentially a civil agreement between neighbors. The District Attorney's office had recommended staff clarify that the issuance of an STR permit would not supersede any applicable laws, regulations, or CC&Rs. Ms. Mullin said staff agreed with these legal recommendations but also sought direction on the Board's policy preference for this issue.

Ms. Mullin noted STR noise issues were a frequent cause of complaints as well as one of the more difficult problems to address. Staff recommended quiet hours from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. daily and suggested the BCC consider requiring decibel-monitoring devices for problem STRs or those with higher occupancy limits. Ms. Mullin also noted a hotline could be established for noise complaints if the Board desired.

Vice Chair Lucey asked Ms. Mullin for clarification on how staff would implement the recommendation to prohibit advertisements for STRs without permits. Ms. Mullin stated there would be a grace period before the requirement was implemented, and staff would use that time to do outreach and make sure owners were aware of the new standards. She said a company called Host Compliance, LLC, could be utilized to help identify STRs advertising without permits, and those owners could then be contacted. Ms. Mullin suggested continued violators could be referred to Code Enforcement.

Vice Chair Lucey inquired about the cost of decibel-monitoring systems. Ms. Mullin responded the cost could vary depending on how many devices were needed. She said a service called NoiseAware was utilized in the City of Henderson, and she estimated the annual cost to STRs was less than \$500 plus an annual subscription fee. Vice Chair Lucey asked if all STRs would be required to implement decibel-monitoring technology. Ms. Mullin replied that staff suggested applying the technology to problem STRs at first, or tier 2 and 3 properties with higher occupancy limits.

Vice Chair Lucey asked how the terms 'occupancy' and 'occupant' were defined. He wanted to know if long-term tenants or owners were considered occupants. He also noted that some properties, such as those used for weddings, might have many individuals coming in for a short time or for day use only. Ms. Mullin clarified that no differentiation had been made between daytime and nighttime occupancy as staff felt the impact would be the same to the surrounding property owners.

Commissioner Jung noted some members of the community had expressed a desire for separate standards to be applied in different areas of the County, such as in Incline Village and Crystal Bay. She wondered if this was legally possible, recalling an instance where the BCC had been unable to address clutter problems with certain nuisance properties or particular areas within the County because of spot zoning issues.

Ms. Mullin acknowledged there was a section in the Development Code that went along with each of the area plans and was applicable to each distinct area within Washoe County, which allowed for some deviation from standards within the code. She said it allowed for more flexibility, whether more restrictive or less, but it would be applicable within that area most of the time. Commissioner Jung asked if this was spot zoning; Ms. Mullin responded she would not call it spot zoning, but said it was certainly something that could allow for additional flexibility. She said many residents had expressed a desire to have separate STR standards implemented at the lake, but because more than 90 percent of Washoe County's STRs were concentrated in that specific area, staff expected any regulations to be applicable and make sense for residences at the lake as well as across the rest of the County.

Commissioner Jung suspected STRs might be the new normal for homeowners due to the growing housing crisis and wages which were not keeping up with the rising cost of living. She urged the Board to be cautious and wondered why STR issues were not being addressed by property managers instead of local governments. She thought it was a good idea for the BCC to reevaluate STR guidelines in 12 to 18 months to see what had worked and what needed to be changed. She also noted there had been a coordinated effort to reduce the number of vehicles in South Shore, Lake Tahoe, out of concern for the lake's fragile environment, and she opined those who visited without bringing cars should be rewarded or incentivized. She wanted to know why property managers were not more involved in cases where younger people visited Lake Tahoe to party without a good sense of the rules.

Commissioner Berkbigler said she would hold most of her questions and comments until after public comment, but she wanted to address the issue of parking. She believed vehicles parking on impervious surfaces disturbed soils and particulates, and caused runoff which contributed to lake pollution. She said parking and vehicle traffic at the lake had been an ongoing concern for decades, but she hoped progress might be made on some of the issues soon. She noted County management was working with different agencies and stakeholders including the Tahoe Transportation District (TTD), the Nevada Department of Transportation, and the Regional Transportation Commission, to coordinate locations for buses, shuttles, trolleys, and carpool parking to reduce traffic. She also mentioned 'No Overnight Parking' signs would be put up in several places and the Sheriff's Office was considering reduced speed limits in certain areas; Interim County Manager Dave Solaro could provide more detail if needed. Commissioner Berkbigler felt that implementing STR regulations and guidelines would allow the County to resolve some of the problems for residents in Incline Village.

Chair Hartung questioned whether alternative housing opportunities for seasonal employees were really a function of STRs. He opined this was more an issue of housing and asked about the definition of a short-term rental. Ms. Mullin explained staff had included that as a benefit because STRs might be more accessible to seasonal employees than some units requiring longer lease terms. She also noted STR rules would not apply if a tenant rented a property for a longer term. Chair Hartung wondered whether renting out a bungalow located on his property would fall within the STR category; Ms. Mullin responded any bungalow or even just a room in a home that was offered for short-term rental use was considered an STR.

Chair Hartung reminded the audience the Board's intent was to revisit the STR guidelines again in a year or so. He noted permits were required to park in residential neighborhoods in the vicinity of the University of Nevada, Reno, and asked if staff had considered implementing a similar requirement for STRs. Ms. Mullin replied staff had considered this and other options to reduce or prevent street parking for STRs, but she said additions to the County Code would be necessary to allow enforcement of these new regulations. She noted the discussion regarding potential STR parking issues had led to additional suggestions, such requiring that a certain number of parking spaces tied to the allowed number of occupants be developed within each property's boundaries, and requiring all STR advertisements to list the number of available parking spaces. Staff hoped these requirements might help reduce the impact of STRs in areas such as Incline Village.

Chair Hartung wanted to know who would be responsible for enforcing STR parking rules and noise restrictions, referencing the potential impact on local police and sheriff personnel. Ms. Mullin said the hope was that introducing a 24/7 hotline through Host Compliance, LLC, paired with requiring a local responder for each STR, would reduce impacts on the Sheriff's Office and the non-emergency line. She said Code Enforcement staff would also be involved and she believed at least one position would need to be added for this purpose. Finally, she said there would always be some residents who chose not to use the hotline and would just call the Sheriff's Office, who would respond just as they would to any other complaint of a similar nature.

Ms. Mullin explained some property managers and STR owner/operators wanted to know why the proposed regulations should apply only to STRs. Staff had responded that, while STRs were still a type of residential use, they were also a specific use type with neighborhood and community impacts beyond those of most residential properties. Additional rules and regulations could help ensure STRs remained compatible with their surrounding neighborhoods.

Chair Hartung expressed opposition to the requirement that STR permit applicants attest to compliance with CC&Rs. He spoke about property managers dealing with tenants who violated special use permit (SUP) regulations, and noted he had heard Airbnb.com might have a new hotline. He also asked how staff had decided to recommend one parking space be provided for every three STR occupants. Ms. Mullin said the number of people in a vehicle coming to STRs could vary widely, but the Incline Village General Improvement District had recently done a study which found an average of 2.5 people per

vehicle visited the area in the winter season and an average of 4 people per vehicle visited in the summer. She said staff had decided to go with a figure in the middle of those estimates.

Chair Hartung wanted to know how occupancy limits would be enforced, and Ms. Mullin replied this was another area where additions to the County Code would be needed, such as requiring every advertisement to clearly state the maximum occupancy for each unit and requiring operators to post exterior signage with these limits on each STR for the benefit of first responders.

On the call for public comment, Mr. Wayne Ford summarized a letter he had submitted to the CSD, opining STRs would lead to building and planning code conflicts and result in some eventual bans. He noted hotels and motels were required to provide parking spaces based on the number of bedrooms they offered, plus a certain number of spaces for employees. He said he did not agree with the proposed tiers and noted other vehicles such as jet skis and boats needed to be considered. He spoke about the use of pavers to address off-street parking needs, site congestion, bringing larger parcels into Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) compliance, and the usefulness of floor plans to first responders. He believed on-street parking caused problems with road sweeping and interfered with TRPA goals and bus routes. He urged the BCC to adjust the proposed tiers based on the number of bedrooms.

Mr. Mike Hess expressed gratitude for the proposed regulations on STRs but said they would add confusion if they were not linked to the zoning use or permitting process. He said issuance of an STR permit did not supersede private certificates of restrictions. He brought up three legal issues: the County needing to ensure CC&Rs were not violated by STR permits, the legal requirement for real estate agents to disclose that CC&Rs were legally recorded and binding, and homeowners defending their CC&Rs in court being able to sue the County, real estate agents, and the STR homeowner. He asserted the proposed regulations required clarity. He opined building and use codes needed to be updated if STRs were to supersede residential use.

Ms. Rhonda Tyser submitted a document for the Board, a copy of which was placed on the record. She said the proposed policy recommendations focused on nuisance and safety but did not address two of the most important negative effects of STRs: the character of residential neighborhoods and the effect on affordable housing in the community. She asserted the only way to address these was to limit the number and density of STRs. She said TRPA's best practices suggested limiting STRs. She wondered why many major cities were banning or restricting STRs if they were so economically beneficial. She suggested the Board put a strict cap on STRs, prohibit them in deed-restricted areas, and ensure density controls.

Ms. Sarah Schmitz acknowledged it was difficult to set regulations for an industry that operated for years without oversight. She lived adjacent to a large home that operated as an STR year-round even though the CC&Rs forbade businesses. She said the home had a high occupancy rate which was often exceeded, generated an excessive amount

of garbage, and often had a large number of vehicles parked in the driveway. She argued the proposed regulations would not fix those issues. She recommended the County require SUPs for STRs as was done for bed and breakfasts, which would keep neighbors informed and educate absentee owners on use restrictions. She noted the number of STRs in a neighborhood was not addressed by the proposed regulations and she felt occupancy limits needed to be decreased per TRPA guidelines.

Nancy Parent, County Clerk, stated she had received email correspondence from Ms. Carol Black, a copy of which was placed on the record. Ms. Black also submitted a document for the Board, a copy of which was placed on the record. She stated STRs did not limit residential use. She provided a list of lodging types as characterized by the County. She said season rentals were long-term rentals and vacation rentals had changed in the prior decade; STRs resembled transient lodging. The renters were unvetted, unknown to property owners, and unfamiliar with the area. She believed STRs fit the definition of commercial use as defined by Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and should require SUPs. She thought the proposed regulations were a start but needed to be more aggressive.

Chair Hartung reminded public commenters with documents for the Board to provide them to the Clerk prior to speaking.

Ms. Diane Heirshberg displayed a document, a copy of which was placed on the record. She was told by staff that a disclosure of CC&Rs stating STRs were not permitted would be required for all condominiums and planned unit developments. She said most developments in Incline Village had rules prohibiting STRs. She noted NRS 116.340 stated properties with CC&Rs limiting use to residential could be used for transient commercial use only if it was not prohibited by the governing documents of the association. She read the City of Henderson's STR statute and the City of Las Vegas' regulations for STRs. She said Douglas County suggested all homeowner associations (HOAs) send a letter notifying owners of restrictions. She provided the Code to Assistant District Attorney Paul Lipparelli and submitted a list of TRPA neighborhood compatibility guidelines not included in the proposed regulations.

Mr. Richard Miner stated the regulations suggested by planning staff would primarily be borne by the Incline Village and Crystal Bay communities, but staff did not make recommendations about the appropriateness of STRs for those communities. He compared STRs in residential areas to the invasive quagga mussels that threatened Lake Tahoe. He urged the Commissioners to recognize that enforcement would be paramount to the regulation of STRs and planning staff had no evidence of the effectiveness of Host Compliance, LLC. He said TRPA had not established a list of regulatory options for jurisdictions.

Ms. Denise Miller was called but was not present to speak.

Mr. Scott Minick recalled the Constitution mentioned domestic tranquility. He noted renters of STRs were predominantly young and partied during their stay. He thought staff's goal of fairness was noble but did not believe all parties were equal because

there were more residents than STR renters. He said democracy was about the will of the majority and he believed STRs needed to be banned or heavily regulated to preserve the nature of residential areas. He requested that staff add light pollution to the list of regulations.

Ms. Linda Newman opined the number of STRs needed to be limited to protect health and safety, as well as the clarity of the lake; and a maximum population density needed to be established to ensure sustainable infrastructure. She stated STRs exacerbated staffing and funding challenges for schools, fire and police departments, and other critical agencies. She thought STRs needed to meet the same standards and permitting requirements as hotels, motels, and bed and breakfasts. She thought STRs needed to be banned if the County did not have the resources to enforce regulations for them, since it was not the responsibility of residents to patrol STRs. She believed a separate tier of regulation was necessary for property owners who relied on STR income to remain in their homes.

Ms. Judith Miller spoke about a shooting that occurred in a California STR on October 31, 2019. She opined the residents of Incline Village would fare worse because the Sheriff's Office was often unable to respond to noise complaints. She said many communities only permitted STRs that had on-site hosts. She requested the Board require an on-site manager since they would not ban STRs completely. She noted there were limited exit routes in the Tahoe basin and the additional traffic from STRs would impede evacuations. She asked the Board to limit STR permits.

Mr. Michael Abel submitted a document for the Board, a copy of which was placed on the record. He stated the Sheriff's Office struggled with the current workload and asked how it would have the staffing to enforce STR regulations. He suggested the Board ban STRs to prevent future issues. He expressed concern about the availability of affordable housing for resident workers in Incline Village. He said STRs might be possible if the County funded an agency to redevelop aging infrastructure into higher density affordable housing, since taxes collected by the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA) were not used to fund Tahoe infrastructure. He said workers commuting to the Lake Tahoe area would exacerbate traffic, air pollution, and parking concerns.

Mr. Blane Johnson indicated that properties managed by a licensed Nevada property manager did not experience the same issues as properties managed by individuals out of the area. He thought a local representative would be helpful to respond to issues at an STR, and suggested a different fee structure for an STR managed by a licensed property manager. The lower fee would encourage owners to use a local representative. He mentioned property managers worked with seasonal employees who rented vacation rentals by devising a more affordable monthly rate. He noted licensed property managers operated under State-level guidance.

Ms. Diane Brown, Chair of the Incline Village Realtors (IVR) Public Policy Committee, said IVR supported private property rights, the ability to rent, and the health

and safety of all residential properties. She indicated that IVR performing more than one inspection was costly, could be redundant, and inspections needed to be limited to life and safety. She said parking issues in Incline Village were not necessarily attributable to STRs so vehicle limits needed to be reasonable and enforceable for all properties. She expressed concern about a 30-minute response time and suggested using a local licensed property manager.

Ms. Erika Lamb, President-Elect of the Reno/Sparks Association of Realtors (RSAR), said a homeowner had the right to own, sell, or rent their property. She mentioned the RSAR did not defend bad tenants and they supported the enforcement of nuisance ordinances. She complimented County staff for making the effort to seek public input from all individuals interested in STR regulation. She expressed concern about the 30-minute response time because the County was large. She understood additional occupancy during daylight hours was generally accepted, and nationwide limits typically allowed increased occupancy for children and infants. She felt older homes should not be subject to newer building codes. She noted exterior signage at STRs might create safety issues.

Mr. Pete Todoroff submitted documents for the Board, copies of which were placed on the record. He said safety issues were not included in the STR regulations. He noted he corresponded with North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District (NLTFPD) Chief Ryan Sommers regarding safety and the cost of annual inspections for STRs. He thought the fire department should do annual inspections and issue permits, which would be paid by those collecting fees on the properties. He mentioned a news article about a 19 year old who passed away in a fire in a loft bedroom in Incline Village.

Mr. Andy Chapman said STRs in Lake Tahoe had been in use for decades and conjectured many residents of Lake Tahoe had first been visitors to the area. There was no development of new hotels so he felt accommodations for visitors needed to be addressed. He stated how STRs were addressed in other jurisdictions had varying degrees of success. He said the commonsense regulations that were being developed were appreciated, though some elements needed additional work. He noted the annual occupancy over the prior five years was 63.3 percent according to the RSCVA tax authority, so STRs were not at capacity.

Ms. Margaret Martini asked how a single-family residence could be rented to multiple people for various periods of time without being considered an investment property. She expressed concern about the inconsistency of legal definitions used by staff and the District Attorney to justify the hotel-type use of single-family residences. She believed the ordinance did not address several issues concerning STRs. She said the County would need to find funding or hope the fines were sufficient to cover the cost of enforcement. She asserted NLTFPD Resolution 17.1 needed to be included in the STR ordinance.

Mr. Frank Wright assumed the Commissioners would not want a party at a rental home in their neighborhood every other weekend. He told a story of an 800-square

foot home that was rented out for a 3-day weekend and more than 150 people arrived. He did not believe having a license would prevent this type of behavior in STRs as more people than expected tended to show up. He indicated Incline Village and Crystal Bay residents were told they did not have the power to enforce STRs. He thought commercial businesses needed to be in commercial areas.

Mr. Thomas Bruce stated he was a resident of Spanish Springs and had no current rental properties. He displayed a publication from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) related to residential rental property, a copy of which was placed on file with the Clerk. He read from the document and said the use of a home or rental for less than 15 days was not considered to be a rental and the income was not required to be reported to the IRS. He stated this was clearly an STR. He indicated the people in Montreux may have taken advantage of this practice during the Reno-Tahoe Open. He did not see any indication that this IRS publication had been taken into consideration.

Commissioner Jung said she was impressed with Ms. Mullin's professionalism and subject matter expertise throughout the STR project, and thought she had done a great job confronting a difficult issue. Commissioner Jung wondered if an issue in South Lake Tahoe had been resolved yet; she believed the answer was no. She said the Board should watch the issue very closely as it would be going to the higher courts.

Responding to citizens who opined the Board did not have to listen to the District Attorney's advice, Commissioner Jung disagreed and said the DA and his team were subject matter experts who advised what was legal and what was not. She reminded constituents this was what the DA had been elected to do.

Commissioner Jung spoke about vacation rentals surrounding Lake Tahoe and asked Ms. Mullin to determine how many of the complainants were full-time residents of Incline Village. She believed occupancy rates should be based on square footage rather than the number of bedrooms in each unit. She clarified that when she spoke about a local responder being available to address STR issues within 30 minutes, she meant by phone, not in person. She also stated STRs managed by licensed property managers should be under a different tier or removed from the County's purview; she believed the property managers would take on the legal, financial, and judicial responsibilities for those units. She opined they were the most qualified to deal with STR issues.

Finally, Commissioner Jung believed many of the citizen activists present who insisted they wanted SUPs might not fully understand their implications. She expressed concern that the County could be sued for interfering with private property owners' rights. She opined these rights distinguished the United States from other nations; she said she would fight against anyone who tried to tell her what to do with her own home. She reiterated Ms. Mullin and staff had done a great job maintaining neutrality and arguing for both sides of a very personal issue.

Chair Hartung asked Deputy District Attorney Nathan Edwards to discuss some of the legal issues. He noted a commenter had cited NRS 116.340 and he believed

other pieces of legislation were relevant to the issue. Mr. Edwards said he thought Chair Hartung referred to CC&Rs on property, also known as servitudes. He noted CC&Rs were discussed at the meeting, amongst staff, and during community outreach events. He said one issue discussed was whether the County should require a certification from an applicant for an STR. The advice given by the DA's Office was that it was outside the scope of what the County did in regard to land use planning. He spent a significant amount of time looking into the history of CC&Rs and found it would fall outside.

Mr. Edwards quoted a Law Review article about the challenges and difficulties of interpreting CC&Rs and he discussed some of their history. He said one of the most recent publications from the American Law Institute noted that servitudes were private law devices and public law doctrines for regulating use of law such as zoning did not apply in those contexts; CC&Rs permitted the creation of neighborhoods restricted to particular uses. He summarized that CC&Rs historically provided a mechanism of private enforcement, not one of public enforcement. The issue of certification was that an applicant would certify they were not violating CC&Rs, a neighbor would counter they were in violation, and the County would be in the middle deciding which party was right. He indicated the wiser answer was for the CC&Rs to be treated like the private law restrictions they were. The County could put a notification in a permit saying they did not override the CC&Rs and it would be up to the neighbors and the HOA to enforce them.

Commissioner Berkbigler expressed appreciation for Ms. Mullin's efforts. She noted Ms. Mullin spent most of the summer holding meetings and working on the issue, and was the subject matter expert on the regulation of STRs. Commissioner Berkbigler said she usually supported less government, but she thought regulations were needed to address issues created by STRs. She believed much of the blame STRs received was undeserved. She observed many homeowners had parties, broke the laws, and behaved badly, even in good neighborhoods. She opined regulations were necessary and believed a ban would not work largely because the community was unique. Many of the residents lived there only part of the year and opinions differed on whether they should be able allowed to rent out their property.

In response to a comment about STRs being loud at all hours, Commissioner Berkbigler noted the regulations would attempt to address that issue, adding that Ms. Mullin mentioned the regulations clearly prohibited noise after 10:00 p.m. She stated Lake Tahoe was an internationally treasured vacation community, but one disadvantage was any regulations put in place for STRs would limit all residents, including owners. She noted comments were made about increased traffic and parking issues. She agreed traffic was a significant issue. She mentioned the TTD was on the third stage of a traffic study which attributed the increased traffic issues to day-trippers. She said there would continue to be an increase in traffic from day-trippers as the surrounding areas grew. She concluded the traffic issues had nothing to do with STRs. She thought it was important to think globally and consider the best way to address STRs and the traffic issue simultaneously.

Commissioner Berkbigler asked whether licensing fees would be sufficient to pay for enforcement. She thought the key would be enforcement, which included paying

for additional deputies, code enforcement, and fire district personnel. She was aware staff was working on issues with redirecting the existing Transient Occupancy Tax to funding additional support. She said residents who attended the Incline Village/Crystal Bay CAB meeting in October offered to form a volunteer group to photograph vehicles parked illegally and email the photos to the proper authority. She summarized her goal was to put together a program that would benefit the community. She acknowledged it would not fix all the issues immediately and it would be a work in progress. She suggested changing one of the staff recommendations to allow one parking space for every four people. She expressed concern about whether occupancy should be limited by the number of bedrooms or whether it should be based on square footage.

Vice Chair Lucey referenced the tier permitting system and asked whether any Tier 2 properties, allowing between 11 to 20 occupants, had been identified within Washoe County. Ms. Mullin shared that a recent staff search of active listings on Airbnb.com revealed 40 or 50 properties that allowed 11 to 20 occupants, and a handful that allowed 21 occupants or more. She cautioned the numbers were captured at a specific point in time and might change. She noted staff had reviewed listings on Airbnb.com as it was the most popular platform and, at the time of the search, they had not yet received complete information from Host Compliance, LLC. She clarified the search had been for listings within the Incline Village and Crystal Bay zip codes. Vice Chair Lucey asked whether any of those listings had ever actually hosted the maximum number of occupants. Ms. Mullin did not have information on actual versus advertised occupancies, but thought staff might be able to track these types of details once a system and permits were implemented. She noted the Airbnb.com search results had included listings ranging from a three-bedroom home, whose host claimed it could sleep 25 to 30 people, to four-bedroom homes which self-limited to lower occupancy levels. Vice Chair Lucey expressed some reservation about allowing STRs with occupancy limits greater than 21. Vice Chair Lucey also mentioned the possibility of distinguishing between adults and children when determining occupancy limits.

Vice Chair Lucey spoke about homeowners who might need to rent out rooms in their homes for short periods of time, as well as true investment properties which were rented on a short-term basis. He asked whether staff considered these STRs in both scenarios; Ms. Mullin confirmed this was correct. Vice Chair Lucey noted there were cases currently in the California Supreme Court which challenged the definitions of home-sharing and STRs. He described some ways in which the proposed STR regulations would impact a retired veteran and homeowner on a fixed income in his district who relied on renting out a room in his home. He opined more definition was needed for STRs regarding home-sharing versus investment properties, and remarked a host compliance individual would not be needed in cases where the owner was on site.

Vice Chair Lucey wanted to continue to consider STR safety issues and inspections, and said he was worried about fire danger and defensible space. He felt every residence, whether occupied by owners or tenants, represented an evacuation concern. He thought development needed to be stopped if there were evacuation issues in a particular area, and said the County should not implement ordinance-based rules that would end up

being challenged in court. He opined the requirements for STR permits and occupancy limits to be posted outside each unit seemed somewhat overbearing. He also thought many visitors chose to stay at STRs rather than hotels to see if they might want to relocate to Washoe County, and limiting that ability by banning STRs would be short-sighted.

Vice Chair Lucey mentioned parking issues in areas such as Gonowabi Road in Crystal Bay, a one-way street which was home to some very large residences. He believed telling private homeowners what they could and could not do with their homes based on STR parking restrictions could result in lawsuits. He also spoke about noise restrictions and said this was a good-neighbor issue. He explained how he and his family rented a home in a vacation town to relax, but experienced frustration with neighboring homeowners who partied almost every night. He opined the BCC could not write ordinances at the dais just to make one bad actor stop. He felt there should be some basic regulations for STRs, but too many limitations would lead to issues with enforcement.

Vice Chair Lucey shared some examples of annual permit fees ranging from \$80 in Los Angeles County to \$200 in New York. He did not feel the total revenue the County generated from permit fees would be sufficient to enforce the proposed STR regulations, and noted that the more onerous the restrictions became, the more challenging and costly they would be for the County to enforce. Regarding fines, he liked what had been implemented in Los Angeles County: owners were fined \$500 for every day they advertised a unit without proper STR permits, and these fines increased over time if noncompliance continued. Vice Chair Lucey believed there should be some basic regulation and good-neighbor policies regarding STRs, and said STRs should continue to be allowed in Washoe County. This would require an understanding and an amicable discussion of the impacts they would have on owners and tenants across the County, not just in Incline Village.

Mr. Lipparelli noted he and Mr. Edwards had worked together on the STR issues and Mr. Edwards attended many staff meetings and had immersed himself in the law on the subject. He wanted to assure Commissioners the DA's Office had examined the laws cited by some citizens and, while their ideas were well-intentioned, he recommended the County not become involved in the issue of private covenants. Mr. Lipparelli noted the association statute previously referenced did contain a provision related to transient lodging, but counsel believed this provision authorized private homeowners associations and private property owners to regulate themselves; nothing in that chapter placed the County or even a city in the role of enforcing those rules. When the County issued licenses or permits, he noted, it had to apply its own standards for the issuance of those permits. Similarly, when the DMV issued driver licenses, it applied governmental standards to the issuance of those licenses. He felt the County getting into a role where it attempted to apply standards people had written for themselves could be troublesome. Even though it might seem convenient because some rules were already in place, Mr. Lipparelli continued, the rules needed to be enforced by the parties who had a right to enforce them, and that did not include the County. He assured any Commissioners who might not have been included in the email conversations regarding this subject that these issues had been considered by the County's legal staff.

Chair Hartung said one commenter brought up the issue of deed restrictions and asked how such restrictions might apply to STRs. Mr. Lipparelli responded deed restrictions were a form of a servitude in some instances, and could either be imposed from the time a property was first sold by a developer and apply throughout the chain of title through subsequent property owners, or they could be something an individual owner did within their own chain of title. Either way, he felt deed restrictions were a private property owner's tool rather than a government tool. He explained that writing regulations at the County level was a form of police power and opined the County should keep that separate from the rights which private individuals used to enforce their own private rules.

Chair Hartung said he was fearful of trying to condemn anyone's property rights. He noted one commenter had opined the majority should rule, but Chair Hartung felt this implied minorities had no rights. He said the County could attempt a complete ban on STRs, but opined that wars had been fought over prohibition and even caused some to go underground, leading to even more difficulties with enforcement. He clarified he did not mean STRs did not need any rules or boundaries.

Chair Hartung asked Ms. Mullin about SUPs. Ms. Mullin responded staff had discussed the use of SUPs, and STRs were an allowed use at Tier 1 occupancy levels. At Tiers 2 and 3, with higher numbers of occupants, a discretionary permit process would come into play. She noted staff was actually steering away from the SUP process and considering something which might be a little more streamlined, such as an administrative process similar to what was used for detached accessory dwellings. In that process, plans were sent to agencies for review, neighboring owners were notified and their comments considered, and then everything was sent to a director for final determination. She said the process was faster because it did not require a public hearing, and additional conditions of approval could be imposed above and beyond the required basic standards in the code if needed. A process such as this would allow staff to consider the specifics of each STR property and any potential impacts which might need to be mitigated, as well as how each STR would fit into the surrounding neighborhood or community.

Chair Hartung said another speaker had mentioned limiting the number of permits by the population and density of each neighborhood, but he could see the County going to court if such limitations were imposed. Ms. Mullin responded staff had also discussed that possibility and had decided not to include it as part of the proposed solutions.

Chair Hartung liked the idea of having an inspection checklist. He also said there was not one BCC member who was not deeply concerned about citizens' safety, whether in STRs or residential properties. He discussed noise restrictions and opined that imposing restrictions on STRs would eventually lead to the same restrictions being imposed on homeowners as well. He thought bear boxes might be necessary in certain areas, saying short-term renters from out of the area might not realize the danger and needed to be educated. He liked the idea of using a property manager or local representative. He thought staff had sufficient direction and said the legal team also had notes.

Ms. Mullin requested clarification on the direction regarding STR parking restrictions. Vice Chair Lucey reiterated his concern about imposing restrictions on certain areas which might not be suitable for other areas in the County. He spoke about parking challenges in Incline Village but indicated this was not a new problem nor was it limited to STRs. He expressed uncertainty regarding staff's suggested parking space requirements and occupancy limits.

Commissioner Jung spoke about considering complaints on a case-by-case basis and suspected many would be driven by the same bad actors. She thought incentives should be provided for STRs managed by licensed property managers, and she appreciated that some owners promoted the use of public transportation, carpooling, and other methods of travel which reduced vehicle traffic in Lake Tahoe. She did not believe the County had the right to tell private property owners to pave over their landscaping in order to provide more parking spaces for their STRs. She opined some of the complaints sounded like elitist arguments and believed there were a few vocal minorities making a big deal out of the issue. She looked forward to finding out how many complainants actually lived in Incline Village year-round.

Commissioner Jung also thought many STR issues should go through a property manager rather than County staff, and expressed concern that the discussion had become too detail-oriented. She reminded constituents the Board intended to eventually reevaluate any regulations implemented and said a specific date should be set for doing so. She respected the rights and concerns of those opposed to STRs, but believed judges would always uphold private property owners' rights if the issues went to court. She suggested constituents contact her in situations where they wished to file a complaint but did not want their name on the report for fear of causing a dispute with their neighbor. Commissioner Jung stated she would put her own name on a complaint if needed.

Commissioner Berkbigler suggested basing parking on the number of paved-surface parking spaces at the property instead of square footage or the number of bedrooms. Her biggest concern was that parking in unpaved areas would contribute to runoff and lake pollution.

...

**4:51 p.m.** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

**From:** [Paul Andronico](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Cc:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Jung, Kitty](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on Proposed Changes to Code Re Short Term Rental Standards - Washoe County Board of Supervisors Hearing - December 12, 2019  
**Date:** Thursday, December 05, 2019 1:50:14 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

After reviewing the draft amendments to the code, I can't believe that the County is going to create two classes of people in Incline Village. Short term renters and owners of short term rentals, and everybody else.

Everybody else can party after 10 p.m. and can sleep as many people as they want in a modestly sized bedroom. Short term renters, however, have to be quiet at 10 p.m. (with no recourse against the late-night partying of owners or long-term renters next door), and are limited to one occupant for any bedroom under 100 square feet. To make matters worse, the occupancy restriction is based on some obscure international code that has not been adopted by Washoe County, with the planners cherry-picking one tiny element to bolster their strong-arm tactics.

Similarly, owners of long-term rentals aren't responsible for the behavior of their tenants. But owners of short term rentals face fines and loss of their permit based on the behavior of their tenants.

Ever heard of equal protection under the law? The recent judgement against the County for treating owners of large homes in Incline Village differently than owners of smaller homes for tax assessment purposes is apparently lost on you.

You want occupancy, noise, parking and other restrictions? Fine. But make them apply equally to everyone.

Shame on the planners for proposing these divisive and constitutionally flawed amendments, and shame on anyone who votes for them.

Paul Andronico

> On Nov 8, 2019, at 12:24 PM, Paul Andronico <paul@andronico.com> wrote:

>

> Dear Commissioners and County Staff, I am writing to comment on the staff recommendations for the regulation of short term rentals in Washoe County, Nevada which will be discussed at the Washoe County Board of Supervisors hearing on November 12, 2019.

>

> From a philosophical perspective, I am saddened and upset to see another case of a "few bad apples" resulting in massive, intense regulation of everyone in an arena (in this case, short term rentals) where no regulations existed in the past. I believe that 99% of short term rental hosts provide homes in good condition and with excellent customer service. My wife and I, for example, have over 25 five-star reviews on Airbnb and have never had a problem with our neighbors regarding our rental activities. Similarly, several of our neighbors rent their condominiums out regularly, and we have never had a problem with their rental activities. No regulations, and no problems.

>

> Assuming the "regulation freight train" has left the station, here are my comments on the most egregious elements of the standards recommend by City staff that I believe are overly restrictive, unnecessary and possibly illegal:

>

> 1. I strongly oppose limiting the occupancy of a bedroom under 100 square feet to a single occupant. The third bedrooms in our condominium complex (Mountain Shadows) are typically more than 90 but less than 100 square feet. If this recommendation is accepted, we will only be allowed to rent our 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath home to 5 people unless we want to (a) replace our couch with a hide-a-bed model at great expense, and (b) force our guests to sleep on an uncomfortable couch bed instead of a comfortable, dedicated bed in our 3rd bedroom. This is unacceptable, especially when this overly intrusive requirement would only apply to short term guests and not to long term

renters. In other words, this is not a safety issue but a naked attempt to reduce occupancy just for the sake of reducing occupancy.

>

> 2. My wife and I can abide by the requirement of having a representative available 24/7, but I believe this approach is unwise. Instead, any noise ordinance or "quiet time" should apply to the occupants who are making the noise (short term renters, long term renters, or owners) and enforceable against the people causing the noise, with fines handed out as appropriate. This move to blaming the owner when the renter is causing the problem is another example of society, and Washoe County, moving away from accountability for wrong-doers and blaming others who aren't even there. It's like blaming Avis when one of its renters injures someone while driving their rental car while under the influence. I expect this approach in California, but Nevada is better than this.

>

> 3. My wife and I can abide by the "3 people per parking space" recommendation and the related "no parking in the right-of-way" recommendation. Again, however, I believe it is unwise to treat short term renters differently than long-term renters and owners. Plus, the new occupancy limitations, in whatever form they are enacted, will greatly reduce any parking issues that may have occurred in the past.

>

> 4. Lastly, we have no problem personally with a safety inspection. But again these inspections should be required for every home regardless of rental status. Is safety only important for short term renters? Are long term renters not entitled to the same level of safety as short term renters?

>

> It is obvious to me that County staff is well intentioned, did a good job canvassing what other jurisdictions are doing with respect to short term rentals, and tried to pick the "best" solutions they could find. Unfortunately, they decided to recommend regulating virtually every element of short terms rentals, rather than focusing on a few, focused regulations to reasonably mitigate noise and parking issues.

>

> Please remember that this short term rental regulatory effort was promised to be simple, effective and enforceable, and that the starting point was NO REGULATION. The draft recommendations proposed by City staff go way past this standard, and if adopted by Washoe County, are likely to breed further frustration and, ultimately, litigation.

>

> Thank you for your consideration.

>

> Best,

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> Paul Andronico

>

>

>

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>

**From:** [Steve Barney](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STR, Incline Village  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2019 8:52:52 AM

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The following provision in the draft proposal, Section 110.319.10 (h) (3) seems to me the most important, and I urge you to retain it:

(3) An STR permit does not relieve the property owner of complying with any applicable private restrictions on the property such as CC&Rs or homeowners association rules.

Thank you, Stephen A. Barney, 667 Tumbleweed Circle, Incline Village, NV

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Dene Bourne](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STR  
**Date:** Monday, November 11, 2019 6:02:03 PM

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I have been both a host and a traveler who uses STR and I cannot see why this system can't work without burdensome over-site. Reasonable regulation of people who can't be good neighbors seems like a good plan but making it difficult for the people who can behave themselves isn't appropriate. I believe fines and loss of privilege for noise or parking violations is appropriate. I also think party houses and larger groups should be stopped.

Deanne Bourne

3 STRs

Traveler in USA and other countries using STR.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Katrina Carrier](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Re: STR regulations  
**Date:** Thursday, November 07, 2019 1:48:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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Hello Kelly,

Thank you for the update. One last thought on this subject. We have put up a camera at our front door with sound. It allows us to see exactly who is coming into our unit and lets us hear if noise is coming out of our unit. We cannot listen to conversations but can hear ambient noise if a window is open that may disturb a neighbor. This all acts in real time and insures us our guests are complying with occupancy limits and noise. I feel the cameras with sound are better than noise decibel devices. I would like to propose a choice may be made for people considering monitoring their homes. I actually think all hosts should be required to have these cameras. They are inexpensive and solves many issues.

Under Safety and Inspections:

I believe the inspections is the one area that will be very costly and frustrating for both homeowners and the county. When would the specific list come out to know what to expect and be prepared for when the county inspectors come out? I think this kind information needs to be posted as soon as possible so people have time to comply. For example, it just says electrical outlets/systems what does that mean? How can we be assured inspections can take place in time without disrupting an entire season. This could really pose a huge disruption to holiday visitors, hosts and small businesses. Many of us in Washoe County live under HOA's with property management taking care of all these kinds of issues on our buildings. We pay monthly dues to make sure of that it seems quite costly and repetitive to have more inspections than we already do with our associations. Thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns.

Much Appreciation.

Best to You,  
Katrina

On Thu, Nov 7, 2019 at 12:29 PM CSD - Short Term Rentals <[STR@washoecounty.us](mailto:STR@washoecounty.us)> wrote:

Katrina,

Thank you for your email and I'm sorry if you have not received a response previously. Additional information for the short-term rental recommendations has been posted online at [www.washoecounty.us/str](http://www.washoecounty.us/str), including a link to the full staff report and the agenda for next week's meeting. I believe the staff report will answer some of your questions.

Regards,



**Kelly Mullin, AICP**

Senior Planner | Planning & Building Division | Community Services Department

[kmullin@washoecounty.us](mailto:kmullin@washoecounty.us) | Office: 775.328.3608 | Fax: 775.328.6133

1001 E. Ninth St., Reno, NV 89512



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**From:** Katrina Carrier <[katrinacarrier@gmail.com](mailto:katrinacarrier@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 21, 2019 1:23 PM  
**To:** CSD - Short Term Rentals <[STR@washoecounty.us](mailto:STR@washoecounty.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: STR regulations

**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I talked to an Airbnb employee who works with regulations this is what he had to say about inspections may be helpful:

"In terms of the inspections, I completely agree with you. In our experience, whenever a jurisdiction requires in-person inspections it slows down the permitting process and people can be delayed for months as the county/city becomes overwhelmed with performing the inspections. We recommend jurisdictions require self-inspections that are verified through a signed affidavit from the hosts certifying that they are up to standard many times with declaration under penalty of perjury. This speeds up the process rapidly, reduces the cost and time for jurisdictions and hosts, while still giving the jurisdiction the confidence that the hosts is responding truthfully."

Katrina Carrier

On Mon, Oct 21, 2019 at 12:53 PM Katrina Carrier <[katrinacarrier@gmail.com](mailto:katrinacarrier@gmail.com)> wrote:

Designated parking spaces to be provided on the property in a sufficient number to cover the STR's maximum occupancy.

Most hosts will not be able to get designated parking spaces. This is very unclear. I assume if you have a garage that is a designated parking space?

Prior to issuance of STR permit, inspection(s) will need to be passed. Cost of inspections will be paid for by applicant.

Hosts want to comply the hope is if you want homes inspected before permitting you will give a grace period at first so people will not have to cancel guests vacations. Also, I believe it should be a one time inspection not every year! that is an undo burden. Unless someone has a jacuzzi or something that is more of a hazard. Most homes in Incline are under HOA's and are kept up. It is not like anyone would take down a smoke detector after inspection requiring further year after year inspections.

Who will be doing inspections? Are you going to hire people? Hopefully this burden will not be falling upon the fire department. And regular home inspectors for mortgage companies are very expensive and booked out. I hope regulations are not put forth without full thought and verifications of how people can comply. Perhaps permits will have to be given first and inspections be tiered in to make it work?

Please note most of us who Airbnb are not big business, many like myself are retired and rent our place occasionally, so hopefully the fees are not going to be high. I have heard no estimated costs for hosts with the new regulations. I feel those should be published as soon as possible.

Katrina Carrier

**From:** [mark dunbar](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Against Short term Rentals proposals for properties with HOA's  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 26, 2019 7:08:35 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Board of County Commissioners:

Properties that are ruled by a Homeowners Association do and should NOT be intruded upon by Washoe County!

HOA's exist as its' own regime which incorporates a democratic process that establishes and promulgates covenants and rules to reflect the desires of its owners. Very importantly, these rules are "tailored" to address the "specific" needs and/or desires within the of the homeowners, particular situations and demographics. HOA's incorporate a democratic process which rotate Board members that can continually consider and make changes to rules on an ongoing basis as needed.

HOA's are guided by State laws and rules which are thorough. It is already time consuming and complicated to be a Board member of an HOA; consequently, additional rules by the County will make it more challenging; thus, less desirable for an owner to volunteer to serve on its HOA Board. HOA Board members volunteer their time because of a sense of duty to their fellow owners to share the burden of maintaining a desirable property and ownership community.

Additional rules to monitor will increase the responsibility of education, consideration and enforcement by the HOA Board resulting in greater time commitment which will inevitably lead to few if any owners seeking to serve on its Board. It may lead to having to remunerate Board Members which will increase the costs of owner dues.

Lastly, **property values will decline** as less people will be interested in purchasing or owning a property that has additional time, costs and burden to navigate more rules. Vacations properties do not earn enough rent to make it a sensible investment. Most owners do however rent their homes while they are working (not on vacation) to offset some of the HOA and property tax costs to afford the property. It is already expense challenging considering the costs of paying for a rental website, a management company and an accountant. There is no Expense scale of these costs when you own one home.

Consequently, More rules and fees increases these expenses making it less desirable to own a property.

Please exempt properties that are already enforced by a Homeowners Association.

Regards,  
Mark Dunbar

From my iPhone

**From:** [Bill Echols](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STR in Incline  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2019 5:52:23 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Ms. Mullin,

Thank you for your excellent presentation to the Commission earlier this month. A few observations, comments and suggestions.

Full disclosures:

- I am a full-time resident of Incline Village (IV).
- I do not own any rental property.
- I do use VRBO often: I try to be very respectful of neighbors and my presence hopefully is of no note to them.
- We have 2 STR's in our neighborhood: 75% of the renters are quiet and respectful, 25% are bad actors.
- I totally support private property rights. I also believe in private property RESPONSIBILITIES.

I agree with Chairman Hartung: regulation of STR's should be limited, clear and enforceable but regulations should also be self-funding with a fee structure sufficient to cover additional enforcement. I would recommend a fixed charge to cover yearly inspections PLUS a % of rental income to cover ongoing enforcement costs (ie, a sherriff deputy's salary).

Councilman Lucey is correct about Gonowabie: there is virtually no on-street parking. Owners have every right to rent out their property but renters need to be fully apprised that there is NO street parking. It is a public safety issue. His comments on fees charged to STR owners appeared to be soft. The STR owners need to fund their own enforcement and inspection costs. The general public should not be asked to subsidize their business enterprise.

Councilwoman Berkbigler's comments on occupancy and parking was spot on. Instead of regulating occupancy (impossible to enforce) or the number of persons per car or bedroom, limit the number of cars for each property to the number of cars (or boats) the lot can hold on the property (garage plus driveway). Street parking is less of an issue in the summer but it is critical in the winter.

I have to take issue with Councilwoman Jung's suggestion that the real estate management companies take responsibility for enforcement. That is letting the fox guard the hen house. The real estate management companies are not incentivized to come down hard on the bad actors (renters to owners).

One speaker mentioned quiet time: 10pm to 7am is a very wide window. 8pm to 8am I believe is fairer to the local residents. And that does not mean you can't use the hot tub at 10pm. It means you have to use

it quietly. That should be true for full time residents as well.

One of the real estate agents mentioned that signage was not appropriate. Not only is it appropriate, it is essential. How would we as neighbors know who to call if there is a problem? Local presence for a property manager was mentioned a number of times. The STR in our neighborhood has a sign and a toll free number on the bear box. However, the agent I spoke to was located in Port Aransas, Texas. While she understood the issue about noise, she had little appreciation for trash on the curb and its role as a bear attractant and no understanding about street parking on snow days. Local presence should be mandatory.

Councilwoman Jung seemed to have an issue with spot zoning. It should be considered. The rental issues in the basin are much more complex than in Reno. I am not sure forcing a STR owner in Reno to meet the necessary standards here in IV are appropriate or fair (requiring a bear box for example). I also do not believe her comments on private property rights were correct. Governments routinely put limits on private property owners. Just 2 examples:

1. Washoe County's coverage ratios. Maybe a good idea but none the less a restriction on my private property rights.
2. A more egregious example is requiring a property owner to get permission from TRPA to remove a tree.

Renter education was mentioned several times. It should start on the booking website as part of the on-line advertisement and reservation system. Things like:

- no open fires
- no street parking, particularly in the winter
- trash must go in a bear box.
- Quiet time is 8pm to 8am
- Power failures are a common occurrence, particularly in winter. Be prepared for lengthy outages.
- It is NOT okay to ask a neighbor if the renter can borrow / have their snow blower, matches, a bottle of wine, etc, etc. (yes all these things have been requested by renters)

Lastly, I would recommend that the regulation not be described as temporary but as provisional and subject to change. The issues with STR's are not going to go away. Having the adopted regulations expire in one year as Councilwoman Jung suggested is unrealistic. It will take more than a year to get every STR in compliance.

Thank you for your time and attention. Please feel free to contact me if you like.

-- Bill & Judy Echols | H) 775-832-5406 | C) 214-334-8421  
983 Wander Way, Incline Village, NV 89451

**From:** [Tao Feng](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** comment for new STRs  
**Date:** Sunday, December 01, 2019 11:46:23 AM

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As a resident in Incline Village, I believe the new codes for STRs **will not** help the community and will likely result in loss of tax revenue for the local government.

As right now, Washoe county is charging more short term lodging tax compared with neighboring counties (such as South Lake Tahoe, Kings beach). The only advantage of Washoe county right now is not over-regulating like the other counties. Unless reducing short term lodging tax rate, Adding more unnecessary regulations will further harm the small businesses located in Incline Village or surrounding regions.

A majority of local residents depend on tourism revenues, such as workers in diamond peak, ski/bike rentals, house cleaners. Over-regulating will further push business away to nearby competitors such as Kings Beach/North Star, and Heavenly village.

The high real estate price in this county is mostly contributed by vacation homes and the majority of which are not even active for short term rentals. Over-regulating short-term rentals will not help to lower the real estate price but will harm the local economy and local residents.

Over-regulating short-term rentals will not address problems like over-crowded tourists during high seasons. Even completely banning all tourism-related businesses, tourists lodging in nearby towns will still flood this area in high seasons.

The Incline Village area also does not have problems like South lake Tahoe. Short-term rentals are already banned in some high-density apartments/condos. As many houses in incline village area are sparsely located with each other, the noise will not be a problem in these regions.

Thanks for reading my comments

## CAB MEETING STR'S 12/12/19 PUBLIC COMMENT

WAYNE FORD; REFER TO REPORT SENT ON 12/11/19 I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT STRS ARE A COMPATIBLE USE THAT WILL WORK FOR INCLINE AND CRYSTAL BAY.

### Trash / Residence

RULES ; (d) Trash Standards: should , negligent use of home by leaving open the garage doors and residence doors which result in a bear entering a home where trash is found will be considered a violation of the conditions of a STR. That is a series of events within a two year of period of time that a finding can be made the the access to the residence was due to negligent actions by home owners , those using the home as a STR and or the people in charge of the for maintenance purposes. COUNT AS A VIOLATION TOWARD REMOVAL OF THE PERMIT

### Parking and those who take care of the residence

(4) parking ; Those who are take care of the home must use on site parking and not block snow removal access to the streets and also other neighbors driveways in the taking care of the residence. These parties are part of the STR's use. Any use like a motel and hotel have parking provided for those who work at a commercial use. This use of a home as a STR must not affect a neighbors ability to have guest parking and access to their home from those who are taking care of a residence. All parties that serve the needs of the home for cleaning, repair and other services must have a Nevada Business License. That license information must be available to the public upon request.

Exception: A contractor working under a issued County Building Permit shall be subject to the conditions of the permit and abide by local winter and summer parking rules when doing work under that permit.

VIOLATION COUNT AS A VIOLATION AND TOWARD THE REMOVAL OF THE PERMIT

## BMPs REQUIRED

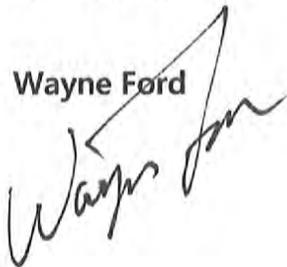
No BMP requirement: There is added use of vehicles to the property. All property in the Tahoe Basin must meet BMP standards to protect the water quality of Lake Tahoe. To not have a more intense use of vehicles on the parcel and not have current slotted drains and sediment boxes for the collection of fluids from vehicles under this use will be not protecting the Lake Water Quality. All properties must have current BMP Cert. or the permit may not be issued. These can be put in on most properties for they do not require a permit for excavation if under 3 cubic yards. ( land cap 4-6) NO PERMIT UNTIL CERTIFIED.

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## PUBLIC RIGHT TO SEE STR APPLICATIONS

All applications and attached documents must be available for public review within 30 days of the issuing of a permit. These must be able to be sent by email to a requesting party. Public access involvement and access is a key in being able to maintain compliance of a STR. Know the special conditions for the granting of a permit.

Wayne Förd



- (4) Within the Tahoe Basin, on-site STR parking may be limited and may require approval of TRPA coverage. Limitations such as these and other factors do not reduce or eliminate the requirement for on-site parking. Inability to develop the appropriate number of parking spaces on-site will subsequently limit the maximum number of occupants allowed by the STR permit.
- i. In extraordinary and limited circumstances within the Tahoe Basin, the Planning and Building Division Director is authorized to consider reducing or relocating the required parking spaces in circumstances where the applicant has provided sufficient evidence that the request is warranted and will not

Page 8 of 22

: November 20, 2019

unduly impact surrounding properties. Such requests shall be made by submitting a director's modification of standards application.

**Noise Standards.** The following noise standards shall be adhered to:

- (1) Short-term rental quiet hours are in effect from 10 p.m. – 7 a.m. Guests shall be instructed to be respectful of the surrounding neighborhood and reduce outdoor activities during this timeframe and shall be informed that proven violations of the



available decibel-monitoring devices with reporting capability. Records from the decibel-monitoring devices must be retained for a minimum of 60-days and made available for Washoe County staff to review upon request.

(d) **Trash Standards.** The following waste removal standards shall be adhered to:

- (1) Trash and other waste must be managed as prescribed by Washoe County Health District, Waste Management and, if applicable, the Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID). Waste cart size must be sufficient to store waste for the maximum number of occupants each week.
- (2) STRs in IVGID's service territory and other bear-prone areas must utilize wildlife-resistant carts and/or bear boxes, except in multi-unit developments where HOAs require and enforce regular trash disposal.
- (3) Waste carts shall only be placed street-side during the timeframes stipulated by the local authority or waste service provider.

2

(e) **Occupancy Limits.** An occupancy limit shall be established for each short-term rental based on individual characteristics of the dwelling unit and property. Overall maximum occupancy of an STR will be determined by the Planning and Building Division Director or her/his designee(s) after considering all the factors below. The maximum number of occupants allowed within an STR is based on the following parameters:

- (1) Bedrooms intended for one occupant shall be a minimum of 70 sq. ft. in size in accordance with the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) Section 404.4.1 (or the currently adopted edition).
- (2) Bedrooms intended for two occupants shall be a minimum of 100 sq. ft. in size.

From: [Wayne Ford](#)  
To: [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hauenstein, Mojra](#); [Lloyd, Trevor](#)  
Date: Tuesday, December 03, 2019 3:30:35 PM  
Attachments: [Counter\\_007-016.pdf](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Consider this my comment, official on the proposed Code changes to allow for STR's in this Community. None of the proposed rules will fix the issue I focused on for this report. There are many others that all have to do with Life and Safety. These properties were never designed for intense use as motel with people coming and going every few days. These structures were never designed for a use that has people coming and going like a motel would. So my next focus will be to send each Commissioner a comment on what was said by them in the last meeting I was at on November 12. I made public comment at that time. You need to understand that County Roads are dealing with hundreds of cars that are being parked against the rules for no parking on "Red" days. I know that one cannot say that all of them are from homes being used as STR's. Yet I can tell you for the past two weeks the people who live in Lynda Court did not cause any issues ALL the car issues were from the use

of the home at  
725 Lynda Court.

Be talking to you soon. This STR approval for residential  
property in Incline needs  
to be Stopped.

**From:** [Wayne Ford](#)  
**To:** [Ronda Tyner Phd](#); [Sara Schmitz](#); [Diane Heirshberg](#); [Todoroff, Pete](#); [Carol and Larry Black](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Young, Eric](#); [Hauenstein, Mojra](#); [Mike Hess](#); [Thomsen, Richard](#)  
**Subject:** Question on such a sunny day as today the 9th why is there a "red" day posted? That is today.  
**Date:** Monday, December 09, 2019 12:23:12 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

You never can predict: Snow Removal / Good Job to those doing the work.

As you all know I have documented the attitude of some of the people using 725

Lynda Court. Some were people staying there. Some were people who were taking care of the home. What was the attitude about. It was the use of the County Road

Way in Lynda Court for parking on "Red" days. They would just move their cars

if a plow came through. So the plow driver is to get of the loader and try and find who owns the cars?

So as I stated that will not work for the plow driver does not have time to wait for people to move cars. It can also be a safety issue with keeping track of cars and

people moving about ,when you are running a big loader. You need a spotter to let you know, when it is safe to back up and turn, with people in the road.

So I am happy to say that all went well today , a "red" day. It is sunny out and one

would not expect a plow to be working. Yet they are . In the case of the area of Lynda Court it was important to move snow from the large piles building up at certain locations in the area. See map provide on the area in what I have sent out. So in this case there is one car at the home at 725 Lynda Court. The car was parked in the drive-way and did not get in the way of the Snow Removal. Good job. If I see them I will let them know.

So one does not know by just the weather if access is needed for the County to do it's job. That is why we have "Red" days with no parking on the streets, for Rich Thompson knows when he needs to catch up between storms to make our streets safer. He has loaders going to certain areas to get snow to places, that are better storage.

Just needed to get this in the record. I hope that it was civil enough for the Director of Planning and Building for I believe it represents one more reason that off street parking cannot be counted on for those who live here and those who do short term rentals.

Wayne Ford

**From:** [Ryan](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Regarding proposed STR requirements  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2019 5:17:21 PM

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There really should be a differentiator. I understand having the rules provided. However some people renting...rent seldom....infrequently. I propose there should be less requirements for this renting less than 45 days in a calendar year. This is merely supplemental income. Not a full blown rental. If you regulate the small renter with the same scrutiny as full time rentals....I believe you are merely punishing the small family filling a need (short stay accommodation.... who can deliver a superior product with much better results I might add) and only rewarding large corporate rentals that really don't care quite as much about there product but rather only there bottom line. They will be the only ones with the \$\$\$ to remain in compliance. This goes to the old adage you'll be killing the small "ma and pas" in favor of corporate behemoths who can't always be the answer to a better product.

--

Ryan

**From:** [Collin Harris](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rentals - Public Comment  
**Date:** Monday, December 09, 2019 12:56:48 PM

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I am in favor of STR's as we often use them when we go on vacation. I am also in favor of reducing the amount of STR's in the Incline Village, NV area due to our town being completely overrun with tourists in the last several years.

These would be my suggestions as to how to limit STR's in the Tahoe area.

- 1) Require owners to actually live in the STR at least 75% of the time.
- 2) Limit the number of people to 10, everybody else goes to a commercial facility, i.e. Hyatt. Also 2 people per bedroom for groups under 10. Kids under 2 wouldn't count in the total.
- 3) Require off street parking. No more parking on the roadways.
- 4) Finally, actual enforcement of the law. This may be somewhat difficult to accomplish.

Sincerely,  
Collin Harris  
775-240-8370

**From:** [phinnoho@aol.com](mailto:phinnoho@aol.com)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Cc:** [ginnyvmh@gmail.com](mailto:ginnyvmh@gmail.com); [paulshatfield@gmail.com](mailto:paulshatfield@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** STR policy in Washoe County  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2019 7:44:55 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

We have owned property in Incline Village since 1999. We sold our first property and purchased a small property in the Millcreek subdivision in 2006. Our current house been on the STR market most of the time through VRBO.

We are responsible owners who have always used a professional property manager with an excellent track record. At Millcreek, the maximum number of guests allowed at our house is four, plus there is ample off street parking for at least five vehicles. Overall, parking is not a problem in any event.

There are other STRs in our Millcreek neighborhood, along with a fair number of full time owners.

We use the house ourselves a several times a years and take good care of it. The rentals have picked up quite a lot since the house was advertised on VRBO. The guests have been responsible. We know our neighbors and have not received a single complaint over the years.

The house rules are enforced and the property manager has been vigilant.

The Incline Village economy would suffer without STRs. Although Incline was intended to be a PUD with a majority sustainable permanent population, it's location made that impossible to attain. Add in the beauty of the region and it is no wonder the community developed into a tourist destination. To expect otherwise would be shortsighted.

Let's embrace STRs, but enforce sensible regulations dealing with common courtesy, not Draconian restrictions.

Please feel free to contact me at 818-903-4577.

Sincerely,  
Paul Hatfield, CPA

**From:** [Diane Heirshberg](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment re the Washoe County Proposed Short-Term Rental Ordinance  
**Date:** Saturday, November 30, 2019 3:47:15 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Re: As Currently Drafted the Washoe County Proposed Short-Term Rental Ordinance Violates Nevada Revised Statutes 116.340

Dear Washoe County:

I am a full time resident of Incline Village, and am writing this email to provide public comment on one issue of the Washoe County Short Term Rental Ordinance, and to request that the following provision recommended in the Staff report, which complies with Nevada Revised Statutes 116.340, be put back into the Ordinance:

“On permit application, property owner must certify under penalty of perjury that STR use does not violate CC&Rs or HOA restrictions; inaccuracy may be cause for permit revocation.”

**The Ordinance as currently drafted violates Nevada Revised Statute 116.340 because Washoe County will illegally issue STR permits for residences in HOAs with CC&Rs that prohibit short term rentals**, without the approval of the executive board, in violation of Nevada Revised Statutes 116.340.

The analysis of Messrs. Lipparelli and Edwards, counsel for the County, discussed and addressed covenants found in the Declaration of Restrictions, and did not address Nevada Revised Statute 116.340 and specific HOA covenants, conditions and restrictions which prohibit short term rentals. I have sent both Mr. Lipparelli and Mr. Edwards a letter asking that they review the case law related to covenants and review Nevada Revised Statute 116.340 and revise their illegal advice and their recommendation to the Board of Commissioners, as their advice confuses general “residential” covenants in Declarations of Restrictions, with the statutory protections given by Nevada Revised Statutes 116.340 to home owners associations which have CC&Rs prohibiting short-term rentals.

#### **1. NRS 116.340**

Nevada Revised Statute 116.340, entitled “**Transient commercial use of units within certain planned communities**”, provides in pertinent part as follows:

“1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a person who owns, or directly or indirectly has an interest in, one or more units within a planned community that are restricted to residential use by the declaration may use that unit or one of those units for a transient commercial use only if:

- (a) **The governing documents of the association and any master association do not prohibit such use;**
- (b) **The executive board of the association ...approve the transient commercial use of the unit**, except that such approval is not required if the planned community and one or more hotels are subject to the governing documents of a master association and those governing documents do not prohibit such use; and
- (c) The unit is properly zoned for the transient commercial use and any license required by the local government for the transient commercial use is obtained.” ...

“4. As used in this section: ...

- (b) “Transient commercial use” means the use of a unit, for remuneration, as a hostel, hotel,

inn, motel, resort, vacation rental or other form of transient lodging if the term of the occupancy, possession or use of the unit is for less than 30 consecutive days.”

## **2. NRS 116.075**

Nevada Revised Statute 116.075 defines a “**planned community**” under this section as:

“Planned community means a **common-interest community** that is not a condominium or a cooperative. A condominium or cooperative may be a part of a planned community.”

## **3. NRS 116.021**

Nevada Revised Statute 116.021 defines a “**common interest community**” as:

“1. “Common-interest community” means real estate described in a declaration with respect to which a person, **by virtue of the persons ownership of a unit, is obligated to pay for a share of real estate taxes, insurance premiums, maintenance or improvement of, or services** or other expenses related to, common elements, other units or other real estate described in that declaration.”

## **4. Article 4, Section 21, of the Nevada Constitution**

Article 4, Section 21, of the Nevada Constitution provides:

“in all cases enumerated in the preceding section, and in all other cases where a general law can be made applicable, **all laws shall be general and uniform operation throughout the State.**”

This is a state statute that was enacted to prohibit transient rentals of units within planned communities, where the HOA CC&Rs have specific prohibitions of transient rentals. This is the reason that Washoe County should have a similar provision to that found in the City of Las Vegas and City of Henderson short term rental ordinances on this subject.

The City of Las Vegas Application requires at Section 6.75.040 (F):

**“(F) If the proposed short-term residential rental unit is located within a gated subdivision or controlled access building that is governed by an owners’ association, a letter or other documentation from the association acknowledging the proposed use and, if necessary, granting access to occupants of the proposed rental unit.”**

The City of Henderson requires in the application a notarized statement under Section 19.5.3.G (3) (i):

- “i. certifying that operation of the short-term vacation rental would not violate any homeowner’s association agreement** or bylaws, condominium agreement, covenants, conditions and restrictions, or any other private agreement governing and limiting the use of the proposed short-term vacation rental;
- ii. acknowledging that the registration with the City will not supersede any such private agreements;”

These cities have recognized that they need to comply with NRS 116.340, and do at least the due diligence to not issue permits to homes protected by NRS 116.340.

## **5. There is a difference between HOAs covered under NRS 116.340 and other residences with Declarations of Restrictions**

I understand that there may be a concern by Washoe County that NRS 116.340 could essentially prohibit short term rentals in virtually all locations in Incline Village because as non-attorneys, they do not understand that there is a difference between the general Declarations of Restrictions and the specific HOA CC&Rs which prohibit transient rentals. Not all HOAs in Incline Village have CC&Rs with prohibitions on short term rentals. But those HOAs that do have restrictive CC&Rs are protected by NRS 116.340, and the Nevada legislature has issued a statute so this is not a private

right that can be ignored by the short-term rental ordinances.

Mr. Lipperelli's discussion at the Board of Commissioners related to the Declaration of Restrictions, was as follows:

"Well deed-restricted areas are a form of a servitude in some instances. It can be imposed on the property the first time it sold to an individual from a developer. That can be the moment when the deed restriction is inserted, and then survives throughout the chain of title to all subsequent property owners. Or it can be something that an individual property owner does in their chain of title. **But again, it's a private law, a private rule. It's a property owner's tool, it's not the government's tool. When you write regulations or ordinances, you're using your police power whether you're regulating health or safety or traffic speeds or land use.** You're using your police power, and when you do that, you get advice from your lawyers about limits on powers and the risks of using them in certain ways. So, we want to keep those separate from the rights that private folks have to enforce their own private rules."

**NRS 116.340 is an exercise by the State of Nevada of its police power**, and Washoe County cannot, by a special, local ordinance circumvent it and fail to follow its provisions. Mr. Lipperelli was describing the Declarations of Restrictions, the covenants in his analysis, not the HOA CC&Rs which are governed by NRS 116.340.

The entire discussion by Mr. Lipperelli and by Mr. Edwards was irrelevant in considering the application of NRS 116.340 to Washoe County's STR Ordinance. All of Mr. Edwards' research into covenants generally was irrelevant and neither Mr. Lipperelli or Mr. Edwards commented on or related to NRS 116.340.

## 6. Example of Restrictive CC&Rs

I would like to show you an example of the type of restrictive CC&Rs that are protected by Nevada Revised Statutes 116.340. I live in Lake Country Estates, and Section 3.1 of the Second Amended and Restate Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions provides, in pertinent part, as follows:

"3.1 Residential Use. Each Unit shall be used as a dwelling for personal, family or household purposes... Units may be rented. Any rental or lease agreement shall be in writing, shall provide that such tenancy is subject to all the provisions of the Association's Governing Documents and a copy shall be provided to the Association. **No Unit shall be rented for a period of less than twelve (12) months. Under no circumstances shall any Unit be rented for hotel or transient commercial purposes**, which is defined as the **use of a Unit, for remuneration as a hostel, hotel, inn, motel, resort, vacation rental or other form of transient lodging** if the term of the occupancy, possession or use is for less than twelve (12) months..."

7. The **Staff Report**, following what other local jurisdictions have done recommended:

**"On permit application, property owner must certify under penalty of perjury that STR use does not violate CC&Rs or HOA restrictions; inaccuracy may be cause for permit revocation."**

I respectfully submit that it was incorrect legal advice to instruct Staff to remove this provision from the Washoe County Short-Term Rental Ordinance and this omission will cause the Ordinance to be in violation of Nevada law. I request that staff to include the above provision in the Ordinance under permitting. **Washoe County should not enact an Ordinance that will issue short term rental permits in violation of Nevada Revised Statutes 116.340.** Therefore, it is necessary for Washoe County to require that the property owner certify that STR use does not violate HOA CC&Rs that prohibit short term rentals. This can be remedied by following the Staff's initial recommendation.

I am a retired California attorney, class of 1973 from UCLA, with 43 years of legal practice. I was Chief Legal Officer for two corporations, outside general counsel for several other corporations, and a partner in two California law firms. I am available to discuss this with the County, Mr. Lipperelli or Mr. Edwards at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

Diane Becker (Heirshberg)  
805-290-2779  
857 Lake Country Dr.  
Incline Village, NV 89451  
[dbheirshberg@gmail.com](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com)

**From:** [Diane Heirshberg](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Cc:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on Short Term Rental Occupancy Limits  
**Date:** Sunday, December 01, 2019 12:02:16 PM  
**Attachments:** [Census data IV occupancy.pdf](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Re: Comment on and **Objection to** the Currently Drafted the Washoe County Proposed Short-Term Rental Ordinance **Occupancy Limits**

Dear Washoe County:

I am a full-time resident of Incline Village, and am writing this email to provide public comment on the issue of the occupancy limits set forth in the proposed Washoe County Short Term Rental Ordinance.

The **average occupancy per household in Incline Village** per the 2017 census was **2.35 persons** per home, and the **average family size was 2.75 persons**. Please see the attached data from the U.S. census (attached page 1) and from world population review (attached pages 2 and 3). The 2020 census will not likely show a greater family size.

I live in a **2750 square foot home**, with three bedrooms and 2 ½ baths, and a two-car garage, with no other overnight parking. My husband and I occupy our home. Based on the Occupancy limits as proscribed in **Section 110.319.15, my home could be rented to 23 short term renters**, composed of 5 in my master bedroom, 3 in one other bedroom and 2 in one other bedroom, 4 in our family room/office and 9 in our living room, based on the occupancy to square feet ratio allowed in Section 110319.13.

While **there is no guest parking**, an Owner could falsely represent to the County that two-four additional cars could park in the driveway, depending on the length of the car. Driveway parking cannot occur in the winter due to snow plowing which is done daily. No recreational vehicles, watercraft or trailers are allowed on Lake Country or in the driveways, as these are private and the HOA pays for maintenance and repair of these private roads. There is no street parking anywhere on Lake Country Dr. which is a private road that is only large enough for one car, to pass in front of my house, and barely large enough for two cars the rest of the areas to Village Blvd. But **I could imagine a site plan improperly being presented for 6 cars parking, 2 in the garage and 4 in the driveway which would allow for 24 short term renters**. The County will not employ enough people to check for the accuracy of parking site plans that will be submitted. **There is really only parking for 2 cars in the garage** in the winter, and four regular sized cars in the summer, late spring and early fall.

The proposed occupancy limits in the Washoe County draft Short Term Rental Ordinance are excessive and inconsistent with what is being done in other jurisdictions.

1. The City of Henderson at Section 19.5.3.G (2)(k) allows for occupancy of four occupants for the first bedroom and two occupants per each additional bedroom;
2. City of Las Vegas allows for occupancy of two persons per bedroom (excluding children under 12);
3. Placer County: two people per bedroom plus 2 people;
4. Douglas County: 2 people per bedroom plus 4 people;
5. City of South Lake Tahoe: two people per bedroom plus 2 people;
6. North Lake Tahoe Fire District proposed ordinance: two people per bedroom plus four persons.

Under all of the above Ordinances, the maximum short-term rental occupancy for my home would

be 6 - 10 persons, instead of the 23 persons allowed under the Washoe County Ordinance. Even 8-10 persons is excessive but at least that number of residents could be accommodated by the 2 ½ bathrooms and the two-car garage parking available at my home.

The only reason that the County of Washoe is allowing more people to reside in a home as a short term rental, than would be permitted for permanent residents, is that the County is able to maximize the transient occupancy tax which it collects (i.e., the more people allowed in a residence, the larger the nightly rental amount, and the larger the resulting transient occupancy tax). Every person in the planning department at Washoe County presumably knows that it is a falsehood to justify the high occupancy provision by saying that owners of real estate have a right to do whatever they want with their residences, because all of you know that the County has the right to exercise its police powers for protection of the public health and safety. It is respectfully submitted that in setting occupancy limits for short term rentals, the experts in the Planning Department, for the protection of public health and safety, should restrict occupancy limits based on public health and safety, and set limits as more reasonably set in nearby local jurisdictions.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Heirshberg  
857 Lake Country Dr.  
Incline Village, Nevada 89451  
805-290-2779  
[dbheirshberg@gmail.com](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com)

**QuickFacts**  
**Incline Village CDP, Nevada**

QuickFacts provides statistics for all states and counties, and for cities and towns with a *population of 5,000 or more*.

Table

All Topics	Incline Village CDP, Nevada
Population estimates, July 1, 2018, (V2018)	X
<b>PEOPLE</b>	
<b>Population</b>	
Population estimates, July 1, 2018, (V2018)	X
Population estimates base, April 1, 2010, (V2018)	X
Population, percent change - April 1, 2010 (estimates base) to July 1, 2018, (V2018)	X
Population, Census, April 1, 2010	8,777
<b>Age and Sex</b>	
Persons under 5 years, percent	▲ 4.7%
Persons under 18 years, percent	▲ 17.0%
Persons 65 years and over, percent	▲ 23.2%
Female persons, percent	▲ 50.2%
<b>Race and Hispanic Origin</b>	
White alone, percent	▲ 86.6%
Black or African American alone, percent (a)	▲ 0.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent (a)	▲ 1.2%
Asian alone, percent (a)	▲ 1.7%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent (a)	▲ 0.1%
Two or More Races, percent	▲ 1.9%
Hispanic or Latino, percent (b)	▲ 18.8%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent	▲ 76.0%
<b>Population Characteristics</b>	
Veterans, 2013-2017	789
Foreign born persons, percent, 2013-2017	14.3%
<b>Housing</b>	
Housing units, July 1, 2018, (V2018)	X
Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2013-2017	72.3%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2013-2017	\$777,700
Median selected monthly owner costs -with a mortgage, 2013-2017	\$2,682
Median selected monthly owner costs -without a mortgage, 2013-2017	\$897
Median gross rent, 2013-2017	\$1,380
Building permits, 2018	X
<b>Families &amp; Living Arrangements</b>	
Households, 2013-2017	3,683
Persons per household, 2013-2017	2.35
Living in same house 1 year ago, percent of persons age 1 year+, 2013-2017	85.0%
Language other than English spoken at home, percent of persons age 5 years+, 2013-2017	20.4%
<b>Computer and Internet Use</b>	
Households with a computer, percent, 2013-2017	96.3%
Households with a broadband Internet subscription, percent, 2013-2017	91.0%
<b>Education</b>	
High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+, 2013-2017	92.1%
Bachelor's degree or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+, 2013-2017	64.9%
<b>Health</b>	
With a disability, under age 65 years, percent, 2013-2017	4.7%
Persons without health insurance, under age 65 years, percent	▲ 15.4%
<b>Economy</b>	
In civilian labor force, total, percent of population age 16 years+, 2013-2017	61.8%
In civilian labor force, female, percent of population age 16 years+, 2013-2017	55.9%
Total accommodation and food services sales, 2012 (\$1,000) (c)	61,384
Total health care and social assistance receipts/revenue, 2012 (\$1,000) (c)	



## World Population Review

## Incline Village, Nevada Population 2019

Incline Village, Nevada's estimated population is according to the most recent United States census estimates. Incline Village, Nevada is the -th largest city in Nevada (</states/nevada-population/cities/>) based on official 2017 estimates (<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/summary-file.html>) from the US Census Bureau.

The population density is 0.00 people/m<sup>2</sup> (0.00 people/km<sup>2</sup>).

The overall median age is 48.9 years, 49.6 years for males, and 48 years for females. For every 100 females there are 99.4 males.

Based on data from the American Community Survey (<http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>), in 2017 there were households in the city, with an average size of 2.35 people per household. The homeowner vacancy rate was %, with a median rent of \$/month. The median house has rooms, and has a value of \$.

The median income for households in Incline Village, Nevada is \$81,717, while the mean household income is \$133,314.

**Incline Village Nv Demographics**

According to the most recent ACS, the racial composition of Incline Village Nv was:

- White: 86.62%
- Other race: 8.27%
- Two or more races: 1.93%
- Asian: 1.71%
- Native American: 1.19%
- Black or African American: 0.22%
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 0.07%



South Korea's Birth Rate Is Falling Exponentially

WDCA19-0008  
EXHIBIT D

Non Family Type	73.1% Owner	26.9% Renter
All	72.3%	27.7%
Male	42.2%	57.8%
Female	27.1%	72.9%

72.3%

Rate of Home Ownership

% Incline Village Nv Households by Type

Source: US Census 2017 ACS 5-Year Survey (Table S1101) ([https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/17\\_5YR/S1101/1600000US3235100](https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/17_5YR/S1101/1600000US3235100))

Type	Count	Average Size	Owned
All	3,683	2.35	72.3
Married	2,120	2.76	78
Non Family	1,232	1.37	73.1
Female	203	3.14	27.1
Male	128	3.71	42.2

2.75

Average Family Size

2.35

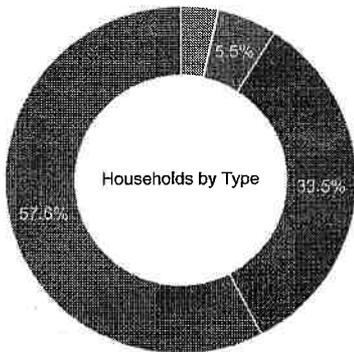
Average Household Size

4.6%

Unmarried (Opposite Sex)

0.4%

Unmarried (Same Sex)



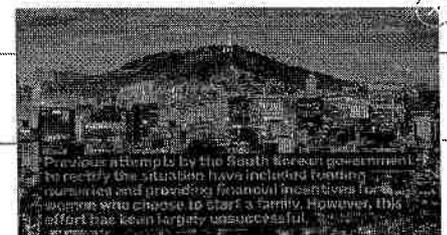
Legend: Married, Male, Female, NonFamily

Incline Village Nv Education

% Incline Village Nv Educational Attainment by Sex (over 25)

Source: U

1200



South Korea's Birth Rate Is Falling Exponent.

**From:** [Mike Hess](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#)  
**Cc:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** STR Regulations Public Comment  
**Date:** Monday, December 09, 2019 7:50:10 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I read the revised regulations and I believe they are restrictive on the permitting and nuisance issues, but may be weak on enforcement personnel, any location limitations and occupancy standards.

In Chapter 110.809.15 the process for a permit is defined. My only question is how do we find out in advance that a permit is being applied so that we can make comments as an affected property owner. The applicant can respond to the comments prior to issuance of a permit. They reference the affected property owners but do not define how they will be notified.

STR violations risk lost of permit, remediation orders and stop activity orders. All complaints to an enforcement officer will be investigated if it is warranted, the owner will be identified and noticed creating a public record. It allows for the use of photographic, audio and video evidence to be submitted by the complaining party as part of the written and signed statement and attested to by the complaining party. The complaining party must appear at the hearing of the case. So basically, if you complain, expect to stand up and say so at the required hearing.

The county needs preventative enforcement through mandatory permitting and inspections which it is requiring. Even then parking will never be resolved without enforcement by the Sheriff, just more pollution into the lake by parking on the dirt.

Usual enforcement officials. They are able to act only within the field of enforcement in which they work. Unfortunately, with only two sheriffs available it is unlikely your noise/nuisance/safety violation complaint will ever get investigated. We need to ask the NLTFD how they will respond to safety complaints. Trash is the only one we have covered because IVGID manages and they have control.

I don't understand how TRPA is going to allow Washoe County to open all residential areas to STRs. This is not per TRPA neighborhood compatibility guidelines nor their environmental standards. Washoe County, having no location limitations, opens all of Incline Village and Crystal Bay residential areas to STRs regardless of where they are. Under the changed regulations, Washoe County is not even going to recognize the Certificates of Restrictions nor require the applicants to certify they are in compliance with those restrictions. How is that appropriate? Good luck with enforcing your HOA agreement.

You may have taken a small step in terms of regulation but the larger issues of enforcement, occupancy standards, and location limitations still remain.

Mike Hess  
521 Spencer Way  
Incline Village, NV 89451

**From:** [Adam Hirsh](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Comment STR Proposed Regulations  
**Date:** Friday, November 29, 2019 2:04:37 PM

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Tier 1 is too high at occupancy of 10. Should be no more than 6.

There aren't any residences in the Apollo neighborhood, where I live, with even 6. The average is certainly less than 4.

10.319.15 (a) (3)

“Respond” should be defined as “on site”.

10.319.15 (b) (4) (i)

This essentially allows all the other parts of 10.319.15 (b) to be overridden. If a residence needs more parking than was needed historically, it's being used more intensively than in the past. This should not be allowed.

**From:** [Kathy Johanson](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rentals  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2019 3:53:45 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello, we would just like to voice our opinion on the short term rental situation in Washoe County. We have been renting our place part time and living in it part time for several years. If the rules change such that we are unable to rent our place part time we will sell it and move out of Nevada permanently. It is the only thing that keep us here, so please consider the commerce we will lose if this privilege is taken away.

Thank You!  
Kathy Johanson, Ph.D.

Principal Faculty, City University  
Co-Founder, O Wines Winery  
206-883-4319

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<http://cityu.edu>

"<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/kathy-johanson-ph-d/1/b2a/737>"

From: [mlkennedy1@charter.net](mailto:mlkennedy1@charter.net)  
To: [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
Subject: Comments re: STR code language draft  
Date: Saturday, December 07, 2019 3:17:14 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for your work to establish standards for STRs within Washoe County. I hope you will consider the following comments before final guidelines are approved:

1--Do STRs fall under the "single family residential" definition?

\* "Resident" implies permanent or long-term living: STRs are less than 30 days and renters are transient.

\*Many cities are now requiring STR owners to register and license units, pay transient occupancy tax, and register as a business.

\*NV Tax Code (2018-19) includes B & Bs and "Tourist Homes" as Commercial Living Accommodations. Why wouldn't STRs fall into this category? Is it because with this classification, STRs would violate single-family residential zoning codes?

(see NV Land Use Codes, p. 12 (#20) and p.22 (#43))

\*In addition, with the exception of occasional extended family gatherings, many rental groups are made up of two or more families, or groups of friends sharing the rent--a large number are not "single families".

2--If you do proceed in classifying STRs as "Single-family Residential", please, please consider reducing the number of occupants allowed per dwelling (for example, **maximum** of 6 occupants in a 3- bedroom, 8 occupants in a 4- bedroom, without additional allowance for sleeping in a living room, etc.

\*In our private, single-family residential area, the occupancy rate of STRs is at least 2-3 times (or more) what it normally would be with residents.

I realize that all STR units are not occupied year-round, but based on being occupied in the summer and winter months (about 2/3 of the year) the

occupancy rate is far more than what it normally would be with residents. We pay a Homeowners' Association fee that includes water, trash, and sewage. The increased costs of these services due to STR occupants must be unfairly shared by all owners, even though only the STR owners benefit financially.

3--Please also limit the total number of STRs allowed in a neighborhood and/or general area. The number of visitors allowed due to these rentals is overwhelming the lake and will, in a short time, be detrimental to the environmental health of the lake.

4--I believe It is the responsibility of government agencies, such as Washoe County, to consider the quality of life of present owner/residents and not to take action that will negatively impact that quality. I realize that the county wants to benefit from the taxes generated by STRs, but it should not come at the expense of current owner/residents, and certainly not to the point that it negatively impacts the environment of the area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Mary Lou Kennedy,

Incline Village, NV

**From:** [Ben Kotnik](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Feedback on proposed STR regulations  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 11, 2019 9:48:38 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Washoe County Representatives,

Overall, the proposed regulations for STRs are a case of adding more restrictions to penalize the many conscientious property owners in Washoe County for the poor actions of a few. Further, many if not all of the proposals are not needed if existing laws regarding such issues as illegal parking and noise complaints are simply enforced. I can get behind a permit and possibly some other limitations, but they need to be thought through.

For context, our family has done STRs for a few years to (1) enable the payment of property taxes (2) offset other maintenance expenses that keep our home in good condition thereby doing our part to maintain property values in the area, (3) share the Washoe County experience with families we vet to make sure they are responsible while in our family's home. Added benefits to the community for such responsible STRs include but are not limited to: tourism revenue in the form of taxes, shopping, dining, recreating, etc.

I've responded to several of the summary bullets I found on your website to share my feedback:

- Short-term rental permit required for all STRs operating in unincorporated Washoe County.
- Every STR must have a designated 24/7 responsible party who can respond to issues within a 30-minute timeframe.

"Issues" and "respond" are vague terms. This seems like over legislation in my opinion. Is the intent to selectively favor STRs that are owner-occupied?

- Limit of one STR per parcel.

Why does this matter? Please enforce existing laws. Why should a property with 2 STRs to 2 people be penalized over 1 STR that rents to 16 people, or 100? This seems arbitrary and flawed logic that misses the valid points, such as neighborhood nuisances and violations of existing laws.

Annual renewal of STR permit required.

- Applicable room taxes must be paid.
- Issuance of County STR permit does not supersede private CC&Rs that restrict such a use (property owner still responsible for compliance with recorded CC&Rs).

Does this need to be legislated? Seems obvious to me that a residence with CC&Rs simply needs to have those enforced. If the HOA, or authoritative body, can't enforce their CC&Rs then why should tax dollars or permitting fees go to this purpose? If there are CC&R violations then that is a matter between the property owner and the HOA.

- Three permitting tiers are proposed based on maximum occupancy. Additional restrictions and/or permitting requirements will apply at higher tiers.

This ignores the frequency of rentals, the number of occupancy-nights in a year, and unfairly targets an STR simply because it can accommodate more guests. Again, please enforce existing laws and codes. If the problems are too many cars or too much noise, just enforce those laws. Please don't create additional complexities when it seems the existing laws are not being adequately enforced to begin with.

- Designated parking spaces to be provided on the property in a sufficient number to cover the STR's maximum occupancy.

OK, maybe a consideration for the permit application. But again, if the problem is renters taking up too many street spaces then why not try a permitting process as is common near universities? i.e., Parking for Residents only with a designated parking permit.

- Occupancy limits to be based on internationally recognized safety codes/standards, and may be further limited by availability of on-site parking and/or septic system sizing (if applicable).

OK. I get the intent, but again is it more important to limit the occupancy limit or the total number of occupancy-nights in the year? I see a difference between an STR for 10 people for 1 week (70 occupancy-nights) a year vs. the impacts of the same property being rented by 8 people 40 weeks a year (4480 occupancy-nights a year).

Including private septic systems seems counterintuitive to me. If the

intent is to include public sewer, that makes more sense, but then wouldn't this risk be addressed by the building permit process? I.e., the home is permitted for the proper sized septic based on existing factors (bedrooms, bathrooms, etc.). Whether there are owners or renters in a home, it makes no difference...The inclusion of septic in STR guidelines seems fuzzy to me.

- Minimum fire, safety and defensible space standards will be applicable.

What does this have to do with STRs? We already have laws for these; please enforce them. Our experience in our neighborhood is everyone takes fire risks extremely seriously and we realize we're all in this together to an extent. I don't think additional laws or penalties would change any behavior as this is already taken quite seriously in my experience.

- Prior to issuance of STR permit, inspection(s) will need to be passed. Cost of inspections will be paid for by applicant.

An inspection? For what purpose? By whom? What certifications will inspectors need to possess? What comprises such an inspection?

- Cost-neutral fee and fine structure designed to ensure implementation and enforcement of STRs is paid for by STR owners.

How about simply enforcing existing laws, and imposing fines for infractions? e.g., parking tickets, fines for noise ordinance violations, etc. Aren't fines included in the enforcement of these laws? If noise complaints become a problem, then raise the fine for these rather than imposing fees or fines for ancillary versions of existing laws.

- Wildlife-resistant trash carts or bear boxes needed in bear-prone areas.

Again, not directly related to STRs, please enforce existing rules and laws. We all take bears seriously in our neighborhood. While there are occasional "problem bears," we all know bear problems stem from people problems. Again, existing codes should be updated if needed or simply enforced.

- Quiet hours are proposed.

Aren't there quiet hours already established? e.g., 10 pm - 8 am or thereabouts?

- Board asked to consider decibel-monitoring devices for higher-

occupancy STRs and/or problem STRs.

Something like this should apply to all residences not just STRs. So, again, no need for additional rules, simply enforce existing laws please.

- Appropriate liability insurance specific to STRs will need to be obtained.

Why? As a homeowner I should make the choice to obtain any insurance deemed necessary for our risk exposure without the overreach from an external body.

- Three-pronged approach to enforcement includes: (1) actively pursuing licensing compliance; (2) annual inspections; and (3) 24/7 complaint hotline with confirmed violations resulting in fines and potential penalties such as revocation.

Overreaching. If there are problems at a property, please enforce existing laws, fine the offenders and property owner to the extent allowed by the law. It seems non-sensical for a neighbor to know if they should call 911 or the "STR Complaint Hotline," How would they know, and if there's a real problem is this really the number they should be calling?

- Fines/penalties to be structured to be significant enough to deter violations, with fine amounts being based on a scaled system that increases with average nightly rates.

Is there any data to support a correlation between average nightly rates and the number or severity of any "violations?" This decision seems to not be data-driven. Why not just enforce existing laws and generate revenue from the offenders to fund enforcement?

- Three confirmed violations in 12-month period to result in revocation and 12-month cooling off period.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments and consider them in the context of being citizens that love Washoe County, it's beauty, it's people, plentiful recreational opportunities, and more. Including options for visitors to our county fuels our tourist-driven economy, and allows us to maintain our home and offset property taxes.

In summary, the very few issues with STRs can be addressed through the enforcement of existing laws and regulations.

Sincerely,  
Ben Kotnik on behalf of the Kotnik Family  
404 Wassou Rd.  
Crystal Bay

**From:** [Kimberly Kotnik](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short term rental public comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 11, 2019 11:26:49 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Representatives,

My Mom designed and built a home in Crystal Bay, Washoe County in the mid 1990s. She has since passed away and the responsibility for managing and maintaining her home now falls to me. I rent the house as a short term rental on a very select basis, normally to multi-generational family groups and families with small children who appreciate Lake Tahoe's beauty. My goal is to cover the costs of property taxes, insurance, utilities and maintenance so that my family can keep our house, and so that other families can enjoy all that Lake Tahoe offers.

We are good neighbors, good citizens, and have never had any complaints. We have enabled numerous family groups to share time and make memories in Lake Tahoe. Additional regulations, particularly those that serve no apparent purpose, would be burdensome and costly to my family, and would make our home and the area less accessible to others. Empty homes would in turn hurt the local economy.

We are in favor of targeted regulations that respond to actual problems. We strongly oppose adding regulations that target short term rentals specifically.

Sincerely,

Kim Kotnik  
404 Wassou  
Crystal Bay, Nevada

**From:** [Helene Larson](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#)  
**Subject:** STRS in Incline/Washoe County  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 10, 2019 10:28:37 AM

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To whom this should be of great concern:

I moved to Tahoe in 1983. I helped publish North Tahoe Week magazine for over eight years, and fully understand the value of visitors. I have also been an active contributor in many ways to our local communities. My children went through school here, and one graduated from Sierra Nevada College. They were raised in the greater Tahoe community which included all kinds of people. Three of my five grandchildren live here, and the ones that don't come up to enjoy the summers and winters here. Tahoe is a wonderful destination resort area AND it is a terrific place to raise families.

When rents were more available and affordable this was more of a possibility. As rents get hijacked by short-term rentals, all sorts of havoc ensues in a community. This is a matter of record in many other places that have restricted the STRs to save the wholeness of their community, and it is already evident here.

I know there is a lot of money at stake. I know the Realtors and their clients have a right to use their properties as they wish – to a point. That point is when their financial benefit adversely affects others, individually, and the community in which they all live.

Documented facts are pointing to this negative impact. Between the years 2013 and 2018, 50% of structure fires in Incline were caused by STRs. That should be enough right there – to institute regulation of these rentals. To dismiss that hard, cold fact is irresponsible at best, and dangerous at worst. Other violations to our area are numerous – illegal parking, disturbance of the peace with partying; trash problems which lead to more bear problems. These mostly impact the areas the rental is in.

Beyond all that, the whole nature of our community is destined for a major change. When workers cannot afford to live here, their travel costs and time have to be calculated into the value of their pay. They will either need to be paid more, or they will work closer to where they live.

As year-round residents disappear from our community, all the local businesses such as doctors, dentists, restaurants, and others that they help sustain lose that income base, especially off-season. Some will increase their prices to offset that, and some will close, making Incline Village a much more inconvenient and expensive place to live.

Personally, due to STRS causing a severe upward change of the average rental place in Incline, my ability to stay in this community now seems to have numbered days. In a period of 13 months, my rent increased 36%! I have been in the same place for a decade; it's a four-plex. The two newest tenants are paying even more than I have to now. At the end of current lease, my rent could increase ANOTHER 20%.

It is almost a certainty that I will have to leave my beloved Tahoe because some people who already have the benefit of being first- or second-homeowners are free to capitalize on it, at the a great cost to those who cannot. You may be hearing from lots of Realtors about the STR issues, and not enough from the rest of us. Please bear in mind that Realtors, somewhat blinded by the income opportunity of STRs, are not really representing what is best for Incline Village, and have seemed to have lost sight of the bigger picture of protecting and preserving our whole community.

I applaud the homeowners who seek relief from the nuisance and dangers STRs present, and just want quiet enjoyment of their mountain property. Some of them are able to be active and speak out. Yes, you may not be hearing much from the “other side.” That is because some of us are not available to miss work and attend your meetings. We are scrambling just to be able to live here now. We deserve Tahoe, too, and are asking you to consider the whole picture more thoroughly.

Perhaps regulatory fees and fines could offer us some protection from inconsiderate, unsafe practices of STR visitors, and possibly reduce the number of people who are participating in that. Many sophisticated communities, such as Culver City, and Santa Barbara, California, have minimum short-term rental stays of 28 or 30 days. Please strongly consider doing whatever you can do to ameliorate this financial tsunami and channel it so that so many of us who live here can withstand the flood of rising costs and continue to be able to live in this paradise we also call home.

Thank you,

Helene Larson

822 Northwood #1  
Incline Village, NV 89451

**From:** [Kathy Magnani](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STR Comments  
**Date:** Thursday, December 05, 2019 5:48:02 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

I am in full support of regulations regarding STR's. I am an STR owner and am extremely hands on. I want to see the opportunity for STRs in Incline Village continue. I have a property manager in town. I'm in full favor of there being a local contact. I regulate the number of folks in my rental and have a Ring Doorbell to verify the numbers. I provide parking for the identified guests. I am in full support of there being a recommended number of occupants based on the size of the condo or home.

I don't appreciate the "bully comments" made by some residents that STR's are the reason for the trash problems in Incline, the noise problems, the parking problems, etc. I think regulations will help with all of this. Incline Village is a wonderful place to experience, yet it's extremely expensive to live there. I'm blessed to have a home there and wish to continue to share it with others who want to visit!

Sincerely,

Kathy Magnani  
Property Owner in McCloud

From: **Margaret Martini** margaretmartini@liveintahoe.com  
Subject: CAB meeting tonight  
Date: December 12, 2019 at 4:33 PM  
To: **Pete Todoroff** ptodoroff1@sbcglobal.net  
Cc: mlberkbigler@charter.net



Hi,  
Won't be able to come tonight. Have to pick up someone in Reno.

If you want a 3 minute statement for the record here it is: (and you can add this portion to the minutes of the meeting.

1. Short term rentals are not a SFR application by definition.
2. They are a business for profit and have taxable income, licensing and fees applied as a business as is evidenced by definition of a business.
3. They are not safely monitored (example of last month carbon monoxide poisoning of a movie star and her family of 11 people in Tahoe City)
4. They are not set up for public safety use ( re: fire escape routes, deck heights, smoke alarm and carbon monoxide regular testing).
5. Sanitization of linens as would be required for motel type use.
6. Off street parking for as many cars as necessary to accommodate the guests.
7. Private property rights are not just for those wanting to change the use of their SFR's...the private property rights of the rest of the neighborhood are not considered by allowing their rights to quiet enjoyment of their homes SFR's.
8. CCR's are not being enforced by the county who required them and recorded them with the conversion of vacant land into SFR neighborhoods. The county is doing a big dance around this fact.
9. Short term rentals essentially change the zoning of a neighborhood by actions of short term renting to a mixed use area without proper zoning changes.
10. The county is remiss in investigating the use change and standing behind one attorneys OPINION. This re-zoning needs to be put to the test, perhaps through the court system.
11. The county is already facing a huge expense from not doing their job in the property tax realm and should not want to get into another fray from listening to the OPINION of one or two county employees who stand to line their pockets heavily once again if this comes to a litigation situation.
12. The county has already essentially abdicated some of their power regarding re-allocating neighborhoods and density to the TRPA in the Tahoe basin...and is once again considering aligning with the TRPA on the short term rental ordinances. The TRPA only has the power to withhold building allocations for enforcement. Washoe County does not need many building allocations in the Tahoe Basin. We are essentially built out by Lake standards.
13. The county does not have the resources to enforce anything that they put forth in regard to ordinances. That makes them unenforceable and therefore essentially just suggestions.
14. The chair of the commission has essentially said that she considers those who have spoken against short term rentals are just a "vocal minority" without taking any polls. It is just her opinion and has no basis in reality. Just in her reality which is unlawfully biased against those who take their time to attend the commission meetings.

There are many more issues that need to be addressed and hopefully there will be some in attendance who will speak up on them

~~attendance and will speak up on them.~~

Thank you for your inclusion of these comments in the meeting.

Pete: if you cannot read my comments, then please see if someone else will

Thanks,

M

**Margaret Martini**  
**Incline Village, NV 89451**

# December 12, 2019 Incline Village Crystal Bay CAB Proposed changes to Draft STR Regulations

Prepared by Judith Miller, CAB member.

Section	Recommendation	Comments
Section 1	<p>Keep the language "Residential use types include the occupancy of living accommodations on a wholly or primarily non-transient basis."</p> <p>Do not delete the phrase "on a wholly or primarily non-transient basis".</p>	<p>This language is historic evidence that transient occupancy was never intended to become the primary use in residential neighborhoods. Yet, because there were never any clearly defined guidelines or limits, we already have neighborhoods where the primary occupancy of dwelling units is for transient rentals. The goal of planning is to create livable and sustainable communities. We have already seen how the proliferation of STR's has degraded the livability and threatens the sustainability of our community.</p>
Section 2 Section 110.304.15 Subsection (d)	<p>Clarify the definition of Short Term Rentals. More specifically, do proposed regulations apply to owner hosted short term rentals?</p>	<p>The definition does not make any distinction between hosted rentals (where an owner resides at the property) and non-hosted. Existing rules for TLT exempt owners who rent out rooms, (see <b>RENO-SPARKS CONVENTION &amp; VISITORS AUTHORITY TRANSIENT LODGING TAX AND SURCHARGE REGULATIONS 1.33. "Transient Lodging"</b> Defined. The term "transient lodging" does not include any of the following: ...any room within a private dwelling house or other single-family dwelling unit if the permanent or principal owner also resides in and occupies the dwelling;").</p> <p>Are owner hosted short term rentals subject to the provisions of Article 319?</p>
Section 7 Section <b>110.319.10</b>	<p><b>Requirements for Application. (g)</b> <b>Transient lodging tax license number issued by the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA);</b> Clarify whether or not this is a requirement of owner hosted short term rentals.</p>	<p>As noted above, owner hosted STR's are not considered "transient lodging" by RSCVA and thus are not required to pay TLT or obtain a license.</p>

# December 12, 2019 Incline Village Crystal Bay CAB Proposed changes to Draft STR Regulations

<p>Section 7 <b>Section 110.319.15</b></p>	<p><b>Standards.</b> (b) Parking Standards. (3) One parking space is required for every four 2.5 occupants.</p>	<p>Parking requirements as proposed by staff (1 space for 2.5 occupants) were not unreasonable for the Tahoe basin. The diminished requirement of 1 space per 4 occupants is just not enough for 3 and 4 bedroom STR's, often occupied by 3 or 4 couples/children (8 to 10 individuals) in an area where snow and environmental concerns rule out most on-street parking.</p>
<p>Section 7 <b>Section 110.319.35</b></p>	<p>Clarify language as it pertains to units advertised kitchen units with cooking facilities (stovetop/range/oven). <b>Inspections "Once an STR permit has been issued, reasonable unscheduled inspections may occur if first responders, fire inspectors or Planning and Building inspectors/ officers have reason to believe occupancy has been exceeded or a life safety issue is present."</b></p>	<p>Many vacation rentals are advertised as secondary dwelling units with full kitchens yet County records show only a single residential unit. Will the proposed language provide mandatory inspection of these units when credible evidence of unpermitted kitchens is presented, i.e. is this considered a life safety issue? If and when secondary units with kitchens are permitted, will parcels be listed as having a secondary dwelling unit (attached or detached)?</p>
<p>Section 7</p>	<p>Add restrictions that further support the basic definition of residential use types, i.e. (primarily non-transient). Staff can recommend ways to limit either the number of permits issued or the number of days that STR's can operate. Without these restrictions, the proposed regulations do little to address the many problems our citizens experience as a result of just the volume of STR's: lack of affordable housing, declining school enrollment, overcrowding of community facilities and general decline of the desirability of the area as a place to live.</p>	<p>Courts are recognizing that short term rentals, when they become the primary use of property, constitute a commercial, not a residential use and are substantially different from typical long term rentals. There are a variety of ways STR's are limited by various city and county agencies. One method would be to put limits on the number of days a structure in a residential zone can be used as a short term rental. This is not a new concept. An example of regulations that would limit short term rentals was recently affirmed by the voters in Jersey City, NJ. <a href="https://www.jerseycitynj.gov/UserFiles/Servers/Server_6189660/File/Agendas,%20Mins,%20Res%20&amp;%20Ord/2019%20Ordinances/OR2%2019%2006%2025.pdf">https://www.jerseycitynj.gov/UserFiles/Servers/Server_6189660/File/Agendas,%20Mins,%20Res%20&amp;%20Ord/2019%20Ordinances/OR2%2019%2006%2025.pdf</a> Non-hosted short term rentals are limited to 60 nights per year. This seems like a generous and reasonable solution, almost too generous in a seasonal tourist area like Tahoe.</p>

**From:** [cmorgan@morgan-holdings.com](mailto:cmorgan@morgan-holdings.com)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short-Term Rental Recommendations  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2019 6:25:34 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To the Washoe County Board of Commissioners:

I'm writing to comment on the proposed recommendations to govern STRs. Most of the recommendations seem reasonable. However, there are several proposals that are unreasonably cumbersome and extreme.

***Every STR must have a designated 24/7 responsible party who can respond to issues within a 30-minute timeframe.***

This proposal is unrealistic for STR owners that are not small or large businesses or are contracted with large STR service. I assume Airbnb and VRBO help lines provide the support the county is concerned about.

**Prior to issuance of STR permit, inspection(s) will need to be passed. Cost of inspections will be paid for by applicant.**

Annual permits are unreasonable unless the county has reason to believe that an STR has not met established requirements (e.g., related complaints). I understand that the county might want an initial review to inventory and ensure owners have met or exceeded minimum requirements, but STR owners associated with the big STR companies already have quality requirements that need to be met and without cause, an additional inspection is unnecessary. Regardless of whether there's an initial inspection or not, it's overly onerous on the owners to require a repeat every single year unless there's a good reason to suspect a deterioration of the property.

**Quiet hours are proposed.**

Shouldn't all STRs follow the quiet hours in their neighborhood? The only reason the county should get involved is if there are no existing quiet rules, but there shouldn't be a difference between a neighborhood's rules and any STRs.

**While the STR is being rented, an external sign should be displayed with Washoe County STR permit number, occupancy limit, complaint hotline and local STR agent/property manager contact number**

This is an incredibly bad idea. It could lead to discrimination, reduces the safety of guests by letting thieves know where the tourists are, and may be against HOA rules in many cases.

I would appreciate a confirmation that you've received these comments.

Thank you,

**Chris Morgan**

**Morgan Holdings LLP**

Office: 775-849-0940

Fax: 866-903-2966

[cmorgan@morgan-holdings.com](mailto:cmorgan@morgan-holdings.com)



December 11, 2019

RE: Washoe County Short-Term Rental Proposed Regulation

The Incline Village REALTORS® (IVR) and Reno Sparks Association of REALTORS® (RSAR) have reviewed the short-term rental ordinance proposed for Washoe County and respectfully submit written concerns with the proposal. IVR and RSAR support reasonable restrictions to enhance short-term rentals in Washoe County, we believe the draft proposal continues to raise concerns and impair a fundamental right of private property ownership.

We want to be clear that vacation rental regulation is not a specific REALTOR® issue but a private property rights issue. A homeowner has a right to own, sell, and rent their property. Additionally, we do not defend bad tenants or bad neighbors regardless whether short-term, long-term or owner occupied. We also support and encourage the enforcement of nuisance ordinances whether noise, parking, trash, garbage, etc.

First though, we compliment Washoe County staff, particularly Kellie Mullin, for their efforts to reach out to the community in obtaining input related to short-term rentals.

Both associations are concerned with several aspects of the proposed Ordinance including response time, inspection(s), occupancy restrictions, and a ban on STR's in land use zones.

### **Nuisances**

- ✓ Neighborhood Impacts- IVR and RSAR feel that the County already has ordinances and Code provisions on its books to address and help alleviate potential impacts on neighboring properties.
  - Code Chapter 90 – Garbage Collection and Disposal
  - Code Chapter 70 – Vehicles and Traffic
  - Development Code Article 410 – Parking and Loading
  - Development Code Article 414 – Noise and Lighting Standards'
  - Nuisance Code Chapter 50.300
  
- ✓ Parking- The proposed standards are arbitrary when imposing minimum parking requirements on short-term rentals that would not apply when the same home is occupied by the owner or by long-term tenants. Imposing a minimum parking requirement on short-term rentals that does not

apply to long-term occupancies is contrary to the principle that the right to rent is a fundamental aspect of private property ownership.

- ✓ Neighborhood Notification- This encourages neighbors to raise general concerns about potential adverse impacts or to complain about a bad act or condition. This could result in negative consequences.
- ✓ Occupancy- Imposing maximum occupancy limits on short-term rentals that would not apply when the same home is occupied by the owner or by long-term tenants. By imposing this maximum occupancy limitation on short-term rentals, but not on long-term residential occupancies, the STR Ordinance is contrary to the principle that the right to rent is a fundamental aspect of private property ownership. Limiting the daytime occupancy to the same as the nighttime occupancy does not take into account the different use impacts between daytime and nighttime uses, i.e. noise issues. Additionally, the limits do not take into account the various ages of the tenants, i.e. an infant or toddler is counted the same as a teenager or adult.

#### **Concerns for Vagueness:**

- ✓ Quiet Hours- how would the County determine what is “respectful” to surrounding neighbors or how this will be enforced.
- ✓ Violations: This approach raises concern because the owner of a short-term rental may have no way of knowing a violation is occurring. Holding an owner responsible for a violation that they did not commit is unfair. We would suggest the County make it clear that an owner is not responsible nor liable for the caused violation.
- ✓ Inspections- Inspections should have a clear checklist and procedure for conducting the inspection that is understandable by homeowners. It is unclear what the scope and procedure will be. It appears to grant County staff or Fire Official unfettered discretion to impose additional requirements and conditions “any associated necessary improvement expenses paid by the applicant/STR owner”. The lack of procedures or standards for “any associated necessary improvement” raises serious concerns for IVR and RSAR.

#### **Designated Agent Requirements:**

- ✓ Requiring a designated agent or property manager to respond to complaints and issues regarding a short-term rental property: (1) inappropriately imposes a public policing function on private citizens; (2) would unreasonably place local agents at risk of physical harm; and (3) could result in higher insurance premiums for property owners. The STR Ordinance leaves unclear what the designated agent is required to do to meet the obligation to “respond” within the 30 minute time limit. For example, would the designated agent have to go to the property in person within 30 minutes of contact by Washoe County in order to address the complaints related to the STR?

Moreover, to the extent that it would require the designated agent to confront badly behaving tenants and their guests in order to address a complaint, Section 110.319.15(a)(3) would place the local contact person at risk of physical harm or potential liability. If the County receives a complaint about an out-of-control party, a noisy altercation, or a similar disturbance occurring at the location of a short-term rental, does it really intend to forward that complaint to the designated agent rather than dispatch police officers or code enforcement personnel to the property? Have County officials seriously considered the potential consequences of compelling a designated agent to personally confront a tenant about such a complaint?

We appreciate the opportunity to express our written concerns to you.

Kendra Murray

April LaBrie

Incline Village REALTORS® CEO

Reno Sparks Association of REALTORS® CEO

For questions or concerns please contact:

RSAR- Jim Nadeau [Jim@carraranv.com](mailto:Jim@carraranv.com) 775-336-7521

IVR- Heather Lunsford [Heather@carraranv.com](mailto:Heather@carraranv.com) 775-842-5786

**From:** [R Mark Nelson](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STR - a great big make-work project  
**Date:** Friday, November 08, 2019 1:28:18 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I am NOT a STR owner or even an STR user. I am a property owner and resident.

In my worst nightmares, I couldn't have imagined that this much wasted effort could be put into an STR ordinance.

The original suggestions were to:

- Register them
- Rate them for occupancy levels based on bedrooms and common space with sofas
- Require onsite parking - no street parking allowed
- Collect some sort of reasonable fee
- Maybe have a priority phone number to ENFORCE existing noise and nuisance ordinances

You turned this in a 100 page report and a process that will undoubtedly require multiple FTEs along with their pensions once you get it rolled out. Add that to Sisolak unionizing state and county workers ... and what a mess.

DIAL IT BACK to the basics. This is just WAY TOO MUCH. And if Tahoe/Incline needs it, then do it up there. There's plenty of rules down here already.

**From:** [S Geoffrey Schladow](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** My Objections to your STR plan and recommendations  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2019 9:49:14 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

As a property owner in Incline Village, and as a scientist leading the efforts to protect and restore Lake Tahoe, I wish to lodge my objection to the County's STR Plan. Your recommendations will directly impact the health and well being of Lake Tahoe (through increased traffic, disturbance, fire risk, water contamination etc.) and reduce the value of my property. The entire bi-State strategy of protecting Lake Tahoe is predicated on the concept of "carrying capacity", and through this short sighted set of recommendations you risk pushing the system beyond its carrying capacity. This will likely result in reduced access and opportunity for property owners in the future, as Basin Agencies devise strategies to compensate for your actions.

Sincerely,

S. Geoffrey Schladow

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S. Geoffrey Schladow, PhD  
Professor of Water Resources and Environmental Engineering  
Director, Tahoe Environmental Research Center  
University of California, Davis  
One Shields Ave • Davis • CA 95616

TAHOE (775)881-7563 DAVIS (530)752-3942

email: [gsladow@ucdavis.edu](mailto:gsladow@ucdavis.edu) web: [terc.ucdavis.edu](http://terc.ucdavis.edu)

From: [Sara Schmitz](#)  
To: [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
Subject: below is my public comment on the pending ordinance  
Date: Tuesday, December 10, 2019 9:26:08 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

STR Committee,

I greatly appreciate the effort and the content of the proposed ordinance.

TRPA put forth comprehensive STR guidelines and best practices that allow TRPA to meet their thresholds and therefore protect the lake. These guidelines were intended to be adopted by the various jurisdictions in the Tahoe Basin. One guideline which is not included as part of the proposed ordinance is that of limitations to the numbers of STRs in a given area.

TRPA wants STRs to be clustered in town center areas. This ensures neighborhoods are not overrun by STRs. Since Incline Village/Crystal Bay have the largest number of STRs OUTSIDE our town center, it is important to incorporate a limit on the density of the STRs in any one neighborhood. This is to preserve the desirability of our neighborhoods.

With the ever increasing conversion of long term rentals into short term rentals, it's having a negative impact on our community. The availability of long term rentals is dwindling which negatively impacts our local businesses and local professionals. We run the risk of businesses moving out of our community due to lack of availability of workers. This is the downside of too much tourism. If there is a balance, it would protect our businesses, neighborhoods, and people who work here in our community.

I suggest you determine an appropriate cap on the number allowed in our community and within a given area such as neighborhood or complex. If we are already over what is deemed to be an appropriate limit, then implement some sort of a "phase out" strategy so as to not harm current property owners.

Warm Regards,

Sara Schmitz  
(925) 858-4384

[Incline Village Crystal Bay Community 1st](#)

**From:** [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Cc:** [Heather Lunsford](#)  
**Subject:** The hotel next to me  
**Date:** Saturday, November 09, 2019 7:36:53 AM

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Commissioner,

Below is a photo which is 'normal' at the STR next to our home. This is NOT neighborhood compatible since no other homes in my neighborhood have 8 cars in their driveway on a regular basis. In addition, this 6000 square foot home is not up to 1999 code in that it doesn't have interior sprinklers which has been the building code for 20 years.

I suggest that homes larger than 5000 square feet be required to be brought up to code for safety reasons. This is an example of a commercial hotel and should be required to meet commercial requirements of a hotel.

My other suggestion is to restrict the number of cars per STR, regardless of size. It is easier to count cars than noses and it helps to reduce air pollution, traffic, and congestion. In addition, homes are to be neighborhood compatible and 8 cars every weekend is not compatible.

I had a great meeting with the Board of Realtors and feel we're on the same page. We need regulations to rid our community of the bad actors, like the home next to me.

I'm working on suggestions for the tiers. I'll share those on Tuesday.

Sara



**From:** [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**To:** [Balaam, Darin](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Cc:** [Sara Schmitz](#); [Heather Lunsford](#)  
**Subject:** Gates on short term rental homes  
**Date:** Saturday, November 09, 2019 7:52:51 AM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Commissioner and Sheriff,

I suggest STR's must not be allowed to have driveway gates. When attempting to address my noise complaint, the Deputy on duty was unable to access the home due to a driveway security gate.

No STR should be allowed to have a gate that prohibits enforcement.

Thank you for considering this suggestion.

Sara Schmitz

Sent from 925-858-4384

**From:** [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#)  
**Cc:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** my comments and suggestions for STR regulations  
**Date:** Monday, November 11, 2019 12:04:45 PM

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Commissioners,

Creating regulations for an industry that has gone on without any oversight for too many years isn't an easy task. I appreciate the effort put forth that brings us to today. The proposal before you isn't perfect, but at least it's a beginning.

1. The largest concern not addressed is the needed restriction on the total number of STR units allowed in our community and in a given neighborhood. The TRPA guidelines, which Washoe County Staff has been working to emulate, recommends limits to the number of STRs in any given jurisdiction and any given neighborhood. This was done to ensure neighborhood compatibility. This same limitation needs to be added to the initial roll out of regulations.
2. I strongly suggest all short term rental properties be required to have a special use permit.
3. The tiered structure for permitting is a great idea. My suggestions for Tiers is as follows:

**All Tiers would require a Special Use Permit when in a single family residential area.**

**Tier 1**

- This would include properties where the property owner will be on site ensuring regulations are followed and thereby reducing the need for neighbors to become the STR police.
- This would also include property owners requesting a "short term" permit for their STR. If a property owner is interested in renting for a duration less than 30-days, they would be given a "quick permit". This would allow owners to rent their residence for a 30-day period without being overburdened with regulations. They would be allowed to have one "quick permit" per calendar year.

**Tier 2**

- This tier is a full-year business permit for properties up to 3 bedrooms with a maximum occupancy of 8. This occupancy calculation is consistent with the TRPA guidelines which are 2 people per bedroom plus 2. Inspections are required for the permit.

**Tier 3**

- 4-5 bedroom properties with a maximum occupancy of 12 (2 per bedroom plus 2 as per TRPA). These should require a more rigorous Special Use Permit process and inspections.

**Tier 4**

- Properties with occupancy levels greater than 12 should only be allowed in commercially zoned areas, require commercial standards for transient occupancy, and the more rigorous Special Use Permit process and inspections.

In summary, I suggested the following changes to the proposed language:

1. Restrict the total number of STR units in a given jurisdiction and neighborhood.
2. Require Special User Permits for all STRs.
3. Use the occupancy calculation supported by TRPA which is 2 per bedroom plus 2.
4. Have the base tier for brief short term rental periods of less than 30 days and for properties with on-site hosts and adjust the tiers for occupancy levels based on TRPA calculations.

Thank you,

Sara Schmitz  
(925) 858-4384

**From:** [eric.tracy@yahoo.com](mailto:eric.tracy@yahoo.com)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Cc:** [McQuone, Alice](#)  
**Subject:** STR Draft Code Language 21-Day Public Comment Period  
**Date:** Thursday, December 05, 2019 3:39:13 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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Kelly Mullin, AICP  
Senior Planner  
Planning & Building Division  
Community Services Department

My name is Eric Tracy and I am a permanent resident in Unincorporated Washoe County. I attended the STR Public Workshop in Reno on August 20th and the Washoe County Commissioners Board meeting on November 12th (and was present for all 3 hours of discussion on Item #28, Short-Term Rentals Discussion). Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the rescheduled Incline Village/Crystal Bay Citizen Advisory Board Meeting that is taking place on 12/12/19. I have now reviewed the published proposed draft language and have several specific comments that I would like shared with Washoe County Staff and the Commissioners which is included immediately below:

Chapter 110 (Development Code): Section 110.319.15 Standards

- Clause (a)(3): As many Commissioners stated in the 11/12/19 Board of Commissioners meeting, this timeframe should be increased from 30-minutes to 60-minutes.
- Clause (a)(3): Please explicitly state that responses can be made via telephone or other means and that an on-site in-person response is not required.
- Clause (a)(4): Please strike this clause in its entirety as it is duplicative. Clause (e) "Occupancy Limits" covers the number of guests allowed at the STR.
- Clause (c)(2): Please change the language from two confirmed STR noise violations to three confirmed STR noise violations.
- Clause (e)(4): Infants and children should be excluded from the stated Occupancy Limit. Reword clause to state that "Occupants are defined as those that are 12-years of age or older".
- Clause (e)(7): As many Commissioners stated and gave examples about in the 11/12/19 Board of Commissioners meeting, there should definitely be a distinction between Daytime occupancy and Nighttime occupancy. Please reword clause to state "Daytime occupancy limits shall be twice that of the permitted Occupancy Limits, and Daytime occupancy limits shall be in effect from the hours of 7AM – 10PM."

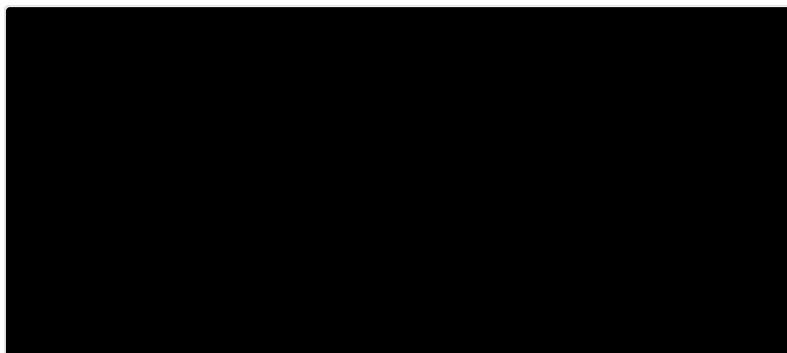
Regards,

Eric Tracy

On Thursday, December 5, 2019, 03:30:27 PM PST, CSD - Short Term Rentals <str@washoecounty.us> wrote:

Hello Eric,

The information presented to the Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) next week will be almost identical to what was provided to the Board of County Commissioners on 11/12 (the video of which can also be viewed online from [www.washoecounty.us/str](http://www.washoecounty.us/str)). The CAB presentation will be a high level overview of recommendations and is not intended to replace anyone's review of the draft code language. Comments on the actual draft language should still be provided by 12/11 to [str@washoecounty.us](mailto:str@washoecounty.us). It is expected that the minutes of the CAB meeting, including comments, will be included with the packet provided to the Planning Commission on this item.



Short-Term Rentals

Regards,



**Kelly Mullin, AICP**

Senior Planner | Planning & Building Division | Community Services  
Department

[kmullin@washoecounty.us](mailto:kmullin@washoecounty.us) | Office: 775.328.3608 | Fax: 775.328.6133

1001 E. Ninth St., Reno, NV 89512



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**From:** eric.tracy@yahoo.com <eric.tracy@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 05, 2019 3:02 PM  
**To:** CSD - Short Term Rentals <STR@washoecounty.us>  
**Cc:** McQuone, Alice <AMcQuone@washoecounty.us>  
**Subject:** STR Draft Code Language 21-Day Public Comment Period

**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK on links or**

open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Kelly and team,

I just received communication that the Incline Village/Crystal Bay Citizen Advisory Board Meeting originally scheduled for 12/2/19 was rescheduled for 12/12/19. The main item on the agenda for this meeting was to discuss community feedback and forward comments to Washoe County staff on the draft code language for Short Term Rentals. Unfortunately, I believe that the 21-day public comment period actually expires on 12/11/19 (the day before this rescheduled meeting is to take place). Can you please comment on how this will or will not affect the discussions and action items that take place during the Citizen Advisory Board Meeting on 12/12/19?

Separately, for those that are not able to attend this meeting can you please let us know what the appropriate email address is for us to send our public comments to on the draft code language for Development Code Amendment Case Number WDCA19-0008 (Short-Term Rentals)? Do we send it to Kelly's attention at [str@washoecounty.us](mailto:str@washoecounty.us) ?

Thank you,

Eric

**From:** [TRACY, ERIC](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comments for 11/22 Board of Commissioners Meeting - Short Term Rentals (Item #28)  
**Date:** Monday, November 11, 2019 6:26:19 PM

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Honorable County Commission:

My name is Eric Tracy and I am a permanent resident in Unincorporated Washoe County. I applaud the Board's efforts to develop simple, fair, and enforceable standards and policies for short term rentals. I would like to highlight a couple of areas that are important to the residents of Washoe County (both residents that do and those that do not make their homes available as short term rentals):

1) It is a must that there is a "Revenue Neutral" policy whereby the the fees and fine structures are designed to offset the cost of implementation and enforcement. However, there must be governance and oversight of the costs incurred by Washoe County in this regard so that it is optimized and that over governance does not create such prohibitive costs that it essentially makes short term rentals in Washoe County unfeasible. If an annual budget of \$250K is sufficient to run this County program than please run it for \$250K instead of some multiple of that figure. There must be accountability here so that the breadth and depth of this program does not get too big and out of hand just because additional fees and fines can be easily levied to pay for over government and inefficiencies.

2) Staff's proposal to have a designated 24/7 responsible party who can respond to issues on-site within a 30-minute timeframe seems unreasonable. As most of the STR homes are in Incline Village, a 30-minute on-site time eliminates the ability for the ~350K+ people in the Incorporated Washoe County areas of Reno and Sparks to be designated as the responsible party. If the Board wants a designated responsible party than the on-site timeframe should be expanded to 60-minute window, which seems more than reasonable.

3) Since the main areas of concern have been identified as Fire & Safety, Occupancy Limits, Parking, Trash, and Noise we find it extremely unfair that single family homes seem to be signaled out for higher permitting tiers (for occupancy of 10-20 persons) and for higher fines (that are based on a scaled system that increases with average nightly rates). It seems very apparent that these areas of concern are much more relevant to the condominiums and multi-home complexes where there is much closer proximity to other residents (ie. noise) and common areas and utilities are shared (ie. parking and trash). Within the STR Regulations there should also be a stated 'Revenue Neutral' policy where the costs of implementation and enforcement of the different types of STR units are bore by those different types of STR owners. Essentially, single family homeowners utilizing STR should not have to subsidize the additional costs that are required of the County to enforce the problematic areas (ie.

condominiums, duplexes, townhomes, and other multi-home complexes). There certainly should be no sliding scale of fee nor penalty that is based on average nightly rate nor square footage. Additionally, the fees for the proposed Tier 2 Permitting Fees should be no more than the permitting fees required to Tier 1 permits for the same reasons.

4) There does not seem to be any recommendation from Staff on how to calculate Occupancy Figures. I would propose that infants, children, and pre-teenagers should not be counted as part of the Occupancy figures. There are many out-of-town families that utilize STRs in Washoe County and infants and children should not be counted against the stated Occupancy Limits as they do not contribute the the main areas of concern that have been identified by Staff (ie. Parking, Noise, Trash, etc.). Can Staff please detail that children 12 and under do not count toward the Occupancy Limits of the proposed permitting Tiers?

Regards,

Eric Tracy

On Friday, November 8, 2019, 09:51:32 AM PST, CSD - Short Term Rentals <str@washoecounty.us> wrote:

Hello Eric,

Correspondence submitted in writing will be provided in writing to the County Commission. If you'd like to speak during the public comment period, please attend the meeting. Or, if someone is attending the meeting on your behalf, they can read your comments during the public comment portion of the hearing. You may also supplement your comments at the podium with written material.

Regards,

Kelly Mullin, AICP

Senior Planner | Planning & Building Division | Community Services Department

[kmullin@washoecounty.us](mailto:kmullin@washoecounty.us) | Office: 775.328.3608 | Fax: 775.328.6133

1001 E. Ninth St., Reno, NV 89512

-----Original Message-----

From: Eric Tracy <[goonly@yahoo.com](mailto:goonly@yahoo.com)>

Sent: Friday, November 08, 2019 6:25 AM

To: CSD - Short Term Rentals <[STR@washoecounty.us](mailto:STR@washoecounty.us)>

Subject: Public Comments @ 11/22 Board of Commissioners Meeting

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

STR Subcommittee,

How do we remotely submit a written Public Comment to be read out loud at the Commissioners Meeting on 11/12 in regard to agenda item #28 (as allowed for in the agenda rules identified in section "Time Limits" which I have copied in below)? Do we submit our comment to this [STR@washoecounty.us](mailto:STR@washoecounty.us) email address or is there a specific email address to send our comment to for Board of Commissioner

Meetings?

“Time Limits.

Public comments are welcomed during the Public Comment periods for all matters, whether listed on the agenda or not, and are limited to three minutes per person. Additionally, public comment of three minutes per person will be heard during individually numbered items designated as "for possible action" on the agenda. Persons are invited to submit comments in writing on the agenda items and/or attend and make comment on that item at the Commission meeting. Persons may not allocate unused time to other speakers.”

Regards,  
Eric

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Pamela Tsigdinos](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment regarding Short Term Rentals  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 10, 2019 2:50:51 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To: Washoe County Board of Commissioners

From: Pamela Tsigdinos, a homeowner, 1080 Oxen Road, Incline Village, NV 89451

RE: Short Term Rental Public Comment

Date: December 10, 2019

My husband and I have owned our house (1080 Oxen Road, Incline Village) since October 2004. We've never rented our property and are full-time residents of Incline Village. Overall, we are disappointed Washoe County has waited so long to address this STR issue. As you know, short term rentals are illegal here. The public nuisances and community impact/hazards are many.

Washoe County Commissioners, sadly, have let us down in allowing the RenoTahoe Tourism board to push for more traffic, pollution and congestion on North Shore Tahoe. The volume of STRs and the huge increase in tourism has made us, on the worst days, feel under assault.

We've had a marked decline in community enjoyment, quality of life and 'pursuit of happiness' due primarily to the huge STR increase. Furthermore, we've noted many more dangers and infrastructure problems tied directly to the proliferation of STRs. I've outlined the problems below.

#### **FIRE/FIRST RESPONDER/EVACUATION DANGER POSED BY STRs**

Our roads and the surrounding terrain in the best of times present a challenge for evacuation of residents and for the quick response time of first responders. Add thousands of non-residents competing to access roads built for a small community and we have a tragedy waiting to happen. The skyrocketing number STRs here means we have many more demands than our first responders are staffed to accommodate. This is unfair to our public servants and to the residents that pay their salaries.

This is not a trifling concern. In the 15 years we've owned our home in Incline Village, there's been a significant increase in fire danger in the surrounding area. We must reduce or eliminate STRs to ensure community evacuation can occur in a timely manner in the event of major fire or other natural disaster.

#### **QUALITY OF LIFE DEGRADED BY STRS**

We've had a marked decline in community enjoyment, quality of life and 'pursuit of happiness' due to the STR increase.

In the first several summers on IVGID-monitored beaches residents had no problem procuring a spot in the beach parking lot or finding space to lay a beach blanket or chair. That is no longer the case the past five summers and more.

With increased RenoTahoe Tourism Board advertising and the advent of AirBNB and the proliferation and expansion of short-term rental platforms like VRBO, HomeAway, FlipKey, Guesty, Vacasa, VacayHero, VayStays, HouseTrips, HomeToGo and [Tripping.com](#) among others, we have seen the quality of life in Incline Village decline **precipitously** -- primarily in the prime summer and winter vacation seasons but

with international tourists those seasons are getting longer.

Where once we felt at home in a tranquil, peaceful environment among a village of locals who respected the Lake, the local environment and surrounding areas are now under siege by waves of tourists and outsiders who demonstrate little to no respect for Incline Village. The extensive littering on the Lake, trail and beach facility abuses are evident all around -- Sand Harbor included.

### **OVERALL CONGESTION / PARKING**

Short-term renters congest our roads, our beaches, our hiking trails and our community not to mention our grocery stores and public facilities. Even small errands are no longer fast and easy -- it's competitive to do anything and everything! More people means more wear and tear everywhere -- but it's most evident on fragile environments. Roads and multi-use paths are overflowing to the point of being inaccessible.

### **POLLUTION: AIR, LAND and NOISE**

Our once pristine tranquil beaches and hiking trails have become unrecognizable with trash and noise pollution. The incessant noise of rented jet skis and other recreational vehicles is an assault on the senses. Equally bad, we routinely see garbage (cigarette butts, dirty diapers, food wrappers and more) strewn around the Lake, meadows and hiking trails. It's so unnecessary. Please reduce (and preferably eliminate) STRs in Incline Village!

One can only imagine the demand and impact on our local water and sewage plants, landfills and air quality. Who will pay for infrastructure upgrades??

### **PRIORITIZE RESIDENTIAL NEEDS OVER COMMERCIAL GREED**

Overly zealous real estate agents and property management companies and developers (coupled with the RenoTahoe Tourism Board) have degraded the Tahoe experience for residents. This must end.

#### **If Washoe County Commissioners won't enforce a ban on STRs, they must then consider the following:**

- levy a steep **community impact fee** on STR property owners to pay for the added strain on first-responders, community utilities and roads
- restrict the number of STRs through a lottery system once a year; only owners who have not had resident complaints are eligible to enter
- fine real estate agents who actively advertise or promote properties as STR revenue generators
- license property managers and as part of their business license *require* them to report quick-turn STRs where the owner is not the primary property user
- disallow the use of outside the community property managers entirely. They must be available 24x7 and within 10 miles to address complaints
- restrict the number of days and size of groups any homeowner can bring in as a STR
- homeowners must spend 75% of their time on property in order to qualify for STR income
- homeowners must prove they have sufficient fire safety equipment on property; an fire or community hazard bans them for life from renting their property
- levy fines on the RenoTahoe Tourism Board for contributing to pollution, congestion and public safety risks
- task the RenoTahoe Tourism Board with allocating budget to monitor and report the number of online STRs and make them responsible for policing abuses; (there must be IT resources available to quantify and monitor how many STRs are being advertised at any given time)

As our elected representatives, we look to you to provide leadership and prioritize the safeguarding of residents; those who make our home here. We work hard every day to preserve and protect the beauty of Incline Village. Citizens want tranquility; environmental stewardship; and community commitment to the safety and well-being of its residents.

We must right the many recent STR wrongs and rein the STR abuses. Please crack down on those driven by profiteering and flagrantly ignoring the safety, health and well-being of our community.

We are opposed to STRs in residential areas in general. We didn't buy our home to live in the middle of what is rapidly becoming a commercial (hotel) zone. Residential zone means **residential**. Please respect that. Thank you.

Pamela Mahoney Tsigdinos  
[Award-Winning Author, Freelance Writer](#)  
Connect: ptsigdinos@yahoo.com  
@PamelaJeanne

**From:** [rondatyce@aol.com](mailto:rondatyce@aol.com)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Cc:** [Hauenstein, Mojra](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#)  
**Subject:** STR Staff Report  
**Date:** Friday, December 06, 2019 10:56:23 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Kelly,

I join the commissioners in thanking you for your work on the STR staff report, which we all know required not only excellent knowledge and understanding of issues and legalities, but skilled tap-dancing and tight-rope walking.

I know you're just doing the job for which you were hired, and don't hold you personally responsible for the lack of veracity and transparency in the report. You were asked to generate a report that supported the Commissioners' goal to change the County Code 110 to allow STRs. I think of you as the messenger, and don't blame you for the message.

Still, as a long-time researcher, statistician, and publication editor; I feel the need to point out errors of fact or misleading statements so that in future reports from the Planning Department, they might be minimized or avoided entirely. In this spirit of collaboration, I offer the following comments.

#### **THE WASHOE COUNTY STR STAFF REPORT – Nov 12 2019**

##### **SUBJECT:**

**The following statement is purposely misleading:** “This includes but is not limited to the establishment of definitions, standards, **location limitations**, occupancy limits, parking requirements, safety/security considerations, signage, noise thresholds, trash/garbage collection rules, insurance requirements, county staffing levels, Tahoe area considerations, permitting requirements, enforcement process, fees, fines, and penalties association with STRs...”

##### **FACT: There are no location limitations stated in the published standards.**

STRs are permitted in all zones—tourist, commercial, and residential.  
STRs are not limited in number or density in any zone.

##### **PREVIOUS ACTION:**

**FACT: Adopting changes to WCC Chapter 25 in 2007 to allow transient lodging and associated room tax... did not legalize STRs in Washoe County.** Residential zoning is the most restrictive and (per Dillon's Rule) the uses not expressly permitted in the Table of Uses are prohibited. Hence, STRs in Washoe County are still today illegal and will be until the code is changed.

**FACT: The statement is misleading that STRs “expand opportunities for the average homeowner to tap into the tourist market and use their home for STR rental use.”** This implies that STRs are primarily for a owner-resident to use his/her home as a rental. Many (possibly most) IVCB STR owners do not and have never resided or lived at their STR rental property. Further, STRs are now big business— with investment companies (like *Reinvest 24*) throughout the US offering opportunities for investors to buy homes specifically to be used as STRs.

**There are many more than 500-1000 STR “active units” in IVCB.** Already STRs are 1 in every 6 residences in IVCB. Once someone compiles and publishes an accurate list of all STR properties in

IVCB, we'll be able to determine which are actually owned by IVCB residents, and how many are owned by non-residents and investors.

**FACT: STRs are not a fundamental right of a property owner.** Zoning restrictions prohibiting use of property exist throughout all cities and counties in the United States. The idea that STRs are a fundamental property right is dis-proven in every city that has entirely or partially banned them [Santa Monica, Pacific Grove, Monterey, Danville, Hermosa Beach, Fort Worth, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Santa Barbara, Fresno, Atlanta, Denver, Oklahoma City, Austin, Las Vegas, to name just a few].

Additionally, a recent (2018) court case found plaintiffs had no constitutionally protected vested right to use their property as a STR.

*Case: Johnston v. City of Hermosa Beach, Cal: Court of Appeal, 2<sup>nd</sup> Appellate Dist., 5<sup>th</sup> Div. 2018. Plaintiffs argued the ordinance was unconstitutional because it ... (3) deprived them of a vested right to use their properties for nonconforming commercial purposes in a residential zone and generate income. Finding: Plaintiffs had no constitutionally protected vested rights because the pre-Ordinance use of their properties as STVR's was not legal or permitted... the court engaged in that weighing process and determined "the City's interest in regulating STVR's and mitigating these impacts outweighs [plaintiffs'] interest in receiving rental income during the pendency of this lawsuit."*

**Most STR use is a commercial use of a property. When a property owner does not and has never lived or resided at the property and rents it out full time, it is not a residential use of property.** It is a commercial investment income use of property. To respect residential zoning laws, many cities require STRs to be the primary residences of the owners (Boulder, Denver, New York, New Orleans, Hermosa Beach, etc.). These city officials acknowledge the reality that non-resident-owned STRs are a commercial use of the property.

**FACT: STR impacts on surrounding properties are substantially different than traditional long-term residential impacts.** STRs (1) reduce available affordable housing, (2) change the neighborhood character, and (3) allow a less-responsible more intense use of the parcel. These are the reasons cities are disallowing STRs in residential neighborhoods. **No regulations or mitigations can offset the negative impacts of a commercial venture in a residential zone.**

**FACT: The standards do not address quality-of-life issues. Calling nuisance issues quality-of-life issues is deceptive.** "Quality-of-life issues" are not "nuisance issues" related to noise, parking, and trash. Quality-of-life issues refer to the quality of residents' lives and include (a) knowing your neighbors and feeling secure in your neighborhood, (2) enjoying neighborly relations with other permanent residents, (3) experiencing the tranquil environment of a residential district rather than living in a commercial district.

PROCESS OVERVIEW:

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT:

**FACT: Public outreach was conducted in such a way as to suppress the opinions of permanent residents wanting locational restrictions on STRs. No non-STR-owning IVCB permanent residents were included in any of the early stakeholder meetings** to discuss STRs prior to the August workshops. The early stakeholder groups were comprised of real-estate personnel, governmental-agency personnel, and others benefiting from STRs.

August Public Workshops: **Washoe County Commissioners and Planners announced there would be "no ban" on STRs, so no public input was allowed that suggested a partial ban or even a cap on the number of STRs.** Most of the 250-300 attendees in the public workshops were against unlimited

STRs, but that opinion wasn't allowed expression in the public workshops.

**FACT: The public workshops were tightly structured to guide (not elicit) attendees' responses.**

- Workshop leaders defined the allowed topics.
- Workshop leaders transferred the written responses of attendees to large sheets of paper—so responses weren't verbatim from attendees.
- Workshop leaders read the responses they had written on the large sheets—spoken responses were cherry-picked.

[Having attended all 3 workshops I can attest to these facts.]

**FACT: Responses to the online survey were never made public. The summaries in the appendix of the staff report are not verbatim statements and are not validated.**

Public Response:

**FACT: Washoe County generated categories summarizing public responses that did not include categories restricting the number or density of STRs.**

In summation, the STR Staff Report does not accurately portray the problematic issues with STRs in IVCB nor accurately report the priorities of IVCB residents.

#### **THE WASHOE COUNTY PROPOSED STR STANDARDS:**

**In addition to the Staff Report's problems with veracity and transparency, the standards for the ordinance are problematic.**

- The standard that every STR must have an agent or manager available within 30 minutes is wrong. On site homeowners who rent their own house do not need an agent or manager.
- Property managers policing STRs are like foxes watching the hen house. If any complaint is made, the manager will call the renters, tell them to correct course before police arrive, and all will be hunky-dory until the police leave. This is what is happening in South Lake Tahoe.
- Expecting owners and renters to limit occupancy is unrealistic. It is impossible to verify or to control occupancy. People lie. Renters have friends over. No one will count noses.
- "Limiting STRs to one per parcel" is the weakest and least restrictive of any of TRPAs locational best practices and doesn't meet TRPA standards.
- The requirement that STR owners must comply with all other applicable laws/statutes skirts the issue of use. Washoe County refuses to acknowledge that STRs are a commercial use in residential neighborhoods. It will be up to neighbors suing STR-owning neighbors to prove that CC&Rs and Declaration of Restrictions prevent STRs in most IVCB residential neighborhoods.

#### **PERMITTING**

- The following statement was unwisely eliminated by the District Attorney at the Commissioner's meeting November 12: *"On permit application property owner must certify under penalty of perjury that STR use does not violate CC&Rs or HOA restrictions; inaccuracy may be cause for permit revocation."*
- Permitting tiers won't work. All STRs need Special STR Use Permits, just like B&Bs. No matter how many people occupy a STR it is still a STR USE of the property. Nuisance impacts may be multiplied for larger STRs, but all the quality-of-life drawbacks of STRs to neighborhood compatibility, character, and tranquility remain no matter how large or small the STR.

- Parking will not be enforced for STRs any more than it is now enforced in IVCB. With only 2 deputies on duty handling crime, life, and safety issues; parking violations will not be a priority.

#### OCCUPANCY LIMITS

- There is NO WAY to control occupancy. No matter what people agree to on the permit, there is no control over the number of people at a STR. People do what they say they won't; and don't do what they say they will.

#### SAFETY INSPECTIONS

- The NLTFPD Resolution #17 should be implemented in its entirety. Anything else is a compromise to realtors.
- The idea that a hired Washoe County code enforcement officer will do a better job than trained firemen inspecting fire and safety issues is ludicrous.

#### EXTERNAL SIGNAGE

- Having a sign on the front door does nothing to deal with the problems when the renters ignore the rules. The signs just look ugly.

#### NOISE

- County code already restricts noise. Noise complaints are a low priority.

#### TRASH

- IVGID handles trash.

#### OTHER STANDARDS

- Insurance policies don't prevent problems—they just assign blame after problems occur.

#### PERMIT FEES

- The Host Compliance hot-line relying on citizen complaint is not effective enforcement. The County needs "preventative enforcement" through Special Use Permits, annual mandatory certificates of inspection by fire and safety officers, and on-going random spot checks by code officers to confirm parking and occupancy limits.

Thank you for including this email in the County records as public comment.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Tycer, PhD  
Co-Chair Incline Village STR Citizen Advisory Group

**From:** [andrewvonnegut@gmail.com](mailto:andrewvonnegut@gmail.com)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STR Regulations Comments  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 11, 2019 11:19:34 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Representatives,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment about proposed additions/changes to short term rental (STR) regulations affecting Washoe County. As a frequent visitor to the area who stays in short term rental properties and an economist, I would like to note some likely unintended consequences of the changes under consideration.

Many property owners in Washoe County depend on occasional short-term rental income to offset property taxes and maintenance expense. That is how these families can keep their homes in the area. Additional costs and restrictions on STRs would mean that either fewer rentals would take place and/or that homes would be ultimately bought by wealthier individuals who did not need the supplemental income. Both would have the same consequences, namely more empty homes for more of the year. This translates to lower local spending in all categories (food, services, entertainment, etc.) and lower local services and overall economic activity. This scenario of wealthy “ghost communities” has already played out in locations from New York to London to Florida and should be heeded by Washoe County.

Short term rental homes are the preferred accommodation of families, who are desirable and high spending tourists. Washoe County in general and the Lake Tahoe area are frequented by multi-generational family groups who are introducing kids to the wonders of the area and supporting numerous local businesses. Families with small kids and multi-generational groups would not travel to Washoe County in the same numbers if hotels were their only accommodation option, or if short term rentals were rendered cost prohibitive due to excessive regulations.

Finally, it is unclear what problems you are trying to solve (with additional regulation) that would not be better solved through *marginal* changes in and targeted enforcement improvements of existing regulations, e.g., parking, noise, occupancy, etc. In all cases, hard data should be analyzed to identify actual problems (if they exist) and then to implement minimalist regulations to target specific issues.

I urge you to address actual problems for which you have data in the most targeted way possible without overhauling the entire regulatory framework addressing short term rentals.

Sincerely,

Andrew Vonnegut, PhD

**From:** [Jenny Wang](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on new STRs  
**Date:** Sunday, December 01, 2019 11:45:52 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hi, there,

I'm writing as a resident to make comments on the recent proposal of implying new regulations on short term rental in washoe county.

North lake tahoe features beautiful lake views which are incomparable and unique. Tourism is a critical part of the local economy. This regulation has a negative impact on people who rely on tourism to make a living. A majority of the houses in Incline Village are vacation houses whose owners are rich enough to not bother renting them out. And many communities already banned short term rentals. Houses on the short rental market provide important source of income for people who provide cleaning and housekeeping services, as well as local taxes. And there are not that many of them.

Therefore, I'm against the regulation on short term rental since it will do no good to local people.

--

Best regards,  
Jenny

**From:** [Ronald Wright](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Cc:** [Marge Hooper-Hull](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on the Washoe County STR Code Language  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2019 3:20:46 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to address two areas of the proposed Short-Term Rental (STR) code language:

Chapter 110.319.15 (a)(4)- Prohibition on Events, Parties, or Weddings

An exception to this standard should be made which recognizes the property owner's/ owner's family personal use of their residence during the times it is not being used as an STR. Activities of the owner for the personal enjoyment of their private residence should be specifically acknowledged and allowed in the code language. For instance, a family gathering at Thanksgiving by the owner should be permitted, even if the event exceeds the occupancy limits if it were being operated as an STR, and especially if the event or "party" exceeds maximum capacity during daytime hours only.

Chapter 110.319.20 (a)(1)(vi)- Interconnected smoke and CO alarms

This standard should only apply to homes constructed subsequent to the time interconnected smoke and CO alarms were required. For homes built prior to that time, working battery-operated smoke and CO alarms in adequate quantity and properly placed should be deemed acceptable.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input in this process. Happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Ronald S. Wright  
Rtwright83@gmail.com

Sent from my iPad

From: [Ron Young](#)  
To: [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
Subject: STR safety: Driveway slope  
Date: Thursday, December 05, 2019 4:51:40 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I have reviewed your draft for short term rentals and have the following comment:

### 1) Driveway Slope

Several of the houses in Incline Village were built before the current standards for driveway slope. While full time owners are probably aware that their property is nonconforming, licensing of these properties by Washoe County could leave unsuspecting renters exposed to unknown hazards.

Section 110.319.15(b) of the draft reads

(2) All parking spaces must be: improved to Washoe County standards (or Tahoe Regional Planning Agency [TRPA] standards, if applicable); developed on-site within property boundaries; and dedicated specifically for parking. In multi-unit complexes, parking must be in designated parking spaces (if applicable) and limited to the number of spaces allotted to the unit.

The TRPA code currently reads

#### **34.3.2. E. Slope of Driveways**

Slopes of driveways shall not exceed the standards of the county or city in whose jurisdiction the driveway is located. **Driveways shall not exceed ten percent slope**, unless TRPA finds that construction of a driveway with a ten percent or less slope would require excessive excavation and that the runoff from a steeper driveway shall be infiltrated as required in Section 60.4. In no case shall the driveway exceed 15 percent slope.

I would add the following sentence to Section 110.319.15(b)(2):

TRPA section 34.3.2.E. Slope of Driveways states that driveways shall not exceed ten percent slope.

This would make the permitting process more clear and reduce the exposure of Washoe County for licensing an unsafe facility that does not meet current safety standards.

Thanks, Ron

Dr. Ronald Young  
President, Multipath Corporation  
P.O. Box 8210  
Incline Village, NV 89450-8210  
U.S.A.  
Phone: (775) 831-4400  
E-mail: [rcy@fmslib.com](mailto:rcy@fmslib.com)  
See Multipath's home page at <http://www.fmslib.com>

**Draft for CAB Consideration 12/12/2019:**

**Priority Recommendations Re Washoe County Proposed STR Ordinance:**

- 1) Washoe County should not change the definition of Residential Use in the Development Code to include Short Term Rentals (STRs). This change is not required for alignment with TRPA.
- 2) Washoe County has defined STRs as "Transient Lodging" in WCC Chapter 25 and this appropriate definition should be extended to the WCC Development Code for Zoning regulations including in the description of "Lodging Services".
- 3) The STR Tiers proposed by WC should be modified as follows:
  - Tier 1 smaller STRs most comparable to residential use: allowed occupancy  $\leq 4$  which is comparable to actual average residential occupancy and family size = between 2 and 3 occupants
  - Tier 2 larger STRs in residential, tourist or commercial zones: allowed occupancy  $\geq 5$ ,  $< 20$
  - Tier 3 largest STRs in tourist or commercial zones: allowed occupancy  $\geq 20$Recommended zoning status is as follows:
  - Tier 1 = AR/A, all zones\* and Tier 2 = AR, all zones\*; Tier 3 = P, allowed zones (GC, NC, TC)
  - (\* all zones = Residential, Commercial and Tourist)
- 4) Implement NRS and WC regulations applicable to Transient Lodging/Lodging Services in STRs
- 5) Add STR Density and Rental Intensity requirements to the proposed STR Ordinance. Preferred examples based on the TRPA "Best Practices" list include:
  - limit the total number of STRs in neighborhoods (e.g., ratio of STRs to occupied housing, maximum number issued by lottery or on a first come/first served basis, etc.)
  - establish a ratio of long-term to short-term rentals
  - establish minimum owner occupancy requirements (at least 25-50% of the time is common)
  - require minimum spacing between STRs in residential areas\*\*, such as requiring at least 500 feet between parcels with STRs, to address clustering
  - require a two-day minimum stay for STRs in residential areas\*\* to lessen impact of move-ins/move-outs
  - cap the number of nights per year a unit may be rented as an STR in residential areas\*\*, such as 30 days per year.
  - cap the number of times an STR may be rented in residential areas\*\*, such as four times per month
  - (\*\* recommend: "residential areas" include Residential zones & existing residential areas in Commercial/Tourist zones)
- 6) Require development and implementation of a WC Tahoe Area Optimal Occupancy Management Plan in concert with broader sustainability initiatives

*Submitted by Carole Black, IV Resident for IV/CB CAB Meeting 12/12/2019*

**From:** [cbwillb@charter.net](mailto:cbwillb@charter.net)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#)  
**Cc:** [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Young, Eric](#); [Lloyd, Trevor](#); [Washoe311](#)  
**Subject:** \*Resident Response to Washoe County STR Report and Initial Draft Proposal\*  
**Date:** Sunday, November 10, 2019 11:19:13 AM  
**Attachments:** [WC STR REPORT RESPONSE 11.12.2019 final.pdf](#)

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Please include in the formal record for the Board of Commissioners Meeting November 12, 2019

To: Commissioner Berkbigler and Chair Hartung, Vice-chair Lucey, Commissioners Jung and Herman Cc: Kelly Mullin, Eric Young, Trevor Lloyd, Clerk for record

**I am writing to flag several very worrisome elements embedded in the recently released STR Report and the most recent draft Tahoe Area Plan and its accompanying documents. It is critically important for the safety and character of the Incline Village/Crystal Bay communities that these be addressed and rectified promptly:**

**1: Occupancy Growth in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area** is substantial related to the increase in STR accommodations and usage with adverse safety, neighborhood character and environmental impacts and is not addressed. As an example, a particular concern related to the more recent trend of investors converting multiple residential units into full-time “instant hotels” which are owned/managed remotely and significantly deplete local housing stock is specifically not impacted by any of the proposed interventions.

**2: Washoe County has embedded a substantial zoning change in the WC Tahoe Area Plan and associated documents with the definition change to include STRs within the Residential Use category** without any formal zoning, safety or environmental review and with real and potential adverse impacts on residents and visitors. At a minimum, a Special Use Permit as is required for other Transient Lodging in Residential Zones (e.g., B&B’s) is indicated. In addition, safety regulations for Transient Lodging (which are thus applicable to this Use but may be waived with a “residential” definition) must also be applied to STRs to protect the public clientele.

**3: Washoe County STR report listing proposed regulation parameters reflects a limited approach** with minimal requirements or restrictions and thus appears designed to maintain and grow current STR volume without consideration for multiple concerns including Public Health and Safety implications.

**4: Washoe County’s history of thinly funding Emergency Services** such that existing regulations are not currently reliably enforced and as best we can tell future resource availability will likely be decreased, not increased as it should be to meet the ever-increasing demand. These gaps are not addressed and no remedy is proposed. Further, in addition to known concerns regarding police and fire staffing capacity, we have recently heard that the avalanche program on Mt Rose Highway is slated to be curtailed and to expect more winter road closures which will in turn further increase risk to residents and visitors.

**5: Failure to meet TRPA Regional Plan Goals and thus WC Tahoe Area Plan Objectives as well** - in addition to the increased risk to all occupants of Incline Village/Crystal Bay particularly related to potentially increased gaps in fire/police response capacity as well as insufficient evacuation capability in an emergency, the described approach will result in a failure to meet TRPA Regional Plan Goals and thus WC Tahoe Area Plan objectives as well. More detailed information and description of the issues with supporting data and recommendations is included in the attached document.

**The proposed package thus represents both a major adverse residential zoning change plus regulation which fails to address major concerns and may or may not be enforced. While we recognize and appreciate the huge and well-intentioned staff effort which has resulted in these proposals, taken together they will have limited impact on the present adverse situation related to rampant STR presence and usage growth and will provide insufficient intervention to address current and future ever-increasing adverse impacts on our safety, the**

**environment and our neighborhoods.**

**A comprehensive assessment of this proposed new zoning use with review of the likely effectiveness of planned mitigation is therefore needed including impacts related to both the use/zoning changes and to the environment, resident and visitor safety, and neighborhood character.** I plan to attend the Board of Commissioners meeting on November 12 and will focus then on one specific example, namely adverse, unintended consequences of the Use definition change on aspects of Public Health and Safety with no proposed mitigation.

Thank you in advance for your review & consideration of these issues affecting the welfare of your constituents,  
Carole Black 144 Village Blvd. #33, Incline Village, NV 89451

# **WASHOE COUNTY STR REPORT & PROPOSED STR REGULATIONS**

## **Comprehensive Zoning, Environmental & Public Safety Review is a Priority**

**Washoe County Planning Commission  
November 12, 2019**

# STR Draft Report Includes Confusing Logic re WC Tahoe Area Plan & Documents: Full Code Change Evaluation is Indicated

PROPOSED GUARDRAIL	ISSUES	CONFUSION/RECOMMENDATION
<p>Residential Use already encompasses Vacation Rentals/STRs &amp; thus explicit use definition/zoning code change process is not needed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- WC 2007 Ordinance including vacation home rentals in Transient Lodging category for TOT is referenced as creating use “permission”</li> <li><b>YES,</b></li> <li>- All other listed Transient Lodging Uses are Commercial and only allowed in Residential Zones by Special Use Permit</li> <li>- NRS defines Vacation Rental/STR Use in Planned Communities as a Transient Commercial Use</li> <li>- In 2017 Report to TRPA, WC denied this use existed in Unincorporated County Residential Zones</li> <li>- WC has not codified this use despite many interim yrs &amp; other code changes; and there has been no comprehensive Environmental Review by either WC or TRPA</li> </ul>	<p><i>If it walks like and quacks like, then ... just maybe its a Transient Lodging facility???</i></p> <p><b>INSTEAD, VR/STR Use is now</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transient Lodging for taxes but not for Zoning or Public Safety?</li> <li>- Treated differently in WC despite other applicable NRS regulation?</li> <li>- Aligned w/TRPA despite prior report error which should have led to Use prohibition?</li> </ul> <p><b>&gt;&gt;&gt; Addition of STR to the Residential Use definition and related code implications require a formal comprehensive review (zoning/safety/environmental)</b></p>

# STR Draft Report Includes Confusing Logic Re WC Regs: Need Comprehensive Plan to Protect Community/Lake

PROPOSED GUARDRAILS	ISSUES/GAPS	CONFUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>STR w/occupancy <math>\leq</math> 10 functions like a “residence/group home”, w/less impact on neighbors requiring standard, not discretionary, permit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Few residences w/10 people or w/new folks every 1-2 dys</li> <li>- Smaller STR w adjoining walls feel significant impacts</li> <li>- Grp homes not as “transient” &amp; better supervised/regulated</li> <li>- All other Transient Lodging requires SUP in Residential Zones</li> </ul>	<p><i>If it walks like and quacks like, then ... just maybe it is, or behaves like, a Transient Lodging facility???</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SUP for all STR in residential areas</li> <li>- Create &amp; use a streamlined process w/option for neighbor input for lower tiers</li> <li>- Neighbor agreement w/adjoining walls</li> </ul>
<p>Occupancy levels described per IPMC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quoted numbers do not fully consider IPMC requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More common rule is 2/bedroom + 1-2</li> <li>- Or use Group Home regs (WC/NRS/NAC)</li> <li>- Or fully use IPMC (non-habitable; LR/DR rule)</li> </ul>
<p>Basic Fire and Life Safety Rules w/FD Inspections</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public Health &amp; Safety requirement not considered: this is a huge gap and covered in multiple applicable regulations</li> </ul>	<p>One or more of the following applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public Accommodations (Transient Lodging)</li> <li>- Group Home Requirements</li> <li>- IPMC Provisions Related to Healthy Homes</li> </ul>
<p>Quiet hours at night only; ?Noise sensors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Daytime noise = common issue;</li> <li>- Complaint system problematic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Daytime noise standard &amp; easy to use complaint system</li> </ul>
<p><b>Missing:</b> Max STR Density <b>Missing:</b> Minimum owner occupancy requirement <b>Missing:</b> Max rental usage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- These are common requirements in many, more successful STR programs</li> <li>- They are all included in TRPA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Apparent glaring omission of cornerstone criteria found in many successful STR programs</li> <li>- See Appendix (slide 7) for detailed list of priority suggestions</li> </ul>
<p><b>Missing:</b> Total Area Occupancy plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tourism is mushrooming, residents are groaning &amp; occupancy is unsafe</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is no pro-active, but needed, area occupancy management plan (a TRPA policy!)</li> </ul>

# Appendix:

## Rationale for Environmental, Public Safety & Zoning Review

- Washoe County's apparent planned addition of STRs/Vacation Rentals to IV/CB Residential Neighborhoods is a **New Zoning Use** for these neighborhoods

- **Zoning change is obscured** in the de facto adoption of a TRPA Use definition with no review or formal assessment

- **Significant environmental impact = major concern** (Slides & Draft IEC previously submitted)

- **Comprehensive review of this proposed New Use/Tahoe impact is required:**

- **Environmental Review:** Comprehensive review of STR/Vacation Rental impacts

- **STR/Vacation rental = Commercial Use:** Zoning should parallel other Transient Lodging and NRS

- **Special Use Permit:** Zoning should parallel other Transient Lodging in Residential Zones

- **Public Accommodation** compliance should be required (per NRS re Transient Lodging status)

- **Area Occupancy must be managed** to match service/facility capability

- **WC must step-up - given historic non-compliance:**

- **Need regulations** re issues: overcrowding, protect public safety and neighborhood character

- **Enforcement program required:** comprehensive, effective; includes inspections & neighbor input

- Given historic adverse impacts, enforcement failures, lack of attention to zoning, **STRs in IV/CB must be zoned properly and managed effectively as the businesses that they are:**

*Vacation Rentals/STRs are a commercial, non-residential use!*

# What are the Issues?

**1: Occupancy Growth in Incline Village/Crystal Bay - In IV in 2018, ~12% Rent Their Homes resulting in an Increase in Area Occupancy by 9% on average and 17% during peak times compared with 5 years prior:**

**- RSCVA Occupied Room Nights for Vacation Rentals (VRs) Increased 61% over the 5yrs ending in FY 18-19.** In FY 18-19 there were 179,589 VR occupied room nights, approximately 90% in IV/CB = 161,630 compared with 99,579 5 years earlier. Average rental occupancy of 4.5 people/night, implies 279,230 added people days/year or increased average daily census by 745 people/day or about 9% average increase, more during peak periods. For example, in a peak occupancy month, during January 2014 vs 2019 the average daily occupancy increase was 1500 people/day or ~ 17%.

**- More recently, Per Washoe County/RSCVA data, vacation rental days grew by 23% during June-Aug 2019 vs 2018 accelerating the prior rate of increase with an additional 9% increase in summer average area occupancy in one year.** This trend overall and certainly this year's summer increase substantially exceeds the very modest projections included in the 2012 TRPA Regional Plan.

- Residents are reeling from the very busy summer of 2019 with major impacts on neighbors, traffic, parking and beach access and we are all aware that the RSCVA data is likely incomplete.

**- Airbnb has reported that this was the busiest year ever for summer rentals in Nevada with a reported increase in Airbnb guest arrivals of 30,000 between Memorial day and Labor day in Washoe County.** As we know, 90% of these are IV/CB.  
<https://www.nnbusinessview.com/news/2019-summer-busiest-ever-for-nevada-airbnb-bookings-with-53-3-million-in-income/>

**2: Washoe County STR Ordinance initial draft is limited listing only a small subset of the TRPA Neighborhood Compatibility list and including no items the would limit STR rental growth such as owner occupancy requirements and rental density/frequency limitations. In addition, there is only a "basic" safety requirement and no Public Health & Safety requirements or linkage to Emergency Services staffing.** Thus STR growth could continue unfettered adding further area occupancy increases with little attention to addressing fundamental neighborhood emergency & safety requirements. In addition, this growth will net add vehicles to the area, a trend which is aggravated by the added day visitors using the new Sand Harbor trail and driving to/parking in IV.

**3: Washoe County's history of funding Emergency Services: Currently police/fire department are known to be thinly staffed:**

a. Fire and Sheriff understaffed: FD = 3 people to cover 24/7; Deputies = 2-4 assigned to IV

>> Acknowledged response delays to less urgent issues/parking not enforced

b. Staffing benchmark estimates\*: Police 2.5/1000 and Fire: 1.6-1.8/1000 so current staff for ~ 2000 residents

c. BUT the population per WC voter registration (2018) = 7487 >> if we estimate that on average 50% are in town, this yields = 3743 adult full-time residents excluding kids, part-time residents/visitors and tourists

d. Current complaint data is incomplete - limited to Reno calls only; local sheriff calls may not be captured

e. Evacuation Plan recently circulated, but ... there is inadequate capability to evacuate the population at high occupancy times

f. Recently we have been told that further downsizing is being considered including: not adding the promised Deputy position; closing Fire Stations; and terminating Mt Rose avalanche prevention triggers with the expectation that the road will be closed more often in winter increasing access time to IV. (\*[https://icma.org/sites/default/files/305747\\_Analysis%20of%20Police%20Department%20Staffing%20\\_%20McCabe.pdf](https://icma.org/sites/default/files/305747_Analysis%20of%20Police%20Department%20Staffing%20_%20McCabe.pdf);  
<https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/News-and-Research/Fire-statistics-and-reports/Emergency-responders/osfdprofile.pdf>);

PC 51-0008  
EXHIBIT D

**4: Failure to meet TRPA and thus WC Plan Goals: Washoe County's current overall approach if implemented will undermine several goals in the TRPA Regional/Tahoe Area Plan.** Of particular concern are the impacts noted under TRPA Policies LU-3.2, PS-4 and PS-4.2.

# What type of “Disasters” are risked?

**Example #1:** In the context of insufficient restrictions, booking safe-guards and/or enforcement, with apparently sub-optimal immediately available police support, a catastrophe such as just occurred in Orinda. CA with delayed police response, shootings and 5 deaths happens in IV/CB.

(<https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2019/11/01/orinda-shooting-halloween-party-deaths/>)

**Example #2:** With only “basic” safety requirements & limited inspections, avoidable deaths related to carbon monoxide poisoning/accident as has occurred in STR rentals could occur in IV/CB. Examples are infrequent but do occur > in examples easily found on line = total 8 deaths

(<https://www.nytimes.com/2015/11/14/your-money/death-in-airbnb-rental-raises-liability-questions.html>;

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/news/2018/12/05/couple-dies-carbon-monoxide-poisoning-airbnb-mexico/221278100>;

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/destinations/2018/03/27/how-protect-yourself-against-carbon-monoxide-poisoning-while-traveling/461414002/2/>)

**Example #3:** An STR fire starts, expands and wildfire erupts, IV Fire Station is minimally staffed or closed and support is deployed from the next available station while fire spreads >> Village evacuation is required but safe capacity is exceeded. Result is avoidable losses since residential status without added requirements implies waiver of transient lodging building and safety requirements increasing risk.  
Note: Large 2018 IV fire in a vacation rental with 16 occupants.

**Example #4:** Winter snow storm but decreased avalanche mitigation resulting in avoidable Mt Rose Highway closure. Concurrent medical emergency develops in an STR renter who was not warned about the area risks and service capacity issues with inability to rapidly & safely evacuate resulting in adverse outcomes.

Note: per discussion at CAB Forum 11.1.19, preventive avalanches are planned to decrease - expect more road closures.

**Summary: All of these “disasters” can either be completely avoided or significantly mitigated; however, the appropriate interventions will be subverted by Washoe County’s actions to simultaneously not discourage/encourage STR growth with limited safety regulation while concurrently failing to maintain adequate Emergency Services staffing and programs:**

- insufficient planning and management of area occupancy to match safe area capacity
- thin staffing of Emergency Services Programs and inadequate evacuation support
- inadequate STR zoning requirements (Special Use Permit) and regulation (STR Ordinance) from a Public Safety and Neighborhood Impact perspective

# What specific priority suggestions for STR regulations have been submitted?

I. FEEDBACK on STR ORDINANCE HIGH LEVEL released by WC on 10/21/2019  
Recommendations for additions to the draft initial list:

1. Special Use Permit requirement for all STRs in Residential Zones - there can be processes developed to facilitate operations - It is difficult to understand why B&B would have this requirement and not STRs which are less rigorously overseen??
2. Neighbor opportunity for input at STR permit application/renewal
3. Although there are many issues with large STRs, in smaller units in buildings with close-by adjacent neighbors, "less large disturbances" can be equally or more intrusive. Example has been provided of an ordinance requiring adjacent neighbor agreement when there were adjoining walls - as interior noise and nuisance behavior in such settings is very disruptive.
4. Requirement for Public Accommodation standards is a priority as this is a Transient Lodging use to which these rules should apply
5. Consider adding day/evening occupancy max as well as overnight - the ordinances I've seen usually list a number approximately = 2 x overnight max.
6. WHAT IS MISSING for WC draft and VERY WORRISOME ...:
  - Owner occupancy requirement (this is a common restriction and appears foundational to gaining some degree of ownership/control).
  - Limit investor ventures to non-residential zones as they generally cause more neighborhood issues because of remoteness of management and lack of neighborhood engagement.
  - Density restrictions - are very common and important to maintaining some degree of a neighborhood for residents
  - Rental frequency; max # (30) days/year; minimum 2-day stay; max 4 rentals/month - same rationale as above

II. FYI, the following is a prioritized list of suggested requirements recently submitted to TRPA:

- Special Use Permit for all STRs in Residential Zones
- TRPA approval of all County Permit applications and renewals
- STRs only by owners who occupy as their principal residence the majority of the time
- STR Insurance
- Density restrictions - distance, #/neighborhood, ratio of short-term to long-term rentals; Permit # limitation
- Rental frequency (</= 4/month) and duration (</= 30 days total; 2-day minimum stay) restrictions
- Health, safety and Public Accommodation requirements
- Building code, fire and safety/health inspections
- Occupancy (night & day max)/Parking/Vehicle restrictions and Nuisance regulations (noise, trash, illegal activity, public decency)
- Local contact 24/7 and available, active local management/in person check-in
- Advertisements require permit number and key restrictions [# occupants (night & day), # vehicles, no pets/pets, no parties, etc]
- Approval by neighbors with adjoining walls; Neighbor input for permit applications and renewals
- Proactive enforcement by inspections, fines/fees and restriction of permits
- Attestation by owner, local contact and renters to policies; ability to evict if breaking rules
- More restrictive HOA regulations supercede

**From:** [cwillb@charter.net](mailto:cwillb@charter.net)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#)  
**Cc:** [Young, Eric](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Lloyd, Trevor](#); [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Please Review: Questions and Responses re STRs  
**Date:** Friday, December 06, 2019 10:47:10 AM  
**Attachments:** [Responses to BOC 12.5.2019.pdf](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Please include in Public Comment related to Washoe County Draft - Proposed STR Ordinance

To: Commissioners Hartung, Lucey, Berkbigler, Herman and Jung  
Cc: K. Mullin, E. Young, T. Lloyd  
Re: Short Term Rentals

During the Commissioners' discussion at the recent Board meeting when the draft Short Term Rental Ordinance was framed a number of questions were posed. Based on extensive research, I have compiled comments which address a number of these items and draw your attention to the responses detailed in the document which is attached. Please note that some recently identified data/information, not previously presented, is included.

Given the critical importance of this current consideration to both impacted Residents (your constituents) and to environmental and neighborhood character/compatibility impacts, I respectfully request that you read and thoughtfully address these points during your upcoming review, deliberation, and anticipated revision of the draft STR Ordinance and related items.

Thank you in advance for your consideration,

Carole Black (resident/voter)  
144 Village Blvd #33, Incline Village, NV 89451

## **RESPONSES to COMMISSIONERS' QUESTIONS and COMMENTS - STR ORDINANCE FRAMEWORK MEETING DISCUSSION: a Resident Perspective**

### **1) IV/CB Residents asked for regulations different from those for other parts of Unincorporated Washoe County**

**Response:** This request was based on the requirement that the areas within TRPA's jurisdiction must comply with both Washoe County and TRPA regulations. However, as noted, the Washoe County Ordinance is being constructed within the context of Tahoe Area regulations and restrictions. Overall concerns related to adverse impacts and risks associated with Short-Term Rentals on neighborhoods should be able to be generally addressed with modifications included as needed for specific local issues or environmental risks in certain areas, e.g., Tahoe.

### **2) What about my property rights – owners have a right to rent their property?**

**Response:** It is understood that there are balanced property rights: right to peaceful enjoyment of one's property and right to use one's property (i.e., rental provided its allowed by zoning and other property regulations/restrictions, etc.). For those situations which have generated frequent complaints related to STRs, many communities (including Henderson, Las Vegas, Clark County and Douglas County in Nevada) have implemented regulations including rental restrictions with enforcement to address documented issues and maintain better balance between the competing interests.

Priority areas which have been raised with Washoe County based on resident concerns include:

- Fire and other public safety risks
- Noise, parking, trash
- STR density within neighborhoods significantly changing the character of the neighborhood from residences to substantially "instant hotel" districts
- Over-crowding of village/amenities – fyi, recent beach statistics and parking examples from last summer are attached at the end of this document illustrating some impacts making it increasingly difficult for residents to experience the peaceful enjoyment of our neighborhoods as well as producing adverse environmental impacts and risk (vehicles/parking/traffic/congestion/poor visibility) ... it was, for example, a challenge to safely walk across Lakeshore Blvd most weekends last summer!

### **3) What about residents who will be traveling for periods during the year or over holidays and wish to rent their residences?**

**Response:** This type of rental is commonly and quite successfully accommodated within STR Ordinances through requirements that the rented residence be occupied by the owner as his primary residence and creating a ceiling on number of rental days/year. This type of requirement could be added to the proposed STR Ordinance.

### **4) What about "homesharing" - I have an extra room in my house that I would like to rent?**

**Response:** Rentals occurring while the owner is present on-site occupying the premises while it is rented could be exempted from certain Ordinance requirements such as ceilings on numbers of rental days/year. Again, this type of approach could be added to the proposed STR Ordinance

### **5) Vacation rentals have existed in the Tahoe area for decades – why is this such a concern now?**

**Response:** Recently, particularly since the advent of internet advertising and booking agencies, the intensity and anonymity of this use has sky-rocketed. And, in parallel, increased risks, adverse neighborhood impacts, scary events and nuisance issues have also escalated.

Occasional catastrophic or near-catastrophic occurrences associated with STRs provide spot-lights:

- Orinda, CA STR shootings leaving 5 dead
- Incline Village fire demolishing an STR with evacuation of 16 occupants including 8 children

Many localities have responded by instituting preventive measures including occupancy limits, safety requirements and inspections, etc. In addition, approaches in other settings suggest that in situations where the STR rentals include closer owner involvement (residency and oversight) fewer adverse situations seem to occur. Oversight by a licensed property management professional/organization is also thought to be helpful provided service expectations and requirements are established and met.

**6) If it is viewed as ok to locate STRs in Residential areas, why is additional regulation needed?**

**Response:** Short Term Rentals as experienced recently with the advent of internet rental platforms do not mimic residential use for many reasons (see data previously provided to BOC; additional analysis will be forwarded with detailed STR Ordinance comments early next week). In fact they most closely resemble other forms of Transient Lodging – they are businesses and not a residential use, which with regulation and discretionary permitting could be allowed in residential zones as is allowed for other selected types of Transient Lodging.

What are some of the differences between STRs and residential use:

- when rented, each unit typically accommodates many more people/day than when the property is occupied by residents. Based on census information for our area the average resident occupancy is ~2.4 people and the average family size is ~2.8. It would be a rare STR rental, typically in a 1 BR unit or studio, with this low level of occupancy!
- daily average area occupancy is increased (by as much as 20% or more in Incline Village during busy rental times) with impacts on emergency services requirements, traffic, parking, facilities and public services

Washoe County has defined Vacation Home Rentals/STRs as Transient Lodging (WCC Chapter 25) and it is offered to the “transient public.” As such its use characteristics, impacts and associated risks parallel that of other forms of Transient Lodging with the exception that this use currently has less rigorous oversight or active management, increasing the public’s risk.

Thus the same types of zoning restrictions, building/occupancy, etc requirements and health and safety regulations applied to other forms of transient lodging should be applied to this use with the proposed STR regulation approach adjusted to accomplish this. Particular concerns are raised of impacts in situations with investors, often remote from the area, purchasing multiple properties and managing as full-time rentals – i.e., full-time “instant hotels.”

**7) Maybe this is just a change in the status quo in popular resort areas?**

**Response:** Many, many resort areas across the US and internationally have experienced the same sort of dramatic usage and impact increase that we are seeing in IV/CB. And local governments have responded with regulations and restrictions comparable to those being advocated here. Further, as more significant adverse impacts have occurred, jurisdictions have increased the intensity of interventions.

**8) Parking issues in Incline Village are more related to increased day use than to STRs.**

**Response:** There are clearly multiple contributors to the major parking challenges in Incline Village including: parking limitations associated with environmental issues (“coverage”), seasonal fluxes in demand, increased day use particularly related to the new bike path, and growth in tourism, particularly STRs.

Nonetheless, among the most congested spots during the high occupancy period this past summer was the areas adjacent to our beaches – and coincidentally this coincides with an almost 10% increase in area occupancy compared with summer, 2018 related to vacation rental days as documented in RSCVA data for the same period. As confirmation, Airbnb has reported a banner season during this same time

period. This observation is further reinforced by recently released IVGID 2019 Beach Use data. Thus, while there are multiple contributors, STRs are clearly a major component. (As noted above, see attachment below for more detailed data and pictures of associated illegal parking.)

**9) Occupancy is difficult to enforce. Two options for metrics are proposed: square feet or bedrooms... favor square feet because anything can be called a bedroom.**

**Response:** Indeed both approaches can be found in various applicable code standards, zoning regulations and STR Ordinances and there are complexities and nuances to administering either one.

For example, standards which use square feet typically only consider “habitable space” and include exclusions for living areas, bathrooms, kitchens, hallways, storage areas, etc. Some sleeping space may be allowable in a LR but only after the space required for LR use as a LR is excluded. Conversely, if bedrooms are counted, only spaces listed as allowable for sleeping can be counted and there are applicable specific definitions as well.

Opinions will differ and probably either approach could work. The rationale for suggesting the bedroom count based approach is that it actually seemed easier to implement. In addition, occupancy is indeed difficult to monitor; however, with some very feasible interventions (which should be included in the proposed regulations), significant progress can likely be achieved:

- Clarity of restriction in advertisements
- In person check-in
- Periodic in person “spot checks” by Property Manager or Owner
- Easy reporting mechanism and regulatory enforcement intervention for neighbor observation

**10) We keep seeing the same faces – we think there is only a very small group of interested residents in IV/CB**

**Response:** It is correct that there is a small group who have taken as a particular focus working with government leaders to try to facilitate an approach which better balances the concerns and interests of IV/CB residents. There has also been support by numbers of neighbors locally.

However, the depth of public concern was clearly reflected in the various public feedback opportunities which occurred during last summer as captured in the Washoe County STR staff report:

- “There were approximately 250-300+ attendees across the three workshops (some participants attended more than one workshop).”

- Two workshops in IV attracted 90+ % of the total attendees

- “An online survey was offered as an alternative or supplement to the in-person workshops. There were 569 survey responses. About 70% of respondents represented a neighbor/community perspective, while about 20% represented the short-term rental host or property manager perspective.

- 359 = 64% of survey respondents identified Incline Village as their primary residence
- survey respondents classified themselves as:
  - full-time resident, not a host: 360 = 63%; part-time resident, not a host: 38 = 11%
  - owner/host STR: 109 = 19%
  - property managers: 7 = 1%; other/other grps: 49 = 8%

Response themes paralleled the issues which have been raising throughout discussions and messaging with Washoe County Commissioners and staff. In addition, please note the difficulties associated with in person presentations in Reno as recently presented to the Commissioners.

**11) Enforcement staff may not be needed – Property Managers can fill this role**

**Response:** Either on-site owners and/or licensed property managers can fulfill significant roles in ensuring safe and neighborhood compatible administration of STR activities. However, they alone will

not be able to fully implement interventions that will be required to ensure the safe, environmentally sound and neighborhood character protective inclusion of STRs in our community:

- Safety inspections need specifically trained individuals (e.g. Fire/Building & Health departments)
- Washoe County enactment of needed regulations and Code enforcement staff to enforce
- Fines which are implemented
- And consideration of a hosting requirement: formal Host training (?certification) re oversight regulation including timely provision of necessary safety and regulatory information to renters

**12) Is on-site response within 30 min expected of Property Managers?**

**Response:** Yes, this level of responsiveness is important and will be needed. This is a “best practice” recommendation included in the TRPA Neighborhood Compatibility listing. Prompt response to concerns is a priority element in addressing adverse impacts associated with STRs and, in person, response is essential to immediately mitigate major issues. In addition, other “high touch” elements should be prioritized such as in-person check-in and review of local safety information, rental rules/regs and operation of site equipment/amenities. Also, given issues following remote check-outs, a requirement that the property manager visit the rental site within 1-2 hours after check-out would be helpful – examples of avoidable issues include:

- door not locked with bears entering into house requiring police intervention
- thermostat setting error with resulting freeze/leaks
- fire caused by hot tub set incorrectly

**13) Owners can’t be expected to bring everything up to current code in order to rent.**

**Response:** There are really two issues embedded in this item – first, differences between building and safety requirements for Transient Lodging situations compared with Residences and second, differences in applicable code today vs. when a site was built or last substantively remodeled.

As noted above, there are differences between typical residential use and STR usage – STRs are classified as Transient Lodging and their use and associated risks closely parallel that of other Transient Lodging uses. Applicable building and safety code requirements for Transient Lodging uses should therefore be applied to these rental settings especially since the supervision and managerial presence which could help with mitigating some risks is actually less in STRs than in other Transient Lodging applications.

With respect to code updates, it seems that there are typically regulatory judgments made when code enhancements occur and some code changes are deemed sufficiently urgent from a safety and regulatory perspective to require more timely remediation than others. It would seem reasonable that such an approach would be applicable with STRs as well using standards applicable to Transient Lodging. Another consideration might a requirement for informing renters of any significant gaps.

**14) Are you residents of Incline Village?**

**Response:** Yes, to best of knowledge, the Incline Village residents who presented at the November 12, 2019 Board of Commissioners meeting where these items were raised are all permanent residents of Incline Village who call this place home and want to be able to remain living here – experiencing the peaceful enjoyment of our neighborhoods and community!

*Submitted by Carole Black, IV Resident, 12/5/2019*

## ATTACHMENT: SUMMER OF 2019 AT THE INCLINE VILLAGE BEACHES

- IVGID Beach Impacts (data source = IVGID 2019 Beach Wrap-up Report)
- Adjacent Street Impacts: Parking picture examples

### Key Takeaways:

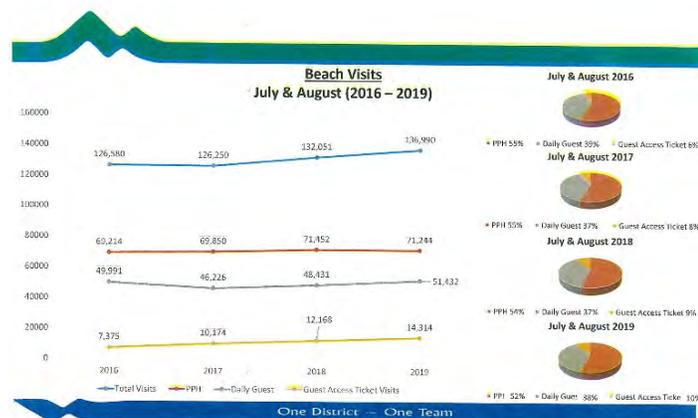
- **Dramatic increase in use in the category including STR renters which parallels increases in Airbnb’s reported business volume and RSCVA vacation rental occupied days data – note the particularly dramatic trend 2016 > 2019!**
- **Almost flat/some adverse trend in resident use paralleling complaints and concerns despite increased availability of a very popular resident amenity (available kayak racks)**
- **Huge parking and traffic congestion/visibility obstruction with often no ticketing**

### I. BEACHES

Season Beach Visit Increases:	2013 > 2019	2016 > 2019
1) Total visits:	19%	5%
2) Resident visits:	14%	1% (w/6% decrease 2018 > 2019)
3) Guest Visits:	17%	-1%
4) Guest Access Tickets (STRs)	83%(most since 2016)	81%

### July/Aug Beach Visit Increases:

1) Total visits:	8%
2) Resident visits:	3%
3) Guest visits:	3%
4) Guest Access Tickets (STRs)	94%



## II. Parking Picture Examples: Parking in Incline Village Labor Day Weekend 2019

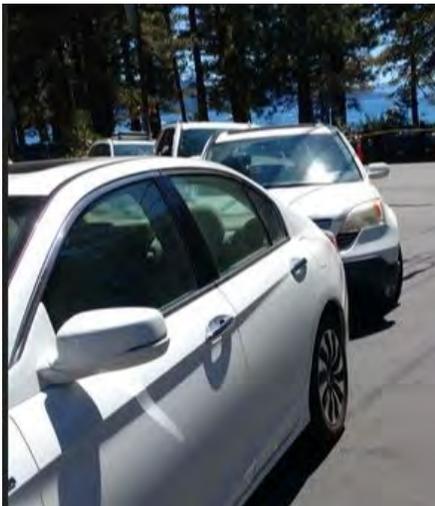
**No tickets or warnings were visible – several years ago illegally parked cars in this area were ticketed, why not now?**

### **Intersection of Village Blvd and Lakeshore:**

Early am - Turning area wide open; white lines on street were recently repainted with no white lines on this corner to mark cars parking - thus parking is apparently not allowed around this corner to provide visibility at the busy intersection:



Early afternoon – Intersection/turning area fully blocked with parked cars where there is no white line - once there was a short gap where red cone was placed; Poor visibility for cars at corner, no tickets:



Parking directly under No Parking signs – no tickets:



**From:** [cbwillb@charter.net](mailto:cbwillb@charter.net)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#)  
**Cc:** [Young, Eric](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Lloyd, Trevor](#); [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#); [Hauenstein, Mojra](#)  
**Subject:** FW: RE: Please Review - Feedback Documents re WC STR Ordinance Draft  
**Date:** Monday, December 09, 2019 12:13:59 PM  
**Attachments:** [CAB Comments STRs DO NOT MIMIC RESIDENTIAL USE revised 12.2.pdf](#)  
[Detailed str ordinance.code change comments 12.9.2019.pdf](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Kindly include this information in the Public Comment related to feedback regarding the Washoe County Draft Proposed STR Ordinance and Related Documents.

To: Commissioners Hartung, Lucey, Berkbigler, Jung, Herman  
Cc: Kelly Mullin, Eric Young, Trevor Lloyd  
Additional Cc: Building Department Lead (Mojra Hauenstein) re Zoning, etc. items  
Additional Cc (forwarded separately): WC Health District Leaders (Kevin Dick and Charlene Albee) re Public Health and Safety

Re: Feedback Documents Regarding WC STR Ordinance Draft

I am writing to provide additional, detailed feedback regarding the proposed Washoe County Draft Proposed STR Ordinance and Related Documents. I and others have previously sent and/or brought many carefully researched, detailed, thoughtful presentations to the Board of Commissioners highlighting significant concerns related to the dramatic increase and impacts of the unregulated, currently illegal STRs mushrooming in areas of Washoe County particularly near lake Tahoe in Incline Village/Crystal Bay.

Though there has been some evidence of listening and integration of items to address many impacts of this "NEW ZONING USE" into this proposed ordinance (e.g., specifically the inclusion of life safety regulations and inspections), the recommendations to date fall short of needed intervention to sufficiently positively address many, significant adverse impacts in order to preserve neighborhood character/neighborhood compatibility as required by TRPA and/or to protect the health, safety and welfare of both area residents and visiting tourists (the "transient public" seeking stays in Transient Lodging accommodations including STRs.). Two items are particularly worrisome:

1) STRs have been designated as Transient Lodging in WCC Chapter 25 and in NRS definitions; yet Washoe County is trying to word-smith different proposed zoning code in a confusing and obfuscating manner with a rationale of "aligning with TRPA definitions." This apparent insistence on classifying STRs within a revised definition of Residential Use would result in inappropriate classification based on the assumption that this use is the same as when a residence is occupied by residents. This rationale is incorrect for several reasons as shown definitively in the attached documents. In fact, the STR use most closely resembles other forms of Transient Lodging and should be classified and regulated as such. Further there is no need to specifically mimic TRPA - the requirement is that the local government approach be at least as restrictive as TRPA's and classifying STRs as Transient Lodging for zoning purposes with appropriate discretionary permitting in Residential Areas (including both residential

zones and residential developments in other zoning areas) would accomplish this goal. Further, Washoe County should conduct its own environmental analysis of this new use - TRPAs initial analysis was flawed, documents are missing, and the explosive new growth/plan to adopt as a NEW ZONING USE in WCC demands an internal comprehensive assessment.

2) Among many other gaps and concerns detailed in these and other previously submitted documents, one additional apparent "blind spot" is completely mystifying to me as a retired physician: specifically the apparent refusal to date to implement Public Health and Safety Regulations applicable to Transient Lodging/Public Accommodations in STRs as they have been implemented in other forms of Transient Lodging. An attachment to this email indicates a possible draft, straightforward approach to implementing this obviously applicable and important regulation in STRs. We very much hope you will consider modified as needed by the Health District who should also support implementation.

Regarding these and other items, respectfully request that you review and consider the three attached documents which contain added detail and data related to these items and other concerns regarding the proposed STR Ordinance:

- CAB Comments - STRs Do Not Mimic Residential Use
- Public Health, Safety and STRs - Draft Implementation Proposal
- Detailed STR Ordinance and Code Change Comments

Please note that all three of these documents include additional information not previously presented for your review. This information complements additional documents which have been submitted to the Board of Commissioners over the last several months detailing adverse impacts of STRs in our community with recommendations. Your review and consideration of this material including careful attention to the data and examples provided should lead to revision and enhancement of the proposed STR Ordinance as recommended.

Thank you for your attention and anticipated positive inclusion of recommendations in the revised Ordinance and associated documents.

Sincerely,

Carole Black, Incline Village Resident/Voter  
144 Village Blvd #33, Incline Village, NV 89451

## **SHORT-TERM RENTALS DO NOT MIMIC RESIDENTIAL USE**

*(Comments for IV/CB CAB; prior document revised based on WC Draft Ordinance Content)*

### **HOW DO STRs DIFFER FROM RESIDENTIAL USE?**

**1. STRs are the least well supported, w/least oversight of a variety of “comparable” uses & most resemble other uses designated as Transient Lodging in WCC 25.** See detail in the table next page.

**2. STR renters are largely unvetted and unknown to owners or property managers** (who are usually located remotely).

**3. STR renters are unfamiliar with the area, neighborhood culture and the environment.** They have often not been warned regarding risks and/or local rules/norms and they are staying in an unfamiliar site among strangers.

**4. To protect owners, renters and surrounding residents/neighbors, requirements applicable to other Transient Lodging uses as well as protective regulations are needed.** Examples are marked (\*) in the detail table next page

**5. Washoe County’s proposed Ordinance provides some, but insufficient, protection for residents & STR renters:**

**a. Excessive STR density adversely impacts neighborhood character, safety & environment and is not addressed; AND Excessive area occupancy driven by STR growth with insufficient Emergency Services support or evacuation capability is not addressed and is risky**

**b. WC does not need to and SHOULD NOT change the existing Residential Use definition - this change is Not required to “follow the TRPA model”:**

- TRPA’s requirement is that WC be at least as restrictive as TRPA & the current definition as Transient Lodging (thus implying commercial category) meets this requirement & should be formally adopted/codified in WCC 110
- Wording of proposed definition changes is convoluted, illogical, confusing & doesn’t match WCC 25.1501 or NRS STR listings: “Transient Commercial Use” (NRS 116.340)/“Transient Lodging” (NRS 447.010)
- Definition changes create unintended gaps in applicability of existing regulations resulting in increased risks. See attachment below for specific examples
- Our sense from meeting comments is that TRPA leadership may regret the historic definition change – why would WC want to repeat this “oops” when it is not required and drives little, if any benefit?

**c. All STRs Tiers in all Residential Areas are not currently proposed for, but should require, discretionary permits (SUP or AR/P) to ensure neighborhood impact review and consideration; and/or**

**d. Proposed tiers which allow overly generous occupancy for STRs without a consistent requirement for discretionary permitting should be adjusted: the threshold between Tier 1 >2 must be lowered to more closely match actual residential property use.**

**Rationale for the STR Ordinance proposed Tier approach (c&d) includes incorrect assumptions:**

- It is asserted that STR use mimics Residential Use which is clearly not correct in a variety of dimensions (see table next page).
- The average occupancy for residential use in our area is ~2.4 and the average family size is ~2.8 (per US census) while the threshold proposed for the “smaller, less intrusive” Tier 1 STRs is almost 4 times more = 10. In addition, residents know and are committed to the area, its risks, values and culture. STR renters are by definition transient and thus less aware or knowledgeable; they have less direct oversight or access to resources than in all other more heavily regulated transient lodging types.
- The comparison is made to WC standard for group homes. However, STRs lack both the on-site management and the more consistent, longitudinally present occupant group seen in group homes.

**Attachment 1: TABLE ILLUSTRATING COMPARISONS -  
SHORT-TERM RENTALS DO NOT MIMIC ACTUAL RESIDENTIAL USE**  
(revised based on WC Draft Ordinance Content)

ZONING / USE		SUPERVISION / KNOWN?				SERVICES & REGULATION EXAMPLES				
Lodging Type	Com vs Res Use	Zoning Status	Daily Rent Fee; TOT	On-site Owner or Manager	Visitor known to Owner	LOS; Offered to	Visitor knows area/culture	Occupancy/ Parking Actively Regulated/ Monitored	Food Utensils Available/ Regulated	Public Health/ Safety Regs Apply
<b>Categorized as Transient Lodging by WCC 25.1501 and NRS 447.010 (w or w/out meals); NRS 116.340</b>										
Hotel/ Motel	C	Varies	yes	yes: manager	no	short/ public	no	yes	yes/yes	yes
Time-share	C	Varies	yes	yes: manager	no	short/ public	no	yes	yes/yes	yes
B & B	C	Varies	yes	yes: mngr or owner	no	short/ public	no	yes	yes/yes	yes
STR now	C per WCC 25	Not allowed	yes	<b>no</b>	no	short/ public	<b>no</b>	<b>no</b>	yes/ <b>no</b>	<b>no</b>
<b>STR proposed</b>	<b>**C**</b>	<b>**SUP or AR/P in all listed zones **</b>	yes	*use 30 min access*	<b>**live check-in**</b>	short/ public	*provide info*	<b>**define/require live check-in &amp; manager checks**</b>	<b>**add Public Accommodations or equivalent**</b>	
-										
Group Home	R	Parallels residential use	charge/ stay; no TOT	manager	yes, manager	longer; must meet eligibility	yes	yes	yes/yes	yes
LT or Seasonal Rental	R	Parallels residential use	charge/ month; no TOT	owner in touch	yes	long	yes	yes, by in touch owner	n/a: renter is resident	n/a: renter is resident
Owner's Family/ Friends	R	Parallels residential use	none	owner on-site or in touch	yes	varies; limit to friends/ family	yes, close owner contact	yes, by in touch owner	n/a: not rented & owner/ visitor know each other	n/a: not rented & owner/ visitor know each other
<b>Legend note 1:</b> "Varies" notation indicates variability among regulatory zones, typically allowed or allowed with restrictions in tourist and/or commercial areas and not allowed or allowed with restrictions elsewhere; * indicates proposed in STR Ordinance while ** indicates additionally proposed in this document and/or other public comment feedback										
<b>Legend note 2:</b> Shaded boxes, red print indicate gaps not covered in STR draft and proposed in this document										

## ATTACHMENT 2: Examples of Unintended Consequences of the Proposed but Unnecessary Residential Use Definition Changes

### EXAMPLE 1) PROPOSED STR ORDINANCE Section 110.319.30 Enforcement.

“... The intent of this section is to ensure that STR activity does not alter the character of existing residential neighborhoods nor result in detrimental impacts to the public health, safety and welfare”.

**Response:** *Though this proposed ordinance is intended to address adverse impacts related to STR activity, it falls short from a number perspectives including: As noted above, wording should indicate Residential Areas in addition to Residential Neighborhoods. In addition, through the combination of the various proposed, convoluted wordings in multiple sections of the revised WCC/Development Code addressing STRs/vacation rentals within Residential Neighborhoods/Areas, a variety of protective regulations for members of the transient public staying in short term rental situations within residential neighborhoods/areas are rendered potentially not applicable. As a result, the basic premise of this section is nullified – the character of existing residential neighborhoods/areas will continue to be adversely impacted and there will be unnecessary exposure to detrimental impacts to the public health, safety and welfare.*

*Further, we note that, in discussion at recent TRPA meetings, we had the impression that the prior Residential Use definition change was currently regretted but difficult to reverse – why is WC repeating when the currently proposed definition change is unnecessary? And where is the environmental review (EIS) of STR impacts as a formally defined NEW USE not previously considered in WCC 110?*

### EXAMPLE 2) Public Health & Safety/Public Accommodation Requirements for Transient Lodging situations (NRS 447) which would provide basic Public Health and Safety protections to the public staying in these accommodations and reasonably expecting the same level of basic protection as would be expected in other Transient Lodging situations is not included.

**Response:** *We have submitted extensive documentation of the indications for including these parameters in STR regulations. In addition, recognizing the challenges of extensive inspection-based implementation, we have developed & submit a draft for a streamlined possible approach which would of course need to be modified as indicated, ratified and directed by the Health Department/District. Again, the proposed convoluted wording changes have obfuscated, rather than clarified, the appropriate use status and value of the health/safety recommendations. Despite this confusion, there are potential feasible and practical approaches to implementing these standards for the protection of the renters and residents and consistent with STR use as Transient Lodging.*

*In spite of all of the wording machinations, its a mystery how WC can legally, or in good conscience, fail to apply the Public Accommodation standards to STRs given the following code direction:*

NRS:NRS 447.010 “Hotel” defined. “Hotel” means every building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public, whether with or without meals, including, without limitation, a lodging house or rooming house where transient trade is solicited.

NRS 447.190 Enforcement of chapter by health authority; records. The health authority is charged with the enforcement of this chapter. The health authority shall keep a record of hotels inspected, and the record or any part thereof may, in the discretion of the health authority, be included in the biennial report to the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services.

NRS 447.200 Access for inspection of hotel. The health authority shall have access at any time to any hotel in this State for the purpose of making inspections and carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

NRS 447.210 Criminal penalty; each day of violation constitutes separate offense. ...

In addition, STRs are defined as Transient Lodging in WCC 25.1501.

**Even absent this designation, STRs fully meet the NRS definition above: 1) building or structures ... 2) used as ... or held out to the public (by virtue of extensive advertising) to be 3) a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the 4) transient public (STRs by definition are used for short stays!), 5) whether with or without meals ....**

**AND THIS CONCLUSION PERSISTS WHETHER WC DECIDES TO CORRECTLY CLASSIFY THIS USE AS BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL OR TO PERSIST IN TRYING TO SOMEHOW CHARACTERIZE THIS BUSINESS ACTIVITY AS A RESIDENTIAL USE**

**EXAMPLE 3) WCC 50.068 - False information to secure lodging in commercial place of temporary abode unlawful.** It is unlawful for any person, either for himself or representing others, to furnish or attempt to furnish any information known by such person to be false, including, but not limited to, the name, address, vehicle information, number of occupants, payment information, firm represented or any other information required by an establishment, in order to secure lodging in any motel, hotel, inn, recreational vehicle park or any other commercial place of temporary abode in the unincorporated area of the county.

**50.070 - Unlawful occupancy of place of temporary abode.** It is a violation of sections [50.068](#) to [50.072](#), inclusive, for any person who occupies any room or other such space in any commercial place of temporary abode when he knows such room or other such space to have been obtained by false information. **50.072 – Penalty.** Any person who violates the provisions of sections [50.068](#) to [50.072](#), inclusive, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished as provided in [section 125.05](#)

**Response:** By unnecessarily converting STRs to a Residential Use, this protective and helpful code requirement becomes not applicable. This definition change can be easily avoided by applying the existing Transient Lodging designation for zoning as well as taxation and allowing STR use in Residential neighborhoods/areas with AR or P status as should be in place at a minimum for all STRs with occupancy greater than average actual residential occupancy (~2.4) or possibly with a higher occupancy threshold if the STR is owner-occupied and supervised during rentals.

*Revised and Prepared for Submission to CAB 12/2/2019 by Carole Black, Incline Village Resident*

*Given meeting cancellation and to ensure receipt prior to the 12/11/19 deadline for Public Comment, this document is forwarded by email on 12/9/2019 with two additional documents:*

- Updated discussion of Public Health and Safety/Public Accommodation issues with a streamlined potential implementation proposal for consideration*
- Detailed comments related to multiple elements included in the draft STR Ordinance and related proposed WCC changes*

*This package of materials is forwarded to:*

- 1) WC Commissioners Berkgigler, Hartung, Lucey, Herman, Jung*
- 2) Kelly Mullin, Eric Young and Trevor Lloyd, WC Planning*

*In addition, re Public Health and Safety/Public Accommodations document including suggestions for a possible streamlined implementation approach, copy is forwarded to:*

- 1) Charlene Albee, WC Environmental Health Services*
- 2) Kevin Dick, WC District Health Officer*

*And, re Zoning, etc items, copy is forwarded to:  
Mojra Hauenstein, Planning and Building Director*

## FEEDBACK: WC DRAFT STR ORDINANCE/ASSOCIATED CODE CHANGES

Submitted by Carole Black, Incline Village Resident 12/9/2019

Comments re WC Code References listed on WC STR Website as related to STRs:

>> **50.304.21** (also quoted in chapter 110.304.15 see below) "... Short-term rentals are distinguishable from commercial lodging use types in that no meals may be provided within short-term rentals as part of the rental agreement and the home may only be rented out for short-term rental use to one group at a time.

*Comments: This definition has been artificially constructed to create a distinction which has little relationship to actual functional reality or practical applicability. Nor does it appropriately relate the STR use to other comparable situations or code descriptions:*

- 1. NRS does not distinguish "with or without meals" in defining "Hotels" within Chapter 774 and STRs meet all of the included criteria. Similarly, NRS 116.340 defines STRs/Vacation Rentals as a "Transient Commercial Use".*
- 2. In addition, WC 25.1501 defines vacation rentals as Transient Lodging – and every other type of Transient Lodging listed in WCC 110 are treated as Commercial Uses. Further, in terms of characteristics, STRs resemble these Transient Lodging Uses more closely than other defined Residential Uses (Group Homes, Long-term or Seasonal Rentals, Owner's non-paying family/friends).*
- 3. The presence or absence of meals, snacks/drinks and/or food preparation capability are not clear distinguishing characteristics. Residential uses include food, drink, snacks and food prep capability. STRs may or may not provide drink/snacks and typically include food preparation capability. Hotels/motels and other transient lodging situations may or may not serve meals or have food prep capability but more often provide access to snacks/drinks.*
- 4. In addition, as also noted below, the term "group" is not defined, nor is there any criteria for minimum age for legal renter and minimum age for responsible legal rental occupant. Further, note that other types of Transient Lodging may or may not rent to "one group" at a time – e.g., condo hotels or condo timeshare units whereas group homes (a residential use) house multiple individuals paying separately, and not one "group,"*

>> **50.308.1** ...(STR) operated without the required permit shall be deemed a public nuisance due to the potential nuisance impacts related to parking, garbage, noise, and higher occupancy, and by the danger posed to surrounding properties created by an unpermitted use that has not passed required inspections for public health, safety, or general welfare standards applicable to STRs. In addition, per WCC 110.910.10(b), any property or structure that does not conform to the provisions of an applicable development regulation shall be and is hereby declared to be a public nuisance.

*Comments: As we have previously presented, Public Health and Safety standards are not applied to STRs under these proposed requirements despite the presence of a Transient Lodging use with a lack of supervision and minimal related regulation. Indeed even the recommended "Provisions for a Healthy Home" associated with IPMC are not applied. Suggest since risks with STRs are those of Transient Lodging, these items be included in the recommended Safety Standards and annual inspection content with general oversight by the Health District and that, in addition, a Health District Public Health and Safety recommendations/requirements information sheet with acknowledgment be added to the permit application process for owners/operators and a renter information sheet be required to be included in the Renter Educational Packet – see detailed proposal presented separately.*

>> **110.304.15** Residential Use Types. Residential use types include the occupancy of living accommodations, ~~on a wholly or primarily non-transient basis~~ but exclude institutional living arrangements providing twenty-four-hour skilled nursing, custodial or medical care and those providing forced residence, such as asylums and prisons.

*Comment: As we have previously discussed, the modification to this paragraph is unnecessary and will be associated with unintended, untoward impacts. STRs most closely resemble other forms of Transient Lodging and differ in characteristics from Residential uses. Historically (and currently), STR is not a listed use in the WCC 110 sections describing zoning area uses and there is a clause indicating that, if a use is not listed, it is not allowed. Thus, though they have been largely ignored from a regulatory perspective by WC (except for tax revenue!), currently STRs are an illegal use in WC and specifically in Residential areas from a zoning perspective.*

*The current proposal, embedded here and in other draft sections of the WC Tahoe Area Plan, is to consider this use Residential. This change would represent a major zoning modification and needs comprehensive and thorough processing including substantive environmental assessment of the STR use (EIS) as this would be a New Use from a zoning perspective.*

*Further, there are serious concerns about treating this as a Residential use in that STRs are clearly businesses, i.e., commercial uses, and not the historic occasional vacation rentals of years ago. STRs function as “instant hotels”, with much higher occupancy than residential uses, frequent guest transitions of individuals unfamiliar with the area, internet advertising and, in addition, less supervision/management presence than other forms of transient lodging. STRs are thus more appropriately regarded as are other forms of Transient Lodging and as Businesses/Commercial uses.*

*In addition, this definition change is unnecessary for coordination with TRPA – as a Commercial Transient Lodging use, STRs are more restrictively zoned than TPRA and thus meet TRPA requirements.*

**>> 110.304.15, Residential Use Types, is hereby amended to add new sub-section (d) with the following definitions: << Suggest DO NOT amend use type; modify wording as follows: “STR may be permitted in Residential zones as noted below”**

**(d) Short-term rental. Short-term rental (STR) refers to existing single-family dwelling units where, for compensation, lodging is provided within either the entire home or a portion of the home for a rental period of less than 28-days. STRs may be permitted to operate out of legally permitted, permanent dwelling units or accessory dwelling units in accordance with the standards within Article 319. << add “and in accordance with the permitting requirements below”**

Short-term rentals are distinguishable from commercial lodging use types in that no meals may be provided within short-term rentals as part of the rental agreement and the home may only be rented out for short-term rental use to one group at a time. **<< suggest omitting this “distinction” see discussion above.** STRs are also often referred to as vacation rentals and are commonly made available through property management companies or online booking platforms.

*Comment: Based on the appropriate designation of STRs like other forms of Transient Lodging as a Commercial use, we recommend changing wording to the bolded wording noted above*

The following are short-term rental use types:

(1) Tier 1 Short-Term Rental. A Tier 1 STR has a maximum occupancy of 10 persons or fewer. (2) Tier 2 Short-Term Rental. A Tier 2 STR has a maximum occupancy of 11-20 persons and due to its higher occupancy, may require additional limitations to ensure compatibility with surrounding residential properties.

*Comment: Either a) a discretionary permit including impacted neighbor input solicited and considered should be required for all STRs in Residential areas in order to provide for a review process. This is important because this use does not mimic residential use (see extensive documentation provided previously and also attached in a separate document with this submission) and/or*

*b) the threshold between Tier 1 and 2 must be lowered to more closely align with actual average residential use ~2.4 occupants and actual average family size ~2.8 (per recent US Census info). These levels thus represent actual average residential use and added limitations are thus likely*

*required above this occupancy level to ensure neighborhood compatibility. And the Administrative Review Process must consider impacted residential neighbor impact which is solicited and considered.*

*Preferably BOTH of the above recommendations will be adopted in the interests of preserving neighborhood compatibility and not further exceeding safe area occupancy which is already at worrisome levels – i.e., at higher volume times, evacuation in an emergency would not be possible according to the fire department. These adjusted tier definitions should apply in all areas of established residential development independent of regulatory zone.*

(3) Tier 3 Short-Term Rental. A Tier 3 STR has a maximum occupancy of 21 or more persons. This highest tier of STRs is still operated out of a pre-existing dwelling unit, but due to the high number of occupants, is expected to have more significant impacts to surrounding properties. As a result, it is considered inappropriate to be located in residential regulatory zones but may be appropriate on properties with commercial regulatory zones that are located nearer tourist and commercial services.

*Nonetheless the Administrative Permit Review must include noticing and consideration of impacted neighbor feedback since any adjoining residences risk the same adverse impacts as they would in any other area regulatory zone.*

**>> Table 110.302.05.1 and referenced 110.302 sections**

*Further, the considerations and adjustments regarding STR tiers and allowed uses in residential areas should apply in all areas of established residential development throughout the village independent of regulatory zoning area categorization. The rationale is that the implications to nearby residential areas and transient area occupancy are the same in all residential areas. Specifically there are existing residential developments in current commercial and tourist neighborhoods which have been permitted as such prior to the advent and subsequent massive growth/impacts of this STR use and which should be afforded the same protections of neighborhood character regarding STRs as in formal Residential Zones. Thus in Table 110.302.05.1 and associated referenced sections the designation for Tier 2 STRs (with lowered maximum occupancy between levels 1 and 2) at a minimum and preferably for both Tiers 1 and 2 should be uniformly listed as AR including in GC and TC Zones.*

*Further, given the lack of supervision and regulation in STR's when compared with other types of Transient Lodging situations (as documented in other included documents), these same permitting requirements and regulatory zone designations should apply whether they are ultimately categorized as a Residential Use or correctly designated within the zoning code as a Transient Lodging (business/commercial) Use.*

**>> 110.304.25(u), Lodging Services,...**

(u) Lodging Services. Lodging services use type refers to establishments primarily engaged in the provision of lodging on a less-than-weekly basis with **incidental food, drink, and other sales or services intended for the convenience of guests, including common facilities**, but excludes those establishments classified under residential group home, short-term rental and commercial recreation. The following are lodging services use types:

*Comment: As noted with some of the other "word-smithing" above, this proposed distinction seems arbitrary and the exclusion of STRs is inconsistent with actual STR use. The description offered appears to be describing "Transient Lodging" and includes characteristics typical of STRs - "engaged in the provision of lodging on a less-than-weekly basis with incidental food, drink and other sales or services intended for the convenience of guests, including common facilities" are all elements often seen in STRs – indeed various combinations of snacks, drink and/or activities (e.g., access to owner kayaks, etc) are often offered/included and "common facilities" found in STRs and referenced in another section. Residential group homes operate differently for a different target population.*

*Reiterate that the most appropriate category for STRs is the Transient Lodging grouping currently present in WCC.*

>> **110.319.10** Requirements for Application.

b,d. "... dedicated locations and surface material of required parking spaces ..."  
"evidence of the number (and location, if applicable) of parking spaces allocated to the unit" -

*Comment: In a shared open parking lot, how will this be handled – the same spots may be shown for several units?*

c. "Accurately scaled floor plan showing entirety of dwelling ..."

*Comment: suggest specifying detail regarding the overall building/structure for attached units*

>> **110.319.15** Standards.

1a3: "Every STR is required to have a designated agent or property manager who is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to respond to complaints/issues related to the STR within 30 minutes of contact by Washoe County staff or its designated representatives ..."

*Comment: suggest clarifying what access point is to be available 24/7 for neighbor complaint to ensure efficient response including on site presence if indicated – recall the brief delay windows seen with recent catastrophic events. Also suggest a requirement for in person check-in and occasional in person "spot checks" to facilitate renter education and occupancy checks. May also want to consider collecting renter contact info as well as car registration info either in advance or as part of registration.*

1a4: "No events ... advertised ..."

*Comments: suggest add "or promoted" - since the more frequent approach seems to be to advertise within regs but then promote via social media/emails once rented*

*Re items 1a3 and 1a4 and Noise (below), suggest also please add a section parallel to the Reno code section related to "Social Host Liability/Disruptive gatherings" (Sec. 8.22.300)*

1a7: "... do not supercede ... permits required to construct ..."

*Comment: suggest add "or modify a dwelling unit or building containing a dwelling unit used as an STR" to address rehabs of existing units or buildings containing units licensed as STRs. In addition, requirement for notification of construction and, as applicable, temporary cessation of STR operation during modifications.*

1a8: "... only be rented to one group at a time ..."

*Comment: as noted above the term "group" is not defined; also minimum age requirement for renter and for onsite responsible occupant should be defined – renter should be legally able to enter into a contract and oldest occupant should be legally responsible for supervision of any minors present*

1a10 and 1b,e: "... number of occupants ... number of parking spaces ..."

*Comment: add any additional restrictions re occupancy (e.g., not accessible) and parking spaces (e.g., 1 garage space which will only accommodate an average size car or SUV; no accessible parking)*

1a11: "... placard..." It would be helpful to consider possible adjustments in situations with adjoining walls

*Comment: how will this work for attached dwellings in multi-unit buildings?*

1a14: "Educational material must be made available to all renters in the unit's kitchen or other common area ..."

*Comment: suggest that this information should also be required to be provided upon rental, prior to arrival in area and within cancellation with refund period for the rental to avoid unprepared renters inadvertently arriving to a situation for which they are not prepared or eligible (i.e., 1 parking space in garage – vehicle is too big to fit!)*

1c: "Noise Standards ..."

*Comment: There is no mention of applicable limits or expectations regarding excessive, persistent daytime noise which is a commonly raised concern/complaint – applicable standards should be referenced or developed and included here and/or in Nuisance code. It would also be helpful to specify more limited noise thresholds or some guidance for situations with adjoining walls – in attached single family residences not built for transient occupancy (& with constant turnover of rental occupants) a moderately loud extended evening phone conversation or rambunctious discussion or loud TV can completely disrupt a neighbor's restful evening at home. In a hotel this is solved by a call to the front desk – no such remedy with an STR!*

*Would also strongly suggest add a section similar to this Reno code section: **Sec. 8.22.300.** - Social Host Liability section regarding Disruptive Gatherings which addresses disruptive/illegal behaviors with legal implications.*

>> **110.319.20** Safety Standards c. Additional Safety Standards

c2: "... in accordance with the original permit approval"

c6: "... or the applicable code in effect at the time of the original permit of the structure"

*Comment: given the lack of additional robust regulation and on site supervision as would be applied to commercial situations, suggest that residential rental activity requires either correction to current standard or advance notification to renter of gap between current recommendations and existing situation*

c3: "Structures with a calculated occupant load greater than 10 occupants ...shall be equipped with a monitored fire alarm system ...".

*Comment: suggest that this should also apply to larger/higher structures because of added time/complexity required for evacuation*

>> **110.319.30** "Enforcement. ... The intent of this section is to ensure that STR activity does not alter the character of existing residential neighborhoods nor result in detrimental impacts to the public health, safety and welfare".

*Comment: Though this ordinance reflects an intent to address adverse impacts related to STR activity, it falls short from a number perspectives:*

*- through the combination of the various proposed convoluted wordings in multiple sections of the WCC including the Development Code addressing STRs/vacation rentals within Residential areas, a variety of protective regulations for members of the transient public staying in short term rental situations are rendered not applicable (see additional detailed documentation in a separate document submitted along with this document)*

*As a result, the basic premise of this section is nullified – the character of existing residential neighborhoods is currently and will continue to be adversely impacted and there will be unnecessary exposure to detrimental impacts to the public health, safety and welfare.*

>> **110.809.00** "Purpose. The purpose of Article 809, Administrative Review Permits, is to provide methods for reviewing proposed uses which possess characteristics that require special appraisal in order to determine if the use(s) have the potential to adversely impact other land uses, transportation or services and facilities in the vicinity. The Board of County Commissioners, the Board of Adjustment, or the Planning and Building Division Director, may require conditions of approval necessary to

eliminate, mitigate, or minimize to an acceptable level any potentially adverse effects of a use or to specify the terms under which commencement and operation of the use must comply”.

>> **110.809.15** Review Procedures. The Director, or her/his designee, shall review an administrative review application request for compliance with the Development Code while also taking into consideration any testimony offered by affected property owners and the applicant, as well as characteristics of the property.

>> **110.809.30** Revocation. The Board of Adjustment (or Board of County Commissioners, for administrative review permits associated with a short-term rental) may initiate an action to revoke an administrative review approval issued pursuant to this section. The Board of Adjustment shall hold a public hearing upon the revocation of the administrative review approval and provide notice as set forth in Section 110.808.40. For items heard by the Board of County Commissioners, that Board shall hold a public hearing upon the revocation of the administrative review approval and provide notice as set forth in Section 110.912.20.

After the public hearing, and upon considering the evidence submitted, the applicable board may take action to revoke the administrative review approval based upon a finding of any one (1) or more of the following grounds: (a) That the administrative review approval was fraudulently obtained or extended; (b) That one (1) or more of the conditions upon which such development approval was granted have been violated, and the applicable board finds that those violations are substantial in nature, unduly and negatively affecting neighboring property owners, or relating directly to public health, safety or welfare; or (c) That the use or facility for which the development approval was granted is so conducted or maintained as to be detrimental to the public health or safety, or as to be a public nuisance.

*Comment: What is the process for addressing similar issues with Tier 1 STRs if Administrative Review Permit regulation is not revised adding AR to all tiers of STRs and thus these rules would not apply? Overall the process described for censure for failure to follow standards is cumbersome and can extend over long periods of time- what is the plan for urgent, egregious issues?. How is information regarding a fraudulent application transmitted and acted upon, etc, etc?*

## **ATTACHMENT: SOME APPLICABLE CURRENT CODE SECTIONS FOR REFERENCE:**

### **WCC:**

#### **110.902** : Motel.

"Motel" means a building occupied or intended to be occupied, for compensation, as the temporary residence for transient guests, primarily persons who have residence elsewhere, with access to each room or unit from an outside porch or landing (whether or not such outside porch or landing is enclosed with screen, glass, plastic or similar material).

#### **25.143** - "Room" or "rooms" defined.

"Room" or "rooms" means any accommodation rented for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes by the operator of transient lodging as defined in [section 25.1501](#).

#### **25.150** - "Transient guest" defined.

"Transient guest" means any individual occupant who has or shall have the right of occupancy to any room for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes in a transient lodging facility for less than 28 consecutive days.

#### **25.1501** - "Transient lodging" defined.

"Transient lodging" means any facility, structure, or portion thereof occupied or intended or designed for occupancy by transient guests who pay rent or other consideration for dwelling, lodging, or sleeping purposes, and includes, without limitation, any hotel, resort hotel, motel, motor court, motor

lodge, bed and breakfast, lodging house, rooming house, resident hotel and motel, guest house, tourist camp, resort and "dude" ranch, cabin, condominium, timeshare properties, vacation home, apartment house, recreational vehicle park/campground, guest ranch, or other similar structure or facility, or portion thereof.

**ALSO, Some potentially useful sections from Reno code which might be considered in addressing the Public Health and Safety element:**

**Sec. 8.22.300.** - Social Host Liability section regarding Disruptive Gatherings

**Sec. 10.04.010.** - General powers. (General Sanitary Matters) - The provisions of this chapter contemplate the general supervision by the health officer of all matters pertaining to the sanitary conditions of the city ... and the abatement of all nuisances prejudicial to the health of the citizens, or any of them, and for the prevention of the development and spread of infectious and contagious diseases.

**Sec. 10.04.030.** - Nuisances generally. Whatever is injurious to human life or health, whatever renders the air or food or water or other drink unwholesome, and whatever building, erection or part or cellar or basement thereof is overcrowded or not provided with adequate means of ingress and egress, or is not sufficiently supported, ventilated, sewerred, drained, cleaned or lighted, are declared to be nuisances and to be illegal ..."

## **Public Health and Safety Implications of STRs/Vacation Rentals as Transient Lodging - a Draft Practical Plan**

*Submitted by Carole Black, IV Resident to WC Board of Commissioners 11.12.2019, Updated 12/6/2019*

### **I. Background:**

**A) NRS 447 describes Public Accommodations requirements as applicable to “Hotels” which are defined as “every building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public, whether with or without meals ...”**

**- NRS 447 further specifies that these requirements will be administered by the “officers and agents of the local boards of health”** *(Detail below)*

**B) Washoe County classifies STRs/Vacation Home Rentals as Transient Lodging in Washoe County**

**Ordinance 1526** – this use thus falls within the definition listed in NRS 447 *(Source: Washoe County website)*

**C) Nonetheless Washoe County and its Health District Program have to date not fulfilled this obligation by not administering these requirements in STRs/VHRs** *(Source: Washoe County website)*

### **II. Current Issues:**

**1) Public Accommodation requirements are not included in the proposed WC STR Ordinance draft apparently based on a WC’s interpretation of applicable statutes. Independent of this interpretation, the conclusion is incorrect: these regulations are designed to protect the Health and Safety of tourists staying in Transient Lodging situations - enforcement in STRs is the right thing to do!** An STR rental is **not** the same as your friends coming to visit. Instead many different, unknown and largely unvetted individuals with unknown habits or conditions are staying in an unfamiliar remote environment in a stranger's unit with little available support. They are potentially at more, not less, risk than tourists staying in more traditional Transient Lodging settings. STR facilities are less closely monitored, minimally staffed (if at all) and may or may not have appropriately trained individuals managing or maintaining the premises. Renters are provided with substantially less oversight/on site support and/or access to information/assistance than in traditional tourist site.

**2. Practical Examples of Public Health and Safety items thus not currently or planned, but which should be considered, for STRs/Vacation Rentals include** *(Added detail in table below):*

- General cleaning, sanitation and safety of rooms/property: “... clean and sanitary condition, free of fire hazards and free of hazards to life and limb.”

- Bio-hazardous waste handling and disposal

- Pest abatement/aversion (e.g., exclusion/treatment, disinfection and renovation to eliminate infestation by “vermin or bedbugs or similar things”)

- Screens for insects (think West Nile Virus)

- Management/sanitation of any food service utensils, equipment or supplies

- Management of recalls of any offered food or snacks and/or any food related outbreaks

- General safety, ventilation, egress, etc requirements for “sleeping and living” spaces which fall in the Public Health and Safety arena

- Appropriate alteration of facilities/supplies for use as Transient Lodging and/or Notices of limitation re the many variable needs for safely serving varieties of occupants – e.g., limited mobility, visual/hearing impairment, minors, foreign language, access to safety and/or evacuation precautions, alerts/supplies/equipment/instructions

**3. These are Public Health and Safety issues and should be overseen by Health related entities**

**4. Other Public Safety items not included above which should also be addressed by transient lodging sites in this region:**

- Safety management/supplies/equipment for power outages/storms or severe weather

- Safety management/supplies/equipment for emergencies: evacuation or shelter-in-place

- Limitations in medical support available in area during storms or severe weather

**PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:  
LEGAL REQUIREMENTS IN ADDITION TO TYPICAL BUILDING/FIRE CODES**

<b>Element: in STR Regs?</b>	<b>Public Accommodations (NRS/NAC)</b>	<b>IPMC Provisions for a Healthy Home</b> (source listed in STR report)	<b>Group Homes</b> (referenced for comparability in STR report)
<b>Pests: NO</b>	Extermination of vermin or bedbugs or similar things	Extermination/Infestation: mention of insects, rodents	... free from insects and rodents
<b>Use of space: YES</b>	Certain areas prohibited from use for living or sleeping	Habitable spaces defined for living, sleeping & eating/food prep	Spaces for sleeping/not for sleeping specified
<b>Screens: NO</b>	Windows and outside doors to be equipped	Every door, window of habitable/food related space required for ventilation	All windows and doors used for ventilation must be screened
<b>Vent/Egress: PARTIAL</b>	Ventilation/egress of rooms for sleeping; Ventilation: rooms with water closet, bathtub or shower	Ventilation of habitable space, bathrooms, clothes dryers; Egress in (IPMC)	Ventilation specified; Egress see building section
<b>Cleanliness/ Sanitation: NO</b>	Kept clean and sanitary and free of fire hazards and hazards to life and limb	Sanitation, exterior and premises – clean, safe and sanitary; rooms/ surface good, clean, sanitary condition	Interior and exterior clean and well-maintained
<b>Building: PARTIAL</b>	Requirements per state law, rules & regs, Brd of Health & other codes	Extensive listing re building maintenance; Other specs in IPMC	Free from obstacles that impede free movement of residents
<b>Size/rooms / occupancy: PARTIAL</b>	For sleeping specified; Not ok if per health authority “living or sleeping is dangerous or prejudicial to life or health...”	IPMC – sleeping and living space	≥ 60 sq ft/person; max 3/room; also storage, closet, lighting, locks related regulations; additional regs for common spaces, occupancy
<b>Heat: YES Bldg code</b>	Systems for heating and ventilating hotels or other ... transient lodging ...	Detail description of minimum heating requirements; removal of combustion prod; air supply/energy conservation	Temperature range specified
<b>Water/sewer: YES Bldg code</b>	Supply of water; plumbing; Disposal of sewage Some specs in Health Codes	Water heating; safety restrictions on gas hot water heaters; & Building Codes	Safe, sufficient supply of water; Adequate sewage disposal system
<b>Trash: YES (&amp; bear boxes)</b>	Disposal of garbage and rubbish;	Free from accumulation of garbage and rubbish	Minimum disposal once/wk; container types by types of waste
<b>Bathrooms: YES Bldg code</b>	#’s of Baths, toilets, sinks/ occupants	Building Codes only	
<b>Lighting: PARTIAL</b>	Accessible signage	Building Codes only	Lighting to ensure comfort & safety of residents
<b>Re Transient Occupants: NO</b>	Disinfection of toilets	Not applicable because assumes resident occupancy	
	Fumigation of room after occupation by person having contagious or infectious disease.		
	Cleanliness and amount of bedding; Worn out or unfit bedding; towels supplied		Bedding/changes specified; Laundry & linen service that provides proper/sanitary washing
	Food handling/utensil sanitizing		
			Auto sprinklers per NRS 477
<b>WC program adds : NO</b>	Bio-hazardous waste program; Outbreak management (food)		

Red>gap; Green>in draft // Source: NRS/NAC & Washoe County websites; [https://nchh.org/resource-library/International%20Code%20Council%20-%20IPMC\\_1.pdf](https://nchh.org/resource-library/International%20Code%20Council%20-%20IPMC_1.pdf)

**Draft Possible Approach in the Context of the Proposed WC STR Ordinance –  
Note: Actual Program Recommendations to be Established by the WC Health District**

**DRAFT EXAMPLE: Expand Proposed STR Life Safety Requirements as follows:**

**1. Slightly broaden proposed safety inspection to include several elements included in Public Accommodations list, IPMC's Provisions for a Healthy Home and/or Group Home Regs:**

- a. Screens for outside doors and windows (avoid insect vectors)
- b. Ventilation of Bathrooms/Dryer (bathroom fans/dryer vent with annual cleaning documented)
- c. Evidence of annual rodent inspection/mitigation as indicated provided
- d. Exit door locks easily openable from inside
- e. Lights stairs, exit paths

**2. Address additional items in an Owner's Requirements checklist with annual attestation**

- a. Recommendations for cleaning and sanitation/fumigation/quarantine per Board of Health
- b. Remove obstacles to safe renter movement (e.g., scatter rugs, power cords)
- c. Other building requirements/recommendations per Health Dept.
- d. Address any items flagged as important by Health dept "living or sleeping conditions dangerous or prejudicial to life or health"
- e. Lighting to ensure comfort and safety of residents, e.g., room light switch near doorways; stairway light switch top/bottom
- f. Biohazard waste handling and disposal
- g. Outbreaks, recalls
- h. Clean bedding; pest detection, avoidance, mitigation
- i. Emergency supply list (e.g., flashlights, water, batteries ... per health/fire departments)
- j. Inform renters in advance of rental unit and parking restrictions, limitations & house rules

**3. Address additional elements in Proposed Renter Educational Packet with acknowledgment of receipt/in person check-in to review with owner or licensed property manager**

- a. Keep screens closed – why?
- b. Use dishwasher to clean all food/eating utensils
- c. Notify manager for any questions re pests
- d. Follow other Board of Health recommendations re cleaning, notifications
- e. Caution to avoid falls/scatter rugs
- f. Know how to open exterior doors & windows; how to find and use emergency equipment
- g. Where to get emergency information and supplies (weather, fire, evacuation, etc.)
- h. How to operate equipment and emergency shut-offs
- i. Extra supplies, linen
- j. Biohazardous waste handling and disposal
- k. Availability limitations and access to emergency medical care during weather/emergency situations
- j. Rental unit and parking restrictions, limitations & house rules

**4. Rigorous & timely response to complaints/concerns will be an essential component**

**5. Resource/Regulatory implications:**

- Limits impact on inspections/inspection staffing
- Requires owner obtained rodent/pest inspection and dryer vent cleaning
- Health inspections could be helpful but may not be required – can adjust based on experience
- As a Transient Lodging use, subject to Business TOT tax, and within NRS 447 definitions, STRs should be required to allow health department mandated inspections, just like other safety reviews as a permit condition

**DRAFT EXAMPLE – Coverage of Public Health and Safety Elements by Draft Expanded STR Life Safety Requirements Approach -  
Note: Actual Program Recommendations to be Established by the WC Health District**

Element: in STR Regs?	Addressed in Current and/or Proposed Expanded Inspection	Addressed in Proposed Owner Requirements Sheet	Addressed in Proposed Enhanced Renter Educational Packet
<b>Pests: NO</b>	✓ Add to safety inspection (review owner report)	✓	✓
<b>Use of space: YES</b>	✓		✓
<b>Screens: NO</b>	✓ Add to safety inspection		✓
<b>Vent/Egress: PARTIAL</b>	✓ Add to safety inspection (bath fans; owner report dryer vent cleaning)		
<b>Cleanliness/ Sanitation: NO</b>		✓	✓
<b>Building: PARTIAL</b>		✓	✓
<b>Size/rooms / occupancy: PARTIAL</b>	✓ Add to safety inspection (exit door locks open easily from inside)	✓	✓
<b>Heat: YES Bldg code</b>	✓		
<b>Water/sewer: YES Bldg code</b>	✓		
<b>Trash: YES (&amp; bear boxes)</b>	✓		✓
<b>Bathrooms: YES Bldg code</b>	✓		
<b>Lighting: PARTIAL</b>	✓ Add to safety inspection (lights - stairs; exit path)	✓	✓
<b>Re Transient Occupants: Sanitation; bedding, etc NO</b>		✓	✓
<b>WC program adds : NO</b>		✓	✓

*Red>gap; Green>in draft // Source: NRS/NAC & Washoe County websites; [https://nchh.org/resource-library/International%20Code%20Council%20-%20IPMC\\_1.pdf](https://nchh.org/resource-library/International%20Code%20Council%20-%20IPMC_1.pdf)*

## Attachment: Selected Applicable Code Excerpts *(with underlining added for emphasis)*

### NRS CHAPTER 447: PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS

NRS 447.007 **“Health authority” defined.** “Health authority” means:

1. The officers and agents of the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services; or 2. The officers and agents of the local boards of health.

NRS 447.010 **“Hotel” defined.** “Hotel” means every building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public, whether with or without meals, including, without limitation, a lodging house or rooming house where transient trade is solicited

NRS 447.185 Regulation of construction or reconstruction of hotel or other establishment for transient lodging. The reconstruction of existing hotels, including all types of transient lodging establishments, and the construction of new hotels, including all types of transient lodging establishments, shall be in accord with pertinent state laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Health or local board of health, and the latest editions of the *Uniform Building Code* and the *Uniform Plumbing Code* and such other codes as the State Board of Health may designate

NRS 447.190 Enforcement of chapter by health authority; records. The health authority is charged with the enforcement of this chapter. The health authority shall keep a record of hotels inspected, and the record or any part thereof may, in the discretion of the health authority, be included in the biennial report to the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services.

NRS 447.135 Entrance to corridor leading to toilet facility to be marked with sign that conforms to requirements of Americans with Disabilities Act and includes features for use by visually impaired persons; reporting of violations; duties of Attorney General; enforcement. ...

5. As used in this section, “public accommodation” has the meaning ascribed to it in 42 U.S.C. § 12181 (<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-447.html>)

#### **US Code: 42 USC 12181 ...**

##### **As used in this subchapter:**

- (1) **Commerce** The term “commerce” means travel, trade, traffic, commerce, transportation, or communication-
- (A) among the several States;
- (B) between any foreign country or any territory or possession and any State; or
- (C) between points in the same State but through another State or foreign country ...

##### **(7) Public Accommodation**

The following private entities are considered public accommodations for purposes of this subchapter, if the operations of such entities affect commerce--

(A) an inn, hotel, motel, or other place of lodging, except for an establishment located within a building that contains not more than five rooms for rent or hire and that is actually occupied by the proprietor of such establishment as the residence of such proprietor

(<https://codes.findlaw.com/us/title-42-the-public-health-and-welfare/42-usc-sect-12181.html>)

### **NRS 116.340**

#### **4. As used in this section:**

(a) Remuneration means any compensation, money, rent or other valuable consideration given in return for the occupancy, possession or use of a unit.

(b) Transient commercial use means the use of a unit, for remuneration, as a hostel, hotel, inn, motel, resort, vacation rental or other form of transient lodging if the term of the occupancy, possession or use of the unit is for less than 30 consecutive calendar days.



# WASHOE COUNTY

## REPORT FOR SHORT TERM RENTALS PUBLIC INPUT

Report as of 09/13/2019



# WASHOE COUNTY

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Collection Method

#### Public Input Meeting

**Hosted:** August 20, 2019

5:30-7:00 pm, Rancho San Rafael's May Museum

**Number of Attendees:** Estimated at 25

**Hosted:** August 26, 2019

5:30-7:00 pm, The Chateau at Incline Village

**Number of Attendees:** Estimated at 195

**Hosted:** August 28, 2019

5:30-7:00 pm, Parasol Tahoe Community Foundation

**Number of Attendees:** Estimated at 95

#### Survey

**Available online:** August 19 – September 6, 2019

**Date of Data Pull for this Report:** September 10, 2019

**Number of Respondents:** 569





# WASHOE COUNTY

## Survey Demographics

Location of Primary Residence:	Responses
Incline Village	359
City of Reno	43
Other	23
South Truckee Meadows (ex. Montreux, Arrowcreek, Virginia Highlands, Toll Road, Hidden Valley, etc.)	24
South Valleys (ex. Steamboat, Washoe or Pleasant Valleys)	16
I live outside Washoe County	51
City of Sparks	14
North Valleys	12
Spanish Springs	11
Verdi/West Truckee Meadows	6
Warm Springs	2
Sun Valley	1
Truckee Canyon/Wadsworth	1

What best describes you?	Responses
Full time neighbor/resident, but not a host	360
Owner/host of a short-term rental	109
Part time neighbor/resident, but not a host	38
Representative of a Property Management Company	7
Representative of the Lodging Industry	0
Representative of another neighborhood/community group	5
Other	44

## Public Input Methodology

The process to solicit and accumulate public input regarding short-term rental regulations in unincorporated Washoe County included two separate methods; public input sessions held in-person and an online survey promoted via press releases and featured at [www.washoecounty.us/str](http://www.washoecounty.us/str).

Both methods of gaining public input allowed residents to provide qualitative feedback in areas of potential concern, including permitting process, fire and guest safety, occupancy limits, parking, trash, and noise. The public provided input regarding specific issues associated with top areas of concern, including suggested solutions. Survey and public input session participants were also able to select an “other” area of concern not highlighted.





# WASHOE COUNTY

Based on community feedback public input sessions held in Incline Village attendees were provided an opportunity to provide input to areas of concern specific to Incline Village.

Public session input was collected using round-table discussions hosted by County staff. Each round table discussion was dedicated to a specific area of concern where hosts collected input from participants regarding specific issues and suggested solutions.

Additionally, both the survey and public input sessions held in Incline Village allowed respondents or participants to capture positive impacts short-term rentals may have in local communities.

## KEY LEARNINGS

**Overall, community sentiment supports regulation of short-term rentals, but is polarized to the degree and magnitude of regulations that should be implemented.**

Most survey respondents and public input session participants believe a need exists to regulate short-term rentals in unincorporated Washoe County, especially Incline Village/Crystal Bay. This is true among current short-term rental hosts, community residents of Incline Village, and residents of the Reno/Sparks area. The difference is to what degree regulations should extend, which extends from banning short-term rentals altogether to the adoption of permitting requirements with any enforcement of renter regulations being the responsibility of the host. A minority of public input participants suggest the County should play no role in regulating a property owner's rights, whatsoever.

**Property management companies believe they have strict rules and guidelines in place protecting guests, residents, and owners.**

Property management companies representing short-term rentals in Incline Village/Crystal Bay are confident they have strict renter rules and guidelines governing the actions and behaviors of STR renters. These acknowledgements are written contracts signed by each renter of a short-term rental. Property management representatives claim to enforce check-in, check-out procedures and respond to noise, trash, and parking issues experienced by neighbors. Generally, their perspective is that existing licenses maintained by property management companies, including broker's licenses, property management permits, business licenses, and RSCVA lodging tax licenses should be enough to address permitting needs of properties represented.

**Enforcement of regulations is critical.**

The vast majority of participants agree sustainable enforcement is critical to the successful regulation of short-term rentals. Whether it's responding to noise, trash, parking, or over occupancy concerns, dedicated resources must be available to adequately respond to complaints or concerns. Many people believe existing laws or ordinances exist, which apply to all residents, guests, and visitors, and which simply need to be enforced. Others believe specific regulations specific to STR guests should be enforced with fines applied.





# WASHOE COUNTY

**Many community residents, especially in Incline Village/Crystal Bay, believe short-term rentals are commercial businesses operated by owners not living in the local community.**

Many residents of Incline Village/Crystal Bay who are not hosts believe many short-term rentals are commercial operations managed by homeowners/operators not living in the local area. Many cite residents do not know the identity of owners providing short-term rentals in their neighborhoods. Challenges exist in contacting someone, other than renters, regarding complaints or concerns with renter activity or behaviors.

**Hosts believe renter education and awareness of neighborhood practices, including rules associated with noise, parking, and trash can mitigate resident concerns.**

While hosts represented a minority of public input participants, many are confident that it is the responsibility of the host and owner of the property to educate renters on appropriate activities and behaviors, including noise, trash, and parking. Many of these hosts live in the communities where the rental properties reside. A concern exists that responsible hosts will be penalized for the actions of hosts not properly managing the rental dwellings they own.





# WASHOE COUNTY

## AREA OF PRIMARY CONCERN SUMMARY

Top Areas of Concern	# Session Responses	# Survey Responses	Total
Occupancy Limits	122	268	390
Permitting Process	150	195	345
Noise	73	260	333
Parking	89	223	312
Fire & Guest Safety	60	147	207
Trash	28	155	183
Other	N/A	71	71

The above table represents the number of responses by survey participants asked to select up to three areas of primary concern related to the impacts of short-term rentals. While Occupancy Limits ranked highest among areas of concern, specific issues associated with Occupancy Limits often included issues in the areas of noise, parking, and trash.





# WASHOE COUNTY

## AREA OF CONCERN DETAIL: OCCUPANCY LIMITS

### Issues & Concerns Relating to Occupancy Limits – Public Sessions

- Regulating occupancy numbers and limiting the number of guests at STRs. (52)\*
- Infrastructure concerns (roads, trash, utilities, sewer, etc.) as a result of higher occupancy due to STRs. (4)
- Increase in issues related to parking, trash and noise due to higher occupancy of STRs. (4)
- Should code enforcement be considered as criminal or civil? (3)
- Disregard of HOA regulations by renters. (3)
- Property damage as a result of too many occupants. (2)

### Issues & Concerns Relating to Occupancy Limits – Survey

- People (148 related responses)
  - There are too many people in houses. For example, a house indicated for X adults may have many more people than advertised.
  - Renters are not always honest about how many people will be coming.
  - Occupancy limits is also directly related to the other issues such as trash, noise, safety and parking.
  - There is no simple way to address overoccupancy of short-term rentals.
  - Areas that are not set up to accommodate an increased number of people are becoming overpopulated – small streets, neighborhoods, walking paths and beaches.

### Potential Solutions

- Limit the number of guests allowed based some measure such as square footage, number of rooms, number of parking spaces, number of bedrooms, etc.
- Define a “bedroom” and enforce a 2 person/bedroom maximum.
- Require annual inspection to assess how many people are allowed in one unit and to set a limit of total number of people allowed in the home.
- Require a local property manager to act as a contact person in the event of overoccupancy.
- Require liability insurance if properties are damaged as a result of renters.
- Consider what other successful counties/communities have implemented and mimic their guidelines. Consider how property management companies enforce their properties.
- Allow residents to file complaints, provide a hotline phone line for complaints, enlist the HOA to help with management of complaints, and require STRs to post a permit number and phone number of who to contact with complaints.
- Post regulation information on the Washoe County website.
- Revoke permits of repeat offenders.

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\*Numbers are reflective of number of session participants that identified the issue across Public Sessions 1, 2 & 3.





# WASHOE COUNTY

- Include infrastructure fees in the permitting process; a portion of tax from rentals is apportioned to towns to fix infrastructure.
- Have the owner provide a monetary bond to the County to ensure they are responsible for enforcing the reasonable number of occupants.
- Advertise financial penalties for guests that exceed the occupancy limit.
- Mandatory local rental firm or agent who checks on the number of occupants, parking, trash and who residents can contact when there are issues.
- There should be as many people allowed as beds permit.
- Very hard to monitor, but somehow place the responsibility of that on the owner
- All properties that are advertising and renting on a regular basis need to have someone to be accountable to, whether the owner wishes to be personally responsible or that there is a governing agency that can be called.
- Strict adherence to occupancy limits must be in contract.
- Consider how property management companies enforce occupancy limits.
- HUD has occupancy limits that are allowable for residential units. May use their guidelines.

## AREA OF CONCERN DETAIL: PERMITTING

### Issues & Concerns Relating to Permitting – Public Sessions

- How to structure fees - Are these properties commercial? Should they pay fees like commercial properties? Should they be taxed like property managers? How to find the sweet spot for the expense of fees so people actually get permitted. (48)\*
- Different types of permits for different properties (i.e. 15-unit condos vs single family homes). (18)
- Area specific permits and limitation of permits by HOA, neighborhood, etc. (11)
- Burden of enforcement and owner accountability to respect ordinances created. (11)
- Encapsulating the correct requirements to get a permit (bear box requirement, ADA compliance, insurance, etc.) (10)
- Lack of coordination/input on permitting process with other entities (RSCVA, TRPA, HOAs, etc.). (10)
- Burden of compliance falling entirely on host. (4)
- Zoning considerations – commercial? Should STRs be held to commercial zoning standards? (2)
- Education and public outreach to inform the public of STR ordinances and permits created. (1)

### Issues & Concerns Relating to Permitting – Survey

- Fees, Fines, and Taxes (132 related responses)
  - Most people are accepting of reasonable permitting processes and fees but worry that the process could become a burden.

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\*Numbers are reflective of number of session participants that identified the issue across Public Sessions 1, 2 & 3.





# WASHOE COUNTY

- Many people are concerned that they are already paying a 13% tax to the county, but they are not seeing any benefit from it.
- Any money collected from fees, fines and existing taxes should go back to enforcement of existing noise, fire, parking and other safety regulations. Many feel that an enforcement agency outside of the sheriff's office should be created to enforce regulations created around short term rentals and manage complaints by residents.
- Generally speaking, regulations people are approving of are for stricter limits on the number of occupants based on the size of the house, smoke and CO detectors as well as fire extinguishers, enough parking spots for the occupants, bear boxes for trash, noise ordinances, litter and dog poop.
- STR hosts already pay an occupancy tax, and there is concern that additional permitting fees would be excessive on top of the taxation already in effect.
- There is a consensus that research should be conducted on counties that have successfully implemented short term rental permitting processes for insights and direction.

## Potential Solutions

- Structuring fees on a fixed or % of revenue or establish a tiered fee system.
- Ensure fees are high enough to dissuade violations by hosts/renters, increase fines with more complaints or violations and revoke permits after X number of infractions.
- Keep regulations simple and start small.
- Permit structure should be different for different types of properties (i.e. condominium buildings vs. single-family home, owner-present vs. owner not present) and the 28-day limit should potentially be different for different properties.
- Limit the total number of permits granted (potentially a lottery system).
- Coordinate with organizations such as the RSCVA and TRPA, consult with HOAs while creating ordinances, and don't reinvent the wheel – consider what other successful communities have implements for STR permitting.
- Incline should have its own limit on permits versus other areas in the county (i.e. Spanish Springs).
- Establish local contact person to handle complaints as they are reported, revoke permits after too many ordinance violations, implement host fines, create individual accountability for renters (i.e. renter fines), require that hosts be locally present to handle complaints, require permit to be displayed at residence, and implement hotline to report unregistered STRs.
- Require bear boxes, ADA compliance, health code compliance, fire and safety system compliance, proof of insurance, etc. in order to obtain a permit.
- A permit by a property management company should cover the permitting requirements of short-term rental dwellings they represent.
- Require a point of responsible point of contact to be within a certain mileage of the STR to respond to guest and neighbor concerns.
- To avoid cumbersome permitting process, allow permitting to be completed online by hosts.
- Hire additional staff to enforce compliance of permitting processes created.





# WASHOE COUNTY

- Create an app or website for hosts to easily gain permits, and for local residents to identify short-term rentals, the permits obtained, and contact persons for specific properties.

## AREA OF CONCERN DETAIL: NOISE

### Issues & Concerns Relating to Noise – Public Sessions

- Excessive late-night noise from renters. (10)\*
- High occupancy of STRs lead to high noise volume. (9)
- Renters that have barking dogs at the STR property. (4)
- Enforcement by neighbors and/or law enforcement. (4)

### Issues & Concerns Relating to Noise – Survey

- Sounds & Parties (226 related responses)
  - Renters make lots of noise and disturb the full-time residents' quiet ambience that they paid for when buying their properties.
  - Any current noise ordinance that is already existing should be given greater enforcement.
  - Renters generally visit the lake to celebrate life events and part while on vacation, which causes a great deal of noise.
  - Loud music and loud people are outside after 9:00/10:00 PM and disturb the neighbors.

### Potential Solutions

- Establish quiet hours village-wide or by neighborhood.
- Increase presence of police or neighborhood security.
- Require signage to be posted on STRs with a contact person to reach if there is too much noise.
- Limit the density of STRs allowed in neighborhoods.
- Develop a way to communicate noise and quiet hour standards or guidelines.
- Implement steep fines if noise ordinances are not followed.
- Create a way to let the community review the STR host on past problems.
- Owners should be held responsible for excessive noise complaints with financial penalties.
- Contracted requirements. Short-term rentals we have used have clauses indication eviction without refund in the event of noise complaints.
- Implement a 24/7 hotline to report noise issues and have follow up and appropriate fines to owners.
- The rental owner should have a local presence or hire a local property manager to respond so our sheriff can focus on their real and important job of public safety.

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\*Numbers are reflective of number of session participants that identified the issue across Public Sessions 1, 2 & 3.





# WASHOE COUNTY

- Owners should be more aggressive about informing their renters about late night noise issues and withhold some if the cleaning deposit if neighbors complain.

## AREA OF CONCERN DETAIL: PARKING

### Issues & Concerns Relating to Parking – Public Sessions

- Renters parking in right of ways, blocking emergency/first responder access, and blocking pedestrian paths. (15)\*
- Street parking is scarce and overflowing. (8)
- Too many guest vehicles at a single property. (6)
- Boat and trailer parking at STR properties. (5)
- Proper enforcement of parking regulations. (5)
- Homes are rented out for too many days of the year and the owner does not ever occupy the home. (3)

### Issues & Concerns Relating to Parking – Survey

- Land Resources (233 related responses)
  - There are not enough parking spots in Incline Village and visitors parking cars, RV's and boats make the problem worse.
  - Any vehicle that blocks the roadway or impedes snow removal should be fined.
  - Many streets do not get plowed in winter because someone parked in the street and blocked access for the snowplow.
  - Areas that are marked a “No Parking” are not enforced.
  - Cars, boats and RVs park in fire easements. Lack of information for renters on where they are legally allowed to park.
  - Sheriff's Department is not able to keep up with increased need to enforce parking regulations.

### Potential Solutions

- Establish an enforcement hotline to call with parking complaints.
- Fine property owners/renters for parking infraction and revoke permits after a determined number of infractions/complaints.
- Limit parking per home and set occupancy limits for the STR based on available parking.
- Improve public transportation options to reduce the number of cars in need of parking.
- Allow boat/trailer parking only if there is off-street or appropriately permitted parking spots – do not allow overnight parking/eliminate the 72hr rule.
- Post parking restrictions on websites of businesses in the area.

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\*Numbers are reflective of number of session participants that identified the issue across Public Sessions 1, 2 & 3.





# WASHOE COUNTY

- Require renters to sign contract on parking limitations and confiscate their deposit if limitations are not followed.
- Enforce a 28-day/year maximum rental time on STRs.
- Limit number of vehicles to 1st On Property including req garages to be employed, and then limit to 1-2 off property spots.
- Owners should limit the number of vehicles allowed
- Assign street parking permits to residents and renters so that each unit has one or two street permits. A reminder of parking laws for Nevada could be printed on the back of each permit.
- No street parking, only on property parking allowed
- Annual inspections paid by permit fees. Inspections would determine max parking in both summer and winter.
- On site or local agent who can be contacted when there are issues.
- Must have LOCAL representation who will enforce rules on-demand.
- Enforce current laws concerning street parking and snow removal.
- a 24/7 monitored hotline (like South Lake Tahoe) to report parking and other issues, and Washoe County personnel available to investigate and impose fines, tickets, and towing.
- “No parking” signs on the street except for residents with parking permits that own the property.
- Owners who use VRBO or Airbnb must have a local management company to react quickly to neighbor's complaints.
- There are rules listed on Air BnB and VRBO websites re occupancy, parking, noise, etc. The person filling out the rsvp needs to agree to abide by them.
- Do not allow large RVs and trailers to park in residential areas for more than 48 hours.
- Issue owner's parking permits for Incline Village. No more than one permit to park on the street other than driveways. Then the sheriff' office could issue parking tickets for cars parked on residential streets for more than 2 hours. The fees collected could offset the cost of enforcement.
- Establish a 2-car maximum on short-term rentals.

## AREA OF CONCERN DETAIL: FIRE & GUEST SAFETY

### Issues & Concerns Relating to Fire & Guest Safety – Public Sessions

- Renters are not informed on evacuation processes. (19)\*
- Renters are not informed on safety procedures, such as burning, fire danger, ice, snow melt, etc. (18)
- Inadequate inspections and unsafe spaces. (13)
- Lack of maintenance standards and ability for community members to file complaints if they are not met. (13)
- STRs are resulting in an increased number of emergency calls. (11)

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\*Numbers are reflective of number of session participants that identified the issue across Public Sessions 1, 2 & 3.





# WASHOE COUNTY

- Hosts are not present to respond to issues as they arise. (5)
- Managing the guests of renters (i.e. guests that renters invite to the property). (2)
- Decline in property values for neighbors of STR properties. (2)
- Insurance stipulations are not being enforced. (2)

## Issues & Concerns Relating to Fire & Guest Safety – Survey

- Fire Safety (47 related responses)
  - Properties not having smoke alarms.
  - Properties not having defensible space.
  - Renters generally not being fire safe by having outdoor fires, barbeques, or tossing cigarettes. There is interest in enacting a smoking ban in Incline Village.
  - In the event of a fire, it may be difficult to evacuate due to all of the cars.
  - STR properties should have clear posted rules and regulations pertaining to safety – including evacuation routes and information on fire safety.
  - Many people want basic safety inspections as part of the permitting process to ensure proper protections, such as fire alarms, sprinkler systems, fire extinguishers, defensible space, carbon monoxide detectors, etc.

## Potential Solutions

- Require permits and do not issue permit until inspection is passed.
- Require that hosts must be local or have a local property manager.
- Give neighbors the ability to file complaints if maintenance standards are not met; complaints go to both the property manager as well as an enforcement agency or other outside group to regulate.
- Offer county-wide safety education for all properties in the county on ordinances and enforcement.
- Making sure renters understand when fires can occur (time, spaces, firepits, barbeques, etc.) with a safety info binder at all STRs and have renters sign agreement about requirements upon arrival.
- Ban outdoor fires and fine renters if they are caught having an outdoor fire.
- Create zoning restrictions for STRs.
- Require evacuation plans for every STR that is posted inside the home. Post evacuation maps in public places.
- Limit the number of STRs allowed in case evacuation is needed.
- Raise fines for lack of insurance.
- Allocate a portion of the STR tax to fund first responders.
- Allow the fire district to implement an inspection and permitting process for our community.
- Develop commercial areas where commercial fire and safety codes can be enforced.
- Have STR's prove they have properly working smoke detectors.





# WASHOE COUNTY

- Require homeowners to clear dead branches and litter around homes.
- Informational pamphlet that can be placed in homes or a signed disclosure by renters.
- any request for approval should have a fire marshal inspection for defensible space and unauthorized fire concerns, such as fire pits without adequate space around them for embers and other related issues.
- use a portion of the short-term rental taxes for evacuation planning and defensible space projects
- Any monies collected from STR licenses should come back to Incline Village/Crystal Bay to migrate the Safety issues fire and police issues promoted by the STR increase in our population.
- There should be a checklist, publicly available, that a householder could use. There should be an inspection but NOT by a county employee but rather the county should identify persons who could perform inspections and would be engaged by the householder.
- A point of contact easily available to report noncompliance to the owner.
- Solicit volunteers to help with inspections. Yes, there are many things they can't do, but they can be officially sanctioned to gather info, such as take pictures, confirm addresses, be contact person to help renters thru process, etc.
- Solicit volunteers to help with inspections. Yes, there are many things they can't do, but they can be officially sanctioned to gather info, such as take pictures, confirm addresses, be contact person to help renters thru process, etc.

## AREA OF CONCERN DETAIL: TRASH

### Issues & Concerns Relating to Trash – Public Sessions

- Incorrect treatment of trash and visible trash at STR properties. (8)\*
- Bear presence in neighborhoods and bears getting into improperly stored trash. (8)
- Dog feces and trash on STR neighbors' properties. (4)
- Lack of 24/7 contact for trash concerns. (4)

### Issues & Concerns Relating to Trash – Survey

- Bears (97 related responses)
  - STRs are causing issues with wildlife, particularly bears.
  - Renters are filling up bear boxes, dumpsters and leaving trash piled up unsecured until collection days.
  - Bear boxes should be a requirement of STR properties.
  - Responsible parties should be fined for littering or feeding the wildlife when animals do get into trash.

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\*Numbers are reflective of number of session participants that identified the issue across Public Sessions 1, 2 & 3.





# WASHOE COUNTY

## Potential Solutions

- Require STRs to have bear boxes and a designated area for trash to be out of sight when guests are present.
- Require guidelines/info is provided to guests so they know how to properly take care of trash, including storage, collection days, etc.
- Distribute a portion of the permit fee to fund trash collectors around the village.
- Fine renters for breaking trash rules as opposed to owners.
- Establish a hotline to contact 24/7 with concerns.
- A local management company responsible for who they allow to rent out the units so and they do a walkabout as the group is leaving so they can have them "do it right" or take responsibility and charge the renters out of the damage deposits.
- Again it is the landlord's responsibility to impose fees that would be punitive enough if garbage and is not picked up and disposed of properly.
- Rental unit must have appropriate container capacity.
- Maybe a good solution would be to have the owner be required to have double the amount of trash collection bins on site during the rental period.
- It must be in a contract that the facility must be left trash free and all trash is to be put in acceptable receptacles. A deposit must be collected at time of booking and if trash is left behind, the proceeds for deposit are utilized to clean up the facility.
- Renters are not being given adequate instruction on trash removal and do not feel ownership and our beautiful community.
- Owner responsibility to inform renters, simple solution.
- Have renters drop off at the transfer station or recycling center (or the cleaning staff do it.)
- Hosts should pay for trash to be collected every time a renter leaves their property.





# WASHOE COUNTY

## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

### Other Issues & Concerns – Public Sessions

- STRs need to have coordination with HOAs, IVGID, TRPA, and other local compliance organizations. (6)\*
- Too heavy of ordinances or permitting processes will infringe on the rights of property owners. (5)
- There is no current means of quantifying complaints about guests. (5)
- The definition of a “Short-Term Rental” should be clear. (4)
- RSCVA fee structure and room taxes need to have greater transparency. (4)
- Repeat rule offenders should be noted and given steeper fines. (4)
- STRs have negative psychological issues on neighborhoods – it wears on the psyche of the community as well as alienates hosts from their neighbors. (4)
- Honoring the existing HOA rules that are in place. (2)

### Other Issues & Concerns – Survey

- Some respondents feel that current zoning rules should preclude STR decisions.
- Many respondents commented that property owners should have the right to use their property as they see fit. Concern that regulations will have negative impacts on hosts’ ability to rent properties to pay for property expenses and cost of living.
- No one seems to be accountable with the renters if there is an issue. If you contact the owners- they don't live here so they can't help. There needs to be a local contact for short-term rentals, such as a property manager.
- Address the other issues equally for all homes and people in Washoe county.
- Location of STR's in residential zones which become primarily "instant hotels" and are not carefully overseen/actively managed by the resident owner with an interest in the community.

### Other Issues & Concerns Specific to Incline Village – Public Sessions

- STRs are creating a lack of availability for long-term renters and seasonal workers. (8)†
- IVGID is providing too many beach passes to renters, causing the beaches to be overcrowded. (6)
- Locals are outnumbered and there is a decline of civic pride in the community. (3)

### Additional Comments – Survey

- Many voiced support for STRs by expressing that renting is the only way they afford their home in Incline Village

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\*Numbers are reflective of number of session participants that identified the issue across Public Sessions 1, 2 & 3.

†Numbers are reflective of number of session participants that identified the issue across Public Sessions 2 & 3.





# WASHOE COUNTY

- Concern about traffic conditions if there was a fire during tourist season and we had to evacuate.
- STR should be every property owners right
- short term rentals are an asset to the community & a valuable source of income for not only the landlord but also the tourist industry.
- Main issue is not having local hosts.
- STRs are destructive to the community.
- Local families are being forced out of affordable housing.
- Negative impacts to the sense of community in Incline Village.
- STRs are replacing long-term rentals.
- Limit short-term rentals in the Incline Village area, the property values will fall as most homes are second homes and the owners need additional income

## **Additional Comments – Survey & Public Input Sessions/Positive Impacts of STRs**

- Bring money into the community/local economy (11)
- Makes living in Incline more affordable by offsetting income (7)
- Allows for affordable places for visitors to stay (particularly young families) (4)
- Reduces need for major lodging/big hotels (3)
- Protects homeowners' right to use property as they chose (3)
- Makes visitors aware of the beauty of our environment and caretaking that environment (3)
- Residents and guests bring life into the community
- Brings in money to support RSCVA
- Business taxes collected go to support the police force, schools, etc.
- STRs bring in more business to local merchants.





# WASHOE COUNTY

## COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### Planning and Building

Attachment F  
Page 187  
1001 EAST OHL STREET  
PO BOX 11130  
RENO, NEVADA 89520-0027  
PHONE (775) 328-6100  
FAX (775) 328.6133

January 2, 2020

To: Washoe County Planning Commission

From: Kelly Mullin, AICP, Senior Planner, 775.328.3608, [kmullin@washoecounty.us](mailto:kmullin@washoecounty.us)

Subject: **Addendum to staff report for Development Code Amendment Case No. WDCA19-0008 (Short-Term Rentals)**

Additional information has been received since the staff report for this topic was initially published and provided for your review.

#### **Incline Village/Crystal Bay Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) Minutes**

The draft minutes of the Dec. 12, 2019 Incline Village/Crystal Bay CAB meeting are now available and attached to this addendum. The minutes will become **Exhibit F** to the staff report.

#### **Public Comment**

Two additional public comment letters have also been received. They are attached to this addendum and will be included as part of existing **Exhibit D**.



INTEGRITY



EFFECTIVE  
COMMUNICATION



QUALITY  
PUBLIC SERVICE



## Incline Village Crystal Bay Citizens Advisory Board WORKSHEET

DRAFT: Approval of these draft minutes, or any changes to the draft minutes, will be reflected in writing in the next meeting minutes and/or in the minutes of any future meeting where changes to these minutes are approved by the CAB.

Minutes of the Incline Village Crystal Bay Citizens Advisory Board meeting held at Parasol Tahoe Community Foundation Building, Trepp Room, 948 Incline Way, Incline Village, NV 89451 on December 12, 2019 5:30 P.M.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**– Pete Todoroff called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. Pete Todoroff determined a quorum. The following members were present: Kevin Lyons, Pete Todoroff, Judy Miller, Mike Lefrancois, Mike Sullivan.
- 2. \* PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – There was no flag. The Pledge was not recited.
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 12, 2019** –Mike Sullivan moved to approve the agenda for **DECEMBER 12, 2019**. Mike Lefrancois seconded the motion to approve the agenda for **DECEMBER 12, 2019**. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 4, 2019** – Pete Todoroff announced the minutes were approved. No action was taken.
- 5. Development Code Amendment Case Number WDCA19-0008 (Short-Term Rentals)** - Request for community feedback, discussion and possible action to forward community and Citizen Advisory Board comments to Washoe County staff on draft language for short-term rentals in unincorporated Washoe County. Draft language is available for review at [www.WashoeCounty.us/STR](http://www.WashoeCounty.us/STR), and written comments can be provided to [STR@WashoeCounty.us](mailto:STR@WashoeCounty.us). This item is tentatively expected to be heard by the Planning Commission in January 2020 (exact date TBD). (for Possible Action)

Kelly Mullin, Washoe County Planner provided a comprehensive presentation regarding Short Term Rentals (STRs) in unincorporated Washoe County. She reviewed the proposed updated code and general standards and requirements.

### Public Comment:

Wayne Ford said he doesn't support STRs. He reported to IVGID negligence with a neighboring STR home; people using the home left it open to bears. He spoke about red and green days for parking on the street during the winter for snow removal. He said a lot of these properties don't have proper BMPs. This permit should force them into compliances. He asked how we can get copies of the records for those who have an STR in our area. The County will have to step up to provide access to the public regarding these permits.

Jackie Chandler, Sustainable Tahoe, asked for the updated zoning for Incline Village to see where these will be allowed. Mr. Lloyd said that is part of the Tahoe Area update that hasn't been adopted yet. She asked about the amount of TOT. She said whatever is good for Lake Tahoe is good for our community. The key model for STRs is Sanibel, Florida. They have a sanctuary that they protect and

make priority; Lake Tahoe is a sanctuary. There are trillions being invested into Lake Tahoe. Tahoe cannot afford visitors who are not stewards. Uphold standards that are good for Lake Tahoe. Lake first, forest and wild life are priority. The property owner needs to be trained in Geotourism. She provided a property hosting standard for geotourism. She offered to help. There is a lot of money spent on this Lake, it needs to be first.

Carol Black provided information. She sent information to CAB via email. She provided recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners. Washoe County has it defined as transient lodging, and should be added to development code. This proposal is an assertion it's the same as residential use. STR who don't know the area are STRangers to those who rent to them. Jackie's proposal will help. Tier 1 is up to ten people, which is no residential use; it should be 4-5 people. She spoke about best practices from TRPA regarding density of STRs. We need to consider total occupancy during emergency.

Jim Lyons said he did STRs when they first bought their house, but now is full time. He shared his observations of what he has learned. The plan that the County has worked on is good with some compromises. He asked if the County has gone to the State and are we in compliance with definition with STR. If we aren't in compliance with Nevada laws, the County needs to consider that. He said his major concern is the enforcement responsibility within the County staff. What is the recourse. Who is responsible. Is the funding going to be enough for fire, sheriff and other agencies impacted. The enforcement has to be STRict and done well.

Mike Hess said he has one issue left. He asked what is being done with density. He said homes are allowed to have 10 people. He asked if they considered that impact. There needs to be a thought process for creating these densities.

Joy Gumm said NRS says if you want to do STR in an HOA, CCRS have to allow it, and board have to approve it. She said none of the HOAs have STR rezoning. No HOA in common community have been rezoned. They follow Nevada law, not Washoe County standards. She asked if the language is included in the Ordinance. She said what should be done is a preventative control. When someone gets a business license, they should check the parcel to see if they have been rezoned. A preventative control saves expenses with enforcement.

Scott Dalton said when he read the regulation, he wasn't clear with permitting. Who does a neighbor complain to when there is noise complaint. He asked with an occupancy of 10 people who have guests over for temporary gathering, does that exceed occupancy limit. What is considered a noise problem. There weren't any specifics on there. Do you need to have a decibel meter. Who confirms noise violations. What is the legal process. Who determines that – sheriff, the County. If someone has a shoehorn parking situation and not addressed by TRPA, do they need to get coverage by TRPA. He said he has seen gravel and dirt parking. Does it need to be approved. There will be a number of those situations.

Judy Miller wanted to get some questions answered. She said IVGID will be the enforcement for trash. As far as red and green day parking violations, will that be part of short term rental. Kelly said part of the proposal related to parking is that parking be developed on-site and no parking on the right-of-

way. Judy asked about BMP compliance. Kelly said that wasn't within the proposed regulations. She knows TRPA looks at that during permitting. Judy asked if this permit will be part of the system that is multijurisdictional. Kelly said the specific process hasn't developed yet. Once we get regulations adopted, we can figure that down the line. Judy asked about TOT funds for local agencies. Judy said she will look up Sanibel, Florida. Judy said she didn't receive Carol's email, and she will talk to Alice about that. Judy said Carol provided written comments, and handed them out. The residential use types, she said she completely agrees with the definitions. We need to put in some limits. Speakers have brought density concerns. She said she asked for that from day one. She said part of the problem is no limits. Over time, vacation rentals are increasing 40% a year. More than half are only occupied for part of the year, so 60% could potentially become short term rentals. That would impact the quality of life. She asked if the definition has been compared with others in existing ordinances within the state. Kelly said they have had conversations with other jurisdictions in the State. Mr. Lloyd said we cannot violate State law. Judy asked who will enforce different violations. And what is the funding who pays for enforcements. Kelly spoke about a 3-prong enforcement – first part, safety items, that will start with application process with safety minimums must be met. The inspection would be the first step of enforcement; NLTFPD will also be looking for items during inspections. She said we will discuss the costs involved with these inspections and it will be built into the permit fees to make sure the costs are covered. Kelly said if there was a compliant once the property is up and running, there will be a host compliance 24-hour hotline. Host compliance can get ahold of a local representative to resolve the issue. There may be a time when they call sheriff during a noise complaint. They can file complaints through host compliance and code enforcements can follow up. She said they are working to figure out the costs, and we expect to hire an additional code enforcement officer. Judy asked about County proposed regulations alignment with common interest communities. Kelly said that has come up in the process, and the issuance of permit doesn't provide relief to permittees of other standards applicable to their property. Judy asked about permitting process for more than 10 people. It's outlined in the development code. Kelly said there is a lot of information including article associated with tiers online and included in this information. Judy said if there is 10 people and have a party, the maximum amount is 10 people. Judy asked if there were multiple noise violations. Kelly said there would be a monitoring device installed at the property.

Kevin Lyons asked the current STR share of TOT total. Kelly said RSCVA collects room tax. Kelly provided estimate amounts and could follow up to confirm. She said the county receives 1/13 of room tax collected by RSCVA. Kelly said we don't have authority related to reallocation of funds. Kevin asked the share to STR relative to hotel rooms. Kelly said she would follow up with those numbers. Jackie provided some information. Kelly said we want to make this cost neutral as possible without relying other funding sources. We will put out recommended fees to make it most cost neutral. She said Washoe County's portion of room tax collected for STRs in the Incline area amounts to about \$125,000 annually, based on a 5-year average, and that currently goes into the general fund.

A public member asked about what is considered a noise complaint. Kelly said noise complaint is if the sheriff responds and if a disturbing-the-peace citation is issued, which is considered a noise violation. It may be part of the investigative process to allow for evidence being recorded. Some of those details haven't been developed yet and will come out further down the line.

A public member said he had a complaint with a neighbor, and the sheriff said you cannot use a disturbance of the peace argument with noise situation. They read a description of County code. He said he thought it was misinterpreted. If peace officers aren't up to speed, how are they supposed to properly enforce. In administrative section, if you have photographic evidence, it has to be time/date stamped. The judge will want to see verifiable evidence. The sheriff will determine if it's excessive when they show up to the property. Kevin asked if there is a well defined noise limit, timeframe within unincorporated Washoe County. Pete said there is a curfew time. Mr. Lloyd said its within 24-hour timeframe which makes it hard to enforce. Sheriff have processes for peace disturbance. The complaining party has to sign the complaint and some people aren't willing to do that.

Mike LeFrancois said cost neutral approach makes sense but thinks there are some overlap. He doesn't believe TOT needs to be used for enforcement. He knows there is code enforcement. He said he is familiar with IVGID enforcement with trash and recommended County staff sitting down with them to see what works. He said there is zero tolerance. He said they weren't forced to get a bear box. He asked if there will be a grace period or hard deadline for enforcement. 100% enforcement might be too much to handle and a concern. BMPs in TRPA, and they need to include it in their information if they want to make that an enforcement during STR permitting. He said be a good neighbor. Talk to your neighbor. He said he believes fines and enforcement are on the right path. He said the hotline is important and needs to be checked on weekend and afterhours. He said there should be shared resources with IVGID, fire, County health, code compliance, TRPA. There are 4 different agencies to share resources. STR is very specific. We all love Lake Tahoe.

Mike Sullivan said the only thing that works in Lake Tahoe, is money. He spoke about Kelly's presentation under Highlight number 3, local agent response. You need a licensed agent with each short term rental to handle on complaints. Having one person in town won't be enough. If you have multiple agents, they will handle it.

Pete Todoroff spoke about trash. He received a complaint that police cleaned up trash because someone left the house door unlocked and bear destroyed the house. He said it's unacceptable that our sheriff has to clean up trash. He asked who determines how much money we get from RSCVA. How much does Incline get. We aren't getting anything to correct problems. We are not Reno. We can't accommodate all the people with parking. We don't have the parking. Unless short term rental people park on the property, that's not enough. He spoke about cars blocking the snow plow. He said he wrote a good piece that the fire department agreed with that has been incorporated in the Placer County STR code. If you cannot park your guest on your property, they shouldn't get a permit. He said the tier occupancy is absurd. It should be 2 people per bedroom, plus 2. He said they have to wait for inspection from Washoe County. He spoke about properties that are against TRPA rules. He said the fire department know the codes. There needs to be codes to be enforced. The tier needs to be eliminated. All inspections should be done by the fire department. Gail Krolick said she disagreed with Pete and said all her properties are up to code. Blane Johnson said HOA manager aren't the same as a property managers, and said he does his job well. Pete said there needs to be proper compensation from the RSCVA. Now is the time to address this. Jackie said \$1.2 million dollar comes back to the Incline visitor center. She said property managers have people sign off on the rules and have to pack up and leave if they aren't following the rules. Private properties can have their own rules. Jackie said property agent or on-site agent needs to be there to hold them to the rules. Pete said 1.2 million for

advertising. Jackie said it has to be re-legislative to change the percentage. It goes towards marketing the lake.

Carol said most of the money pays a bond. Pete said all these rules and regulations need to be posted in the unit. In case they don't know the number to call for red/green day parking on the road. Jackie said the agent would relay the information.

Mike Sullivan said maid, handyman, gardener cannot be the agent. The agents that have gone to training and classes, they know more than the owner about rules. Mike said the owner needs to interview and hire a licensed agent. The agent should greet the guests with keys and rules. If you put 10 people in a 2 bedroom house, the shower, toilet, and house will fall apart from over abuse. They build a house for a certain occupancy. He said there will be a stress on the house. It's a public issue with sewer and water.

Pete Todoroff said we had a fatality in town due to a house that burnt down. They had a defective smoke alarm with 12 people in the house. The insurance didn't cover because it wasn't reported as a short-term rental. This needs to be included in the permitting issuance. Kelly said it's included.

Kevin Lyons asked the breakdown of actual compliance. He said there are solutions to not actual problems. He wanted to know the actual problems. Kelly said she doesn't have percentages. She said a full write up went to the BCC in November. She said we have good data from the public about major areas of concern. Kevin asked for actual compliance. Kelly said they are getting data from code enforcement. All together the Sheriff's Office reported 64 noise complaints in the past year across the board with all types including short term. She said once the program is up and running we will be determine where we can make changes. After 6 months into the program, data will have been collected. Kevin spoke about occupancy issues. He said nuisance issues such as nuisance parking, noise parking. He would like to see more data driven decisions. He said some things might not actually be a problem that people complain about and other issues that are actual problems. He said he is concerned with smaller units and the tiers. Kevin said a laminated one-page sheet would work stating the rules with phone numbers. The host compliance will also take care of it.

Blane Johnson said we have talked about complaints for the entire village. He provided an example and said you anticipate booking 70 nights a year, with 900 units in the community, that gives you 6,300 potential nights. He said the percentage of complaints for short term rentals would be .001%. Kevin said there would be factors such as power users and number of nights.

Judy Miller said she prepared a sheet and gave a copy. She wanted to emphasis the definition of residential use types or primarily non-transient. That language was in there for a purpose in the development code. She said she doesn't believe taking that out is beneficial. We need to define the limitations to make it primarily residential and not transient. Soon this community will be transient properties. She said she had a conversation with Kelly; owner hosted is treated the same as every other transient rental. If the owner is physically present, they will listen. TOT isn't charged if its owner hosted. RSCVA has their own guidelines and doesn't coincide. She said we would all agree to keep 1 parking space for every 2.5 occupants. Judy said there are a lot of secondary dwelling units, and there needs to be inspected. We still would like this community to be primarily non-transient. She said

perhaps restricting nights to 60 nights per year if its not hosted, and if you live in the house, perhaps they could do more nights. We have had to deal with an overabundance of short term rentals. Judy thanked Kelly and Trevor. Trevor invited them to attend on January 7 Planning Commission meeting.

Pete said to focus on occupancy of 2 people per bedroom plus 2 and parking.

**6. \*WASHOE COUNTY COMMISSIONER UPDATE-** Commissioner Berkbigler was not available to address questions and concerns from the CAB and the audience. Commissioner Berkbigler can be reached at (775) 328-2005 or via email at [mberkbigler@WashoeCounty.us](mailto:mberkbigler@WashoeCounty.us).

**7. \*CHAIRMAN/BOARD MEMBER ITEMS-** This item is limited to announcements by CAB members. (This item is for information only and no action will be taken by the CAB).

**8. \* GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT AND DISCUSSION THEREOF –**

Wayne Ford recommended Kelly review parking requirements for coverage. County may say it's ok, but TRPA might not say it's ok. Work with TRPA.

Carol Black spoke about tiers and discretionary and non-discretionary permits. She said it will be more like a checklist and no noticing to the neighbors. She said permits have to be discretionary which will allow for neighbor noticing and feedback.

Bill Echols said laminated sign should be included and should state not to bother neighbors to borrow snow blower, wine. Renter education needs to be on the front of the website to include the Can and Cannot-dos in Incline Village. Renters need to be aware of the power liability. The power is bad in the winter. Renters need to know what to do in case of power outage.

Jackie Chandler said she is concerned we are having the wrong conversation. There is no stopping people from coming up here. There are 3 hotels in Incline Village and Crystal Bay. She said she is excited for this opportunity to convert millions into stewards to preserve Lake Tahoe. We are stuck in the conversation of parking. You moved to a destination. We all need to be rangers and hosts. The east shore trail that will bring millions. We need to set up the hosting. The marketing needs to be pulled back and mitigation needs to be stepped up. We have to clean up after they leave. This is sacred space and we are responsible for hosting it. We can all share in that.

A public member, said he agrees, but some people cannot follow. We need to set a good example and have good enforcement. Need to get their attention to follow the rules.

**ADJOURNMENT –** meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

**From:** [Debby Bird](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STR Requirements  
**Date:** Saturday, December 28, 2019 11:05:06 AM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

I have just read through the proposed STR rules updates.

My main input is that children not be considered as adults for occupancy rules.

For example... My rental is a 1300 sq ft condo with 3 bed 2.5 bath with 2 parking spaces. We allow up to 6 adults maximum, but with children the maximum occupancy is 8. So allowable combos are 6 adults and 2 children, 4 adults and 4 children, etc. We have one room with 2 bunk beds which sleeps adults on the bottom bunk and children on the top.

If you implement your rules as they currently stand, we will not be able to allow these combos. Our goal at this property is to be family friendly and allow 2 families with young children to split the cost of renting in Tahoe to make things more affordable and enjoyable. We have had no problems with guests complaining of space or with neighbors complaining of noise.

We turn down groups of 8 adults with the explanation that the extra 2 adults won't fit comfortably.

I know other cities give exemptions for children and infants and hope you will consider the same.

Thanks much,

Deborah Bird.

RSCVA acct #W4565

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707.225.2749  
[www.BirdsInclineCondo.com](http://www.BirdsInclineCondo.com)  
[www.AshlandVacationCottage.com](http://www.AshlandVacationCottage.com)

From: [Mark Worsnop](#)  
To: [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
Subject: One rental per Property  
Date: Thursday, December 26, 2019 11:01:58 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I have been renting rooms through Airbnb for three years. I am in Southwest Reno. I live in my house and maintain control about whatever is happening here. I also have fire extinguishers, CO2 sensors and exit plans listed for all the guests.

I rely on my Airbnb income to pay the mortgage as I am retired and Social Security does not pay enough to survive.

I see on the proposed changes to the regulations that I am only allowed to have one rental in my house. I rent individual bedrooms and usually there is one or two people in the room at a time. I do not understand what the difference would be if I had rented the entire house and four sets of people arrived with four cars and occupied the house. There is no difference between that and me having four individual people rent each room. In fact it would be a lot less impact on the neighborhood with individual room rentals.

Typically if somebody rents an entire house they probably are planning a large gathering of people and that's when you have all the noise and parties going all night long, like what often happens at Incline.

However the way I rent it as I said they are usually have one or two people in each room. They are usually on their way through Reno or visiting a relative or business in the area. These people usually arrive later in the day and leave first thing in the morning. They rarely come out of their rooms as all they are doing is sleeping here. Like I said with the full house rental the people are arriving making meals with a group staying up most of the night having a good time partying and thusly annoying the neighborhood.

I would propose regulations govern the number of people based on the number of rooms available.

Unless there is some dramatic reason that I have not thought about I strongly

object to the thought of having One rental space per Property.

I would appreciate your response to my letter here explaining why this proposed regulation is on the list.

Mark Worsnop  
775-338-0648

## Stark, Katherine

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**From:** rondatycer@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 07, 2020 4:47 PM  
**To:** Stark, Katherine  
**Subject:** Public Input for Planning Commissioners Meeting 1-7-2020  
**Attachments:** PlanningCommInput1-7-2020.docx

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Katey,

Attached is the input for the planners. Thank you for distributing it to them.

Best regards,

Ronda Tycer

Date: January 7, 2020

To: Planning Commission Members

**We object to the proposed STR ordinance because it does not address IVCB residents' primary concerns.**

- **IVCB RESIDENTS WERE NOT ALLOWED TO DISCUSS LIMITATIONS ON NUMBERS OR LOCATION OF STRS, AND THUS NO LIMITATIONS ON NUMBERS OR LOCATION ARE INCLUDED IN THE ORDINANCE.**

At the public meeting in January 2019, Bob Lucey and Marsha Berkbigler repeatedly stated there could be “no ban on STRs in IVCB,” Many of the 150 residents attending wanted STRs limited to the high-density urban mixed-use commercial core, and banned from low-density residential neighborhoods—a “partial ban.” Others wanted a limit on the number of STRs in a given area of a neighborhood or HOA complex. The current ordinance does not limit the number or location of STRs.

- **IVCB RESIDENTS' PRIMARY CONCERNS WERE NOT CORRECTLY REPORTED IN THE WC PLANNERS' REPORT.**

In Appendix E the WC planner presents the total number of responses given to each of the (“allowed”) categories in the public workshops and on the online survey: SEE ATTACHED TABLE

**From the workshops, the ranking in importance of the issues is**

1 <sup>st</sup> - Permitting	115	
2 <sup>nd</sup> - Fire and Guest Safety	85	
3 <sup>rd</sup> - Occupancy	68	
4 <sup>th</sup> - Parking	42	
5 <sup>th</sup> - Other issues	34	
6 <sup>th</sup> - Noise	27	
7 <sup>th</sup> - Trash	24	
8 <sup>th</sup> - Other issues specific to IV	17	

**From the responses on the online survey, the ranking in important of issues is:**

1 <sup>st</sup> - Parking	233	
2 <sup>nd</sup> - Noise	226	
3 <sup>rd</sup> - Occupancy	148	
4 <sup>th</sup> - Permitting	132	
5 <sup>th</sup> - Trash	97	
6 <sup>th</sup> - Fire and Guest Safety	47	
7 <sup>th</sup> - Other Issues specific to IV	10	
8 <sup>th</sup> - Other Issues	5	

The lack of a correlation between the two lists indicates one or the other method of collecting opinions is suspect. It seems reasonable to conclude that STRs Fire and Guest Safety are more important to IVCB residents than Trash.

- **THE PLANNER ERRONEOUSLY CONCLUDED THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE IS OCCUPANCY.**
- **PUBLIC INPUT INDICATES PERMITTING IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE AND THE ONLY WAY TO CONTROL LOCATION AND NUMBER OF STRS.**

**We IVCB residents do not feel the ordinance reflects our priorities nor does it address the primary problems we have with STRs.**

- **PLEASE DO NOT APPROVE THIS ORDINANCE AS WRITTEN. IT NEEDS TO BETTER ADDRESS AND REFLECT IVCB RESIDENTS' CONCERNS.**

**Ronda Tycer, PhD**

Co-chair IV STR Citizen Advisory Committee  
Incline Village Resident for 28 years

**TABLE OF RESPONSES TO PUBLIC INPUT WORKSHOPS AND ONLINE SURVEY**

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**WORKSHOPS**

**SURVEY**

Occupancy Limits

**68 responses**

148 responses

52+4+4+3+3+2 =

Permitting

**115 responses**

132 responses

48+18+11+11+10+10+4+2+1=

Noise

**27 responses**

226 responses

10+9+4+4=

Parking

**42 responses**

233 responses

15+8+6+5+5+3=

Fire and Guest Safety

**85 responses**

47 responses

19+18+13+13+11+5+2+2+2

Trash

**24 responses**

97 responses

8+8+4+4

Other Issues

34 responses 5 responses (no numbers given for 5 responses mentioned)

Other Issues Specific to IV

17 responses 10 non-categorized

Positive Impacts of STRs

35 total from both public sessions and survey

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## Stark, Katherine

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**From:** Guy Mikel <guymikel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 07, 2020 5:13 PM  
**To:** Stark, Katherine  
**Subject:** STR

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I agree with Ronda Tycer that the summary does not seem to concur with the voiced opinions of the residents of Incline Village.

Plus the summary makes no statement concerning the Incline Village private beaches; one of the largest issues for trash, crowds as a result of STR's.

--

Guy Mikel

Color Label Solutions, Inc.

[guy@colorlabelsolutions.com](mailto:guy@colorlabelsolutions.com)

949-680-7840

Check out

Website: [www.colorlabelsolutions.com](http://www.colorlabelsolutions.com)

Blog: [www.colorlabelsondemand.blogspot.com](http://www.colorlabelsondemand.blogspot.com)

Linked In: [www.linkedin.com/company/3266502?trk=tyah](http://www.linkedin.com/company/3266502?trk=tyah)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/colorlabelsolutions.com](http://www.facebook.com/colorlabelsolutions.com)

## Stark, Katherine

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**From:** Richard Miner <dickminer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 07, 2020 5:47 PM  
**To:** Stark, Katherine  
**Subject:** Public Input for tonight's Planning Commission meeting

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Ms. Stark,

Please include my comment in the materials you forward to the Washoe County Planning Commission meeting tonight which is considering the draft short term rental policy for the unincorporated areas of Washoe County.

It has become apparent that the Planning Commission is determined to put some kind of ordinance on the books here in Washoe County--public opinion, preexisting legal prohibitions and common sense be damned, so it looks like we will have to not only get our friends in the state legislature involved but also have to take legal action to preserve our deed restrictions here in Incline Village and Crystal Bay. That said, it would seem prudent for the commissioners at tonight's meeting to receive additional public comment and further research all the issues of omission and commission now documented by many of my neighbors regarding the hurried and quite frankly biased "community outreach" portion of the proposed ordinance's development. County planners took almost 15 years before doing anything substantive to meet the TRPA's mandate to develop such a plan; surely waiting another few months to fully consider all the so-far ignored concerns of the majority of our property owners is not too much to ask.

Very truly yours,

Richard Miner  
Past President  
Incline Village and Crystal Bay Historical Society

## Stark, Katherine

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**From:** Lynette Cardinale <tomlyn.14@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 07, 2020 9:33 PM  
**To:** Stark, Katherine  
**Subject:** Ronda Tycer STR Input

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good Evening

My name is Lynette Cardinale , residing at 1056 Sawmill Rd, Incline Village

I am in complete agreement with Ronda's summation of the ordinance not you be passed by the commissioners. This ordinance is completely contradictory and inaccurate of the communities concerns and priorities for Inclines STR restrictions

Please enter this email as input for the meeting on tonite on this ordinance

Sincerely,  
Lynette Cardinale

## Washoe County Planning Commission Meeting January 7, 2020 Item 5 General Public Comment

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On a personal note, I have nothing against short term rentals, per se; I have enjoyed staying at them when travelling, and my daughter manages several in the Tahoe basin. But like many other things in life, they are great in moderation.

The current debate about vacation rentals reminded me of the fairy tale "The Goose that laid the Golden Egg", especially when I read the letter to the Planning Commission from the Director of the Tahoe Environmental Research Center, Dr. Geoffrey Schadlow: "Your recommendations will directly impact the health and well being of Lake Tahoe (through increased traffic, disturbance, fire risk, water contamination etc.)... The entire bi-State strategy of protecting Lake Tahoe is predicated on the concept of "carrying capacity", and through this short sighted set of recommendations you risk pushing the system beyond its carrying capacity."

I chose to move to Incline Village 12 years ago, not because it was a tourist attraction, but because it was a quiet residential area most of the year with a great sense of community. It was and is a mix of singles, retirees and families with children in school; the average household size is less than 3. Summers were busy, but not chaotic.

The overarching problem that has somehow been avoided in this effort to regulate is the fact that STR's have occupancy that is much more than normal residential use, translating to more people, more vehicles, more trips. These factors carry over into nearly every element of planning: environmental, transportation, government facilities and services, parking, recreation, etc. Think about evacuation routes (we don't want to be another Paradise, CA). Limiting STR's is absolutely essential for the safety and well-being of both the inhabitants and the tourists. Imagine what it would be like to see your community's population declining, taken over by huge numbers of strangers, and school enrollment dropping while it rises everywhere else in the County. That has already happened. To introduce amendments that don't address the problems created by having just too many STR's in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area is not acting responsibly.

This matter was brought to the Board of County Commissioners' attention 5 years ago by the IV/CB CAB, but as Commissioner Jung commented, no one wanted to touch it. It's easy to look back and realize it would have been better to address STR's before they became so numerous. Tonight you have an opportunity to modify the amendments before sending them to the BOCC. Please require some form of limits on STR's. We don't want to be another Orinda, we don't want to be another Paradise; exceeding the carrying capacity of Lake Tahoe through unlimited short term rentals will kill the goose.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Miller

## Public Comment Washoe County Planning Commission Meeting January 7, 2020 Item 8 B

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Staff has listed 4 “findings of fact” to support the recommendation of the proposed amendments to the Development Code. I submit not one of these findings is valid and therefore I object to the motion before you to recommend these amendments.

**1) Consistency with Master Plan.** “The proposed Development Code amendment is in substantial compliance with the policies and action programs of the Washoe County Master Plan”.

The proposed amendments are not consistent with the Master Plan, especially the housing element where the importance of preserving workforce housing is emphasized: By legitimizing vacation rentals in almost all of the 7800 housing units in Incline Village, the supply of workforce housing and affordable housing will be even more limited.

Consider the following Goal and Policies contained in the Master Plan Housing Element September 10, 2010

**Goal 2 to preserve affordable and workforce housing:**

Policy 2.2: The County will develop a policy to counteract the negative effects of non-owner occupied and owner unoccupied housing that is either vacant or ill-maintained by absentee owners.

Policy 2.5: Implement a “no net loss” policy that will provide a framework for the County to ensure a continuing availability of affordable housing.

**2) Promotes the Purpose of the Development Code.**

The only purpose that could even remotely align with the proposed amendment is the last one listed (g) Promote the economic and social advantages gained from an appropriately regulated use of land resources. – making it look as though it’s all about the money. However, it has certainly been shown that determining that STR’s are equivalent to other residential use types is not an “appropriately” regulated use. And the residents of our community have demonstrated that there are social disadvantages to allowing unlimited STR’s.

Consider the following stated purposes and ask if STR’s promote any those purposes.

**Section 110.918.10 Purpose of Development Code.**

- (a) Promote the public health, safety, morals, convenience and general welfare;
- (c) lessen traffic congestion in the streets
- (d) avoid undesirable concentrations of population
- (e) Prevent overcrowding of land and to facilitate adequate provision of transportation, water, sewage, schools, parks and other requirements;

With documented evidence that STR's have higher occupancy than normal residential use, there is no question that none of the above purposes will be promoted by allowing unlimited STR's. To the contrary, these purposes will be undermined.

**3) Response to changing conditions.**

This may be a true statement but is certainly not a finding that supports what is contained in this amendment. Considering the fact that currently STR's are, by staff's own admission, an unauthorized use in residential zones, the County could have just as easily decided to enforce the existing code which does not allow STR's. The proposed changes will predictably do more harm than good. The consequences of allowing nearly every one of the 7800 residential units to be used 365 days a year, as vacation rentals will be disastrous. And the statement that the changes allow for a more desirable utilization of land within residential zones is certainly not supported by the experience of communities across the nation.

**4) No adverse effects.**

It has been mentioned in the research both by staff and by citizens that the occupancy of STR's is much higher than residences used by owners or long term renters (e.g. 8 STR occupants vs. typically 2.5 occupants for a 3 bedroom unit). Allowing unlimited use of nearly every residential unit in this community as a short term rental guarantees increased traffic congestion, further overcrowding of facilities and makes it more difficult to provide essential services.

Some reasonable limitation on the number of days a unit could be rented or a limit on the number of permits that could be issued in a given area or a restriction that only owner occupied units can be offered as vacation rentals, together with the remaining provisions in the amendments would constitute a balanced approach that could provide for visitors, but protect the character of the community and the well-being of its residents. Without some restrictions, our community will soon consist of thousands of tourist accommodation a few hundred gated estates and a few gated HOA's that have already banned STR's. Please don't destroy what remains of our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Miller

**From:** [cbwillb@charter.net](mailto:cbwillb@charter.net)  
**To:** [Nelson, Kate S.](#); [Donshick, Francine](#); "[tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com](mailto:tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com)"; [Chesney, Larry](#)  
**Cc:** [Young, Eric](#); [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Lloyd, Trevor](#)  
**Subject:** Resident Comment to Planning Commission re STR Ordinance Hearing on 1.7.2020  
**Date:** Sunday, January 05, 2020 8:03:44 PM  
**Attachments:** [WC PlanComm Jan 2020 Ltr Attachment 1. Recommendations...pdf](#)  
[WC PlanComm Jan 2020 Ltr Attachment 2 Slides.pdf](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Kindly include in Public Comment for the Planning Commission meeting on 1/7/2020

To: Washoe County Planning Commission Members

Re: Proposed Washoe County STR Ordinance

Cc: Kelly Mullin, Eric Young, Trevor Lloyd , Washoe County Planning

Date: 1/4/2020

**I am writing to express my very serious concerns regarding the proposed Washoe County STR Ordinance being presented at this week's Planning Commission meeting.** I have appreciated the very significant effort and thoughtful attention by staff over the last several months and applaud the included recommendations to mitigate some fire safety and building risks as well as several nuisance considerations. Nonetheless, as the effort has progressed it has become ever increasingly clear that significant administratively imposed directives appear to have inappropriately constrained this initiative as well as the development of the proposed Tahoe Area Plan which will be presented to you in a few weeks.

Indeed the findings section of the most recent STR Ordinance Staff Report again reflects a narrow view apparently driven by the artificial administrative parameters leading to an incomplete and incorrect conclusion. **The recent staff report indicates that findings are met – I disagree and have included a detailed rationale in the attached document** (WC Plan Comm Jan2020 Ltr Attachment 1 Recommendations pg 1).

**I respectfully ask that you not approve this proposed STR Ordinance and Code Revisions as written and instead return it for further, open and unconstrained evaluation (with the artificial parameters removed) in particular regarding the following priority elements:**

- 1) The proposed development code zoning modifications are inappropriate for the community, unnecessary for alignment with TRPA, and inconsistent with both NRS and other parts of WCC.**
- 2) Comparisons/justifications presented in attempts to rationalize are convoluted, inconsistent with practice and appear to be driven primarily by administratively imposed parameters**

**3) Appropriate public health/safety/welfare and neighborhood character protections contained in other portions of WCC and NRS are undermined by the proposed zoning code changes**  
**4) STRs are incorrectly viewed as mimicking residential use driving permitting recommendations which do not appropriately consider neighborhood character impacts**  
**5) Substantial adverse impacts of increased Area Occupancy, STR Density and Rental Intensity on resident safety, quality of life, and the environment have been largely ignored and thus WC Master Plan/TRPA Regional Plan & Neighborhood Compatibility compliance are at risk**

I respectfully submit priority recommendations in each of these areas (WC PlanComm Jan 2020 Ltr Attachment 1 Recommendations pg 2) and also include a slide deck with supporting data and documentation (WC PlanComm Jan 2020 Ltr Attachment 2 Slides). Previously submitted additional extensive documentation supporting statements and recommendations is included in presentations and public comment submitted prior to the 12/11/2019 general public comment deadline and at the December Incline Village CAB meeting.

**I remain hopeful and confident that these important considerations will be openly considered and addressed before the STR Ordinance and related Code changes are moved forward.**

Thanks you for your consideration,

Carole Black

144 Village Blvd #33, Incline Village, NV 89451

## WASHOE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

for items being considered at the Planning Commission Meeting on 1/7/2020

### I. Proposed STR Ordinance and Related Code Modifications: Required Findings

**Findings:** Washoe County Code Section 110.818.15(e) requires the Planning Commission to make at least one of the following findings of fact. Staff has completed an evaluation for each of the findings of fact and recommends that the Planning Commission make all four findings in support of the proposed amendment.

**Comment:** **Required Findings ARE NOT MET – see discussion below**

#### Elements:

**1. Consistency with Master Plan: NO**

**4. No adverse effects. Re Conservation/Population elements: NO**

**Comment:** **The proposed Development Code amendment does not consistently promote compliance with the policies and goals of the Washoe County Master Plan and specifically increases risk/adverse impacts in the Conservation and Population elements.** As written, the Development Code changes will encourage, not effectively limit, STR growth throughout residential areas. Each added STR brings added population, more debris in Lake Tahoe, and new vehicles/vehicle trips and emissions into the WC Tahoe area which is already dangerously overcrowded during peak period. In the existing Master Plan report there were already environmental concerns. More recently public services capacity and capability is inadequate to protect the population present at peak periods with no mitigation to address added growth. Thus Master Plan Goals/Policy compliance as well as TRPA Regional Plan and Neighborhood Compatibility objectives are threatened.

**2.Promotes the Purpose of the Development Code: NO**

**Comment:** **By defining STRs as not subject to Public Accommodation regulations like all other forms of Transient Lodging Uses, the proposed Development Code amendment ABSOLUTELY WILL adversely impact the public health, safety or welfare. Further it WILL NOT promote the purpose expressed in multiple other elements listed in Article 918, Adoption of Development Code.** In addition to public health, safety, welfare concerns, undesirable concentrations of population, overcrowding of land, traffic and congestion impacts are either not or inadequately addressed.

**3. Response to Changed Conditions: NO**

**Comment:** **The targeted conditions are not new and the amendment absolutely DOES NOT allow for a more desirable utilization of land within the regulatory zones – in fact continued growth in STRs in residential areas based on the proposed code changes will further diminish these neighborhoods.** This information was already available when prior WCC revisions were made to address collection of TOT without further assessment or intervention. Further, the currently proposed STR program is insufficient and accompanied by very significant proposed zoning changes which have still not been fully researched or studied – for example, the absence of an EIS to fully assess impacts of STRs is a stunning gap which needs to be closed and impacts addressed before this proposal (and/or the revised Tahoe Area Plan proposal) moves forward.

## II. Priority Recommendations Re Washoe County Proposed STR Ordinance:

**1) Proposed development code zoning modifications are inappropriate and unnecessary. In addition to being inconsistent with NRS, the rationales to date offered by Washoe County are at best creatively convoluted and illogical.** Further, this unnecessary change will adversely impact appropriate safety and neighborhood character protections embedded in other WCC chapters and NRS. Required modifications include:

- Washoe County should not change the definition of Residential Use in the Development Code to include Short Term Rentals (STRs). This change is not required for alignment with TRPA.
- Washoe County has defined STRs as "Transient Lodging" in WCC Chapter 25 and this appropriate definition should be explicitly embedded in the WCC Development Code for Zoning regulations including in the description of "Lodging Services".
- To address public health/safety/welfare including STR renters, owners, managers & neighbors, Washoe County should implement in STRs/Vacation Rentals all protective regulations applicable to situations providing sleeping/lodging accommodations to the public for reimbursement for < 30 days. Various labels apply including Transient Lodging/Lodging Services (WC), Transient Commercial Use (NRS), Tourist Accommodation/Vacation Rentals/Short Term Rentals (TRPA)

**2) STRs do not mimic residential use - STR Tiers proposed by Washoe County must be modified to correctly consider huge use differences and collateral neighborhood impacts. Comparative justifications offered in WC documents to date have been shown to be inapplicable** (see Attachment 2 Slides). Priority modification to Tier 1 is required as follows:

- **STR Tier 1** (described as smaller STRs most comparable to residential use):
  - **Decrease the maximum allowed STR occupancy to  $\leq 4$ .** This level is more comparable to, but still greater than, the actual average residential occupancy and family size = between 2 and 3 occupants (*census data*) & comparable to average STR occupancy (*limited IVGID survey*).
  - **In addition, require discretionary permitting (AR) in residential areas to assess actual neighbor impacts**

**3) Demonstrated impacts of STR Density and Rental Intensity on both neighborhood character and overall Area Occupancy have apparently been ignored in this proposal** (see Attachment 2 Slides). At a minimum, these adversely impact resident safety, quality of life, and the environment which the STR Ordinance and Tahoe Area Plan must be modified to address. Required modifications include:

- **Add STR Density and Rental Intensity requirements** to the proposed STR Ordinance. Preferred examples based on the TRPA "Best Practices" list include:
  - limit the total number of STRs in neighborhoods (e.g., ratio of STRs to occupied housing, maximum number issued by lottery or on a first come/first served basis, etc.)
  - establish a ratio of long-term to short-term rentals
  - establish minimum owner occupancy requirements ( $\geq 25$ -50% of the time is common)
  - require minimum spacing between STRs in residential areas, such as requiring at least 500 feet between parcels with STRs, to address clustering
  - require a two-day minimum stay for STRs in residential areas to lessen traffic impacts
  - cap the number of nights per year a unit may be rented as an STR in residential areas, such as 30 days/year.
  - cap the number of times an STR may be rented in residential areas, such as 4/month
- **Complete a comprehensive assessment of STR impacts on safe area occupancy and environment (EIS)** as part of the evaluation of this Ordinance and Area Plan modifications
- **Require development and implementation of a long-term WC Tahoe Area Optimal Occupancy Management Plan** considering STR impacts in concert with broader sustainability initiatives

*Submitted by Carole Black, IV Resident to Planning Commission 1/4/2020*

# **WASHOE COUNTY STR ORDINANCE, DEVELOPMENT/CODE ITEMS & RELATED TAHOE AREA PLAN**

## **Project Challenges & Recommendations**

**Washoe County Planning Commission  
October 21, 2019  
Updated for January 7, 2020 Meeting**

# Summary Recommendation for 1/7/2020 Planning Commission Meeting

- Recommend that Planning Commission defer approval of currently proposed STR Ordinance/Development Code changes for the following reasons:
  - Findings for Planning Commission approval have not been met
  - Restrictive project parameters/directives need to be modified to allow comprehensive and accurate project recommendations for Planning Commission review and action
  - Regulatory components are either missing or require modification to address WC's responsibility to its constituents and for consistency with WC Master Plan, TRPA Regional Plan/Neighborhood Compatibility goals and NRS

# Required Findings are Not Met

**Findings:** Washoe County Code Section 110.818.15(e) requires the Planning Commission to make at least one of the following findings of fact. Staff has completed an evaluation for each of the findings of fact and recommends that the Planning Commission make all four findings in support of the proposed amendment.

**Comment:** **This is an incorrect conclusion - discussion below**

## Elements:

**1. Consistency with Master Plan: NO**

**4. No adverse effects. Re Conservation/Population elements: NO**

**Comment:** **The proposed Development Code amendment does not consistently promote compliance with the policies and goals of the Washoe County Master Plan and specifically increases risk/adverse impacts in the Conservation and Population elements.** As written, the Development Code changes will encourage, not effectively limit, STR growth throughout residential areas. Each added STR brings added population, more debris in Lake Tahoe, and new vehicles/vehicle trips and emissions into the WC Tahoe area which is already dangerously over-crowded during peak period. In the existing Master Plan report there were already environmental concerns. More recently public services capacity and capability is inadequate to protect the population present at peak periods with no mitigation to address added growth. Thus Master Plan Goals/Policy compliance as well as TRPA Regional Plan and Neighborhood Compatibility objectives are threatened.

**2.Promotes the Purpose of the Development Code: NO**

**Comment:** **By defining STRs as not subject to Public Accommodation regulations like all other forms of Transient Lodging Uses, the proposed Development Code amendment ABSOLUTELY WILL adversely impact the public health, safety or welfare. Further it WILL NOT promote the purpose expressed in multiple other elements listed in Article 918, Adoption of Development Code.** In addition to public health, safety, welfare concerns, undesirable concentrations of population, overcrowding of land, traffic and congestion impacts are either not or inadequately addressed.

**3. Response to Changed Conditions: NO**

**Comment:** **The targeted conditions are not new and the amendment absolutely DOES NOT allow for a more desirable utilization of land within the regulatory zones – in fact continued growth in STRs in residential areas based on the proposed code changes will further diminish these neighborhoods.** This information was already available when prior WCC revisions were made to address collection of TOT without further assessment or intervention. Further, the currently proposed STR program is insufficient and accompanied by very significant proposed zoning changes which have still not been fully researched or studied – for example, the absence of an EIS to fully assess impacts of STRs is a stunning gap which needs to be closed and impacts addressed before this proposal (and/or the revised Tahoe Area Plan proposal) moves forward.

# ZONING COLLATERAL DAMAGE: STR Area Occupancy Increase is a Major Risk & Requires a Long-Term Strategy

- **STRs have already generated Added Area Occupancy in the WC Tahoe Area:**
  - 750** added people/avg day; **1500** added people/peak day *(2018 vs 2014)*
  - 188-300** added vehicles/avg day; **375-600** added vehicles/peak day *(avg. 2.5 occupants/vehicle winter; 4/vehicle summer)*
  - > 200** added vehicle trips/day most days with **max ~ 1200** added vehicle trips/day *(assumes 2 trips/vehicle/day)*
  - 116** more beach visits/day; **94%** increase in July/Aug *(2019 vs 2016)*
  - Massive occupancy increases summer 2019 vs 2018**
    - 27,000 added Airbnb guest arrivals
    - 23% increase RSCVA vacation rental days
- **Conclusions:**
  - **STRs Threaten Public Safety, and thus WC Purpose of the Development Code and Master Plan as well as TRPA Regional Plan/Neighborhood Compatibility Compliance**
    - Overcrowding/increased area occupancy exceeds current evacuation capability & Emergency Services capacity
    - Illegal parking creates risk on roadways, at intersections and to environment
    - Current proposal will not substantially limit numbers of existing STRs or future growth in STR numbers
  - **STRs Threaten the Environment, and thus TRPA Thresholds & WC Master Plan Compliance**
    - Air quality, Vehicles/Vehicle trips and Lake pollution are at particular risk
  - **Recommendations:**
    - **Urgent comprehensive assessment including EIS is needed with addition of long-term Sustainable Tourism approach and Area Occupancy Management Plan to WC documents**
    - **Addition of STR Density and Intensity Restrictions to the STR Ordinance is needed now!**

# Occupancy Impact Example: Parking Near the Beach

- Labor day weekend 2019 in Incline Village: Park Lots Full!

Parking directly under No Parking signs – no tickets.



# ZONING COLLATERAL DAMAGE: STRs **DO NOT** Mimic Residential Use & STR Tiers Must Consider this Variance

- **Proposed STR Tier 1 level fails to meet design objective** (*smaller STRs most comparable to residential use*) and as currently described will inappropriately subject adjacent residents particularly in denser residential areas to significant adverse Neighborhood Compatibility impacts
- **Proposed STR Tier 1 remedies:**
  - Reduce the Tier 1 upper occupancy limit to  $\leq 4$  to more closely mirror actual residential use
  - Require Tier 1 Discretionary Permit (AR) in residential areas to allow neighbor noticing and input

Compare: STR Occupancy Levels					
O c c u p a n t s	10				
		2.4	2.8	~4.5	4
	<u>STR Tier 1 WC Draft Ordinance</u>	Census Data		<u>Avg STR Occupants (IVGID Survey)</u>	<u>STR Tier 1 Proposed Maximum</u>
		Avg Residence	Avg Family Size		

# ZONING COLLATERAL DAMAGE: Failure to Implement Public Accommodations Regs Increases Public Health Risks in STRs for Occupants and Managers/Owners

## WHICH OF THESE GUYS WOULD YOU LIKE TO MEET DURING YOUR STR STAY?



**BUGS ...**



**VIRUS VECTORS...**



**BACTERIA ...**

Superbugs kill one person every 15 minutes in US, says CDC report

**SHARPS ...**

Biohazardous Waste Handling Operation Management Plan

# Defined Project Parameters Need to be Modified

## Current Status - Project Parameters/Constraints:

### STR Zoning

- Apparently Predetermined Outcome with Creative (& at times Incorrect) Wordsmithing as cover
- Incorporate TRPA though not required & without full impact assessment
- Embeds & obscures zoning changes within STR Ordinance ignoring collateral impacts of zoning changes including to Public Health/Welfare/Safety and inconsistency with NRS
- Avoid EIS even though no full environmental assessment exists within WC or TRPA re STR impact
- Present a HUGE zoning change as “No Zoning Code Change” in the Area Plan process

### STR Regulations

- Single plan for all WC ignoring substantial Tahoe Area Occupancy impact with increased population safety risk based on area occupancy and dramatic long-term environmental impact
- Flawed STR Tiers based on incomplete, incorrect rationale: Tier 1 > 2 occupancy threshold is too high & must either be significantly reduced to be comparable to actual resident usage and/or modified to include discretionary permitting at Tier 1 level
- No bans or Rental Density/Intensity limits despite proven neighborhood character adversity, adverse occupancy trends and TRPA best practice examples
- Program must “Pay for Itself” without using all legal opportunity to redirect maximal % of TOT funds to robust enforcement by most applicable experts and/or to impacted communities
- Consider all “constituents” but focus only on nuisance impacts without attention to neighborhood character which is a co-equal TRPA “Neighborhood Compatibility” element

# STR Ordinance Priority Recommendations

- 1) Proposed development code zoning changes are inappropriate, unnecessary and must be modified.** In addition to being inconsistent with NRS, the proposed justifications to date offered by Washoe County are at best convoluted and illogical. And this unnecessary change will adversely impact appropriate safety and neighborhood character protections embedded in other WCC chapters and NRS. Required modifications include:
  - Washoe County should not change the definition of Residential Use to include STRs. This change is not required for alignment with TRPA and will create added collateral damage to residents & community
  - Washoe County has defined STRs as "Transient Lodging" in WCC Chapter 25 and this appropriate definition should be explicitly embedded in the WCC Zoning regulations including in the description of "Lodging Services".
  - To protect public health, safety and welfare, Washoe County should implement in STRs/Vacation Rentals all protective regulations applicable to situations providing sleeping/lodging accommodations to the public for reimbursement for < 30 days. Various labels apply in applicable regs including Transient Lodging/Lodging Services, Transient Commercial Use, Tourist Accommodation, Vacation Rental, STR.
  
- 2) STRs do not mimic residential use - STR Tiering proposed by Washoe County must be modified to correctly consider huge use differences and collateral neighborhood impacts.** Comparative justifications offered in WC documents to date have been shown to be inapplicable.
  - In Tier 1 (*smaller STRs most comparable to residential use*), a) Decrease the allowed STR occupancy to  $\leq 4$  which is more comparable to, but still greater than, actual average residential occupancy/family size = 2-3, and b) Require discretionary permitting (AR) in residential areas re neighbor impacts
  
- 3) Demonstrated impacts of STR Density and Rental Intensity on both neighborhood character and overall Area Occupancy have apparently been ignored in this proposal:**
  - Add STR Density and Rental Intensity requirements to the proposed STR Ordinance.
  - Complete a comprehensive assessment of STR impacts on safe area occupancy and environment (EIS) as part of the evaluation of this Ordinance and Area Plan modifications
  - Require development and implementation of a WC Tahoe Area Optimal Occupancy Management Plan considering STR impacts in concert with broader sustainability initiatives

# **Proposed Zoning Code Wordsmithing is Creative ...** **BUT Defies Credibility, Includes Shifting and Incorrect Rationales,** **Undermines Other Safety Regs & is Inconsistent with NRS**

- **Tier 1 > 2 transition level is listed as set based on Group Home and IBC R definitions but the uses are not comparable to STRs and are very different from the use as a residence**
  - Group Home & STR avg occupancy is typically higher than avg residential occupancy. However, Group Home use is more heavily regulated, much more closely supervised and occupants are better known to managers and more familiar with the home/environment than STR renters
  - IBC R occupancy is a new WC comparator. This group includes many categories some like STRs which are included in Transient Lodging lists; it does not include use as a residence which is instead regulated by IRC. IBC “break point” occupancy levels vary widely in the sub-categories with some as low as 5.
  - The only IBC use which is regulated similarly to a single family residence is a unit with 5 or fewer rental rooms occupied by the owner when rented. Thus using the level of average residential occupancy as the threshold between Tier 1 and 2 as is proposed in recommendations in this document seems appropriate
- **STRs are not listed as Transient Lodging for zoning though they are listed as Transient Lodging for taxation; all other forms of Transient Lodging are also viewed as such for zoning**
  - STRs are not defined as Transient Lodging for zoning with rationale that no meals/food is offered – though snacks often are offered in STRs and meals may not be offered in other Transient Lodging types
- **STRs are referenced as residential with the rationale of similarity to resident use and long-term rentals though they do not share critical comparative characteristics with either**
  - Differences include level of supervision, owner’s knowledge of occupant, occupant’s knowledge of area/unit, average unit occupancy which is higher for STRs than for resident owners or resident LT renters (*per census*)
- **Lodging services includes B&Bs but not STRs though listed characteristics are similar**
  - Provide incidental food and other services for the convenience of guests and may have common facilities

# Use Comparison Table: STRs DO NOT MIMIC RESIDENTIAL USE

Lodging Type	ZONING / USE			SUPERVISION / KNOWN?				SERVICES & REGULATION EXAMPLES		
	Com vs Res Use	Zoning Status	Daily Rent Fee; TOT	On-site Owner or Manager	Visitor known to Owner	LOS; Offered to	Visitor knows area/culture	Occupancy/ Parking Actively Regulated/ Monitored	Food Utensils Available/ Regulated	Public Health/ Safety Regs Apply
<b>Categorized as Transient Lodging by WCC 25.1501 and NRS 447.010 (w or w/out meals); NRS 116.340</b>										
Hotel/ Motel	C	Varies	yes	yes: manager	no	short/ public	no	yes	yes/yes	yes
Time-share	C	Varies	yes	yes: manager	no	short/ public	no	yes	yes/yes	yes
B & B	C	Varies	yes	yes: mngr or owner	no	short/ public	no	yes	yes/yes	yes
<b>STR's now</b>	<b>C per WCC 25</b>	<b>Not allowed</b>	<b>yes</b>	<b>no</b>	<b>no</b>	<b>short/ public</b>	<b>no</b>	<b>no</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>no</b>
<b>STR's propose</b>	<b>** C/Trans Lodging **</b>	<b>**SUP or AR/P **</b>	<b>yes</b>	<b>*use 30 min access*</b>	<b>no</b>	<b>short/ public</b>	<b>no</b>	<b>*yes*</b>	<b>**add Public Accommodations or equivalent**</b>	
<b>Residential - Not Categorized as Transient Lodging in WCC or NRS</b>										
Group Home	R	Parallel to res use	charge/ stay; no TOT	manager	yes, mngr	longer; must meet eligibility	yes	yes	yes/yes	yes
LT or Seasonal Rental	R	Parallel to res use	charge/ month; no TOT	owner in touch	yes	long	yes	yes, by in touch owner	n/a: renter is resident	n/a: renter is resident
Owner's Family/ Friends	R	Parallel to res use	none	owner on-site or in touch	yes	varies; limit to friends/ family	yes, close owner contact	yes, by in touch owner	n/a: not rented	

**Legend:** "Varies" notation indicates variability among regulatory zones, typically allowed or allowed with restrictions in tourist and/or commercial areas and not allowed or allowed with restrictions elsewhere;

\* indicates proposed in STR Ordinance while \*\* indicates additionally proposed in this document

# **Proposed Zoning Code Wordsmithing is Creative BUT Defies Credibility, Includes Shifting and Incorrect Rationales, Undermines Other Safety Regs & is Inconsistent with NRS**

- NRS 116.340 defines VHRs/STRs in planned communities (like Incline Village) as a Transient Commercial Use with specific criteria for approval in residential areas is in direct conflict with WC's proposed approach
- NRS definition of "Hotels" in Chapter 447 Public Accommodations clearly includes entities with STR characteristics and which should be subject to these public health/welfare/safety regulations but won't be per WC STR Zoning
- NRS defines providing incorrect registration information at rental as a misdemeanor for Transient Lodging but this useful regulation won't be applicable to STRs per WC's proposed STR Zoning
  - *Consider the recent Orinda fire and deaths where the renter would have been held personally liable under this regulation*
- TRPA goals are also at risk – see detailed list on slides 18 and 19

# Public Health & Safety – Legal Requirements in Addition to Usual Fire/Bldg Code

Attachment G  
Page 27

Element: in STR Regs?	Public Accommodations (NRS/NAC)	IPMC Provisions for a Healthy Home (source listed in STR report)	Group Homes (referenced for comparability in STR report)
<b>Pests: NO</b>	Extermination of vermin or bedbugs or similar things	Extermination/Infestation: mention of insects, rodents	... free from insects and rodents
<b>Use of space: YES</b>	Certain areas prohibited from use for living or sleeping	Habitable spaces defined for living, sleeping & eating/food prep	Spaces for sleeping/not for sleeping specified
<b>Screens: NO</b>	Windows and outside doors to be equipped	Every door, window of habitable/food related space required for ventilation	All windows and doors used for ventilation must be screened
<b>Vent/Egress: PARTIAL</b>	Ventilation/egress of rooms for sleeping; Ventilation: bath/shwr rooms	Ventilation of habitable space, bathrooms, clothes dryers; Egress in (IPMC)	Ventilation specified; Egress see building section
<b>Cleanliness/ Sanitize NO</b>	Kept clean and sanitary and free of fire hazards and hazards to life and limb	Sanitation, exterior & premises – clean, safe & sanitary; room/surface good, clean, sanitary	Interior and exterior clean and well-maintained
<b>Building: PARTIAL</b>	Requirements per state law, rules & regs, Brd of Health & other codes	Extensive listing re building maintenance; Other specs in IPMC	Free from obstacles that impede free movement of residents
<b>Size/rooms / occupancy: PARTIAL</b>	For sleeping specified; Not ok if per health authority “living or sleeping is dangerous or prejudicial to life or hlth”	IPMC – sleeping and living space	≥ 60 sq ft/person; max 3/room; also storage, closet, lighting, locks related regulations; additional regs: common spaces, occupancy
<b>Heat: YES</b> Bldg code	Systems for heating and ventilating hotels or other ... transient lodging ...	Detail description of minimum heating regs; removal of combustion prod; air supply/energy	Temperature range specified
<b>Water/sewer: YES</b> Bldg code	Supply of water; plumbing; Disposal of sewage; Some specs in Health Codes	Water heating; safety restrictions on gas hot water heaters; & Building Codes	Safe, sufficient supply of water; Adequate sewage disposal system
<b>Trash: YES</b> (& bear boxes)	Disposal of garbage and rubbish;	Free from accumulation of garbage and rubbish	Minimum disposal once/wk; container types by types of waste
<b>Bathrooms: YES</b> Bldg code	#’s of Baths, toilets, sinks/ occupants	Building Codes only	
<b>Lights: PARTIAL</b>	Accessible signage	Building Codes only	Lighting to ensure comfort & safety of resident
<b>Re Transient Occupants: NO</b>	Disinfection of toilets	Not applicable assumes resident occupancy	
	Fumigation of room after occupation by person having contagious or infectious disease.		
	Cleanliness and amount of bedding; Worn out or unfit bedding; towels		Bedding/changes specified; Laundry & linen service that provides proper/sanitary washing
	Food handling/utensil sanitizing		Auto sprinklers per NRS 477
<b>WC program adds : NO</b>	Bio-hazardous waste program; Outbreak management (food)		

# APPENDIX:

Additional Slides (slightly updated) from 10/19/2019  
Planning Commission Presentation

# Comprehensive Environmental, Public Safety and Zoning Review is Required

- Washoe County's planned addition of STRs/Vacation Rentals to IV/CB Residential Neighborhoods is a **New Zoning Use** for these neighborhoods
  - **Zoning change is obscured** by apparently minor but confusing and illogical wording changes in WC zoning elements related to the STR Ordinance coupled with the incorrect assertion that there are no STR related zoning changes embedded in the proposed WC Tahoe Area Plan.
  - **Significant environmental impact and adverse impact on many TRPA goals and policies = major concern** (Slides below)
- **Comprehensive review of this proposed New Use/Tahoe impact is required:**
  - **Environmental Review:** Comprehensive review of STR/Vacation Rental impacts
  - **STR/Vacation rental = Commercial Use:** Zoning should parallel other Transient Lodging and NRS
  - **Discretionary or Special Use Permit:** Zoning to parallel other Res Zone Transient Lodging
  - **Public Accommodation** and other Regs should be required (per NRS & Transient Lodging status)
  - **Area Occupancy must be managed** to match service/facility capability
- **WC must step-up - given historic non-compliance:**
  - **Need regulations** re issues: overcrowding, protect public safety and neighborhood character
  - **Enforcement program required:** Planned safety regs/inspections & nuisance mitigation noted
- Given historic adverse impacts, enforcement failures, lack of attention to zoning, **STRs in IV/CB must be zoned properly and regulated/managed effectively:**

*Vacation Rentals/STRs do not mimic Residential Use of a property!*

# WC Parameters: Tahoe Area Plan (STR Zoning) Flawed – Full Code Change Evaluation is Indicated

PARAMETERS TO MODIFY	ISSUE	PROPOSED RESOLUTION
Follow TRPA pattern	TRPA code should be modified: - Ordinance incompletely vetted - WC historic non-compliance w TRPA specs not enforced - WC gave incorrect status report to TRPA in 2017	- TRPA must change STR to commercial OR - WC must exceed TRPA to comply w NRS & protect residents/village/lake
No explicit zone changes	Aligning with TRPA requires explicit zoning change	- WC must execute full process for major Zoning update w/comprehensive review - WC must add STR requirements: 1. Commercial Use w AR/SUP for Residential zones 2. Public Accommodation applies 3. Safety Inspections mandatory
Incorporate STR Ordinance	Ordinance is being drafted but Zoning/Area Plan approval is a “blank check” w/o Ordinance	Adjust Timing: - Can Plan move forward before Ordinance is done? – Must include area capacity plan linked to staff/facility capability

# WC Parameters for STR Ordinance are too Restrictive – Need Comprehensive Plan to Protect Community/Lake

PARAMETERS TO MODIFY	ISSUE	PROPOSED RESOLUTION
Single Plan all WC	Specific TRPA Tahoe Area rules required re environment	90% STRs are in Tahoe Area >> Use Tahoe plan across county or have separate clause w/in ordinance for “area adjustments”
No bans – “Don’t Work”	Lots of evidence that bans “do work” = have impact (see appendix)	Use bans as appropriate in residential locales to achieve goal of containing STRs
Pay for Itself	Risk of eroding inspection or other requirements and/or enforcement program	Set appropriate requirements/enforcement & adjust fee/fine levels to garner adequate funds and/or get some/more \$ from RSCVA
Consider all “constituents”	Different stakeholders with varying agendas confuse issues; Risk overemphasizing profit to detriment of safety, community & environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prioritize categories – respect residents/voters as primary constituents: Work group!</li> <li>- Responsible tourism plan requires addressing safe area capacity</li> </ul>
TOT to RSCVA	Legislature sets program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consider bill next session</li> <li>- Reallocate WC portion and ? some of Visitor Center portion</li> </ul>

# Examples of TRPA 2012 Regional Plan Policies Adversely Impacted Related to Vacation Rental/STR in Residential Areas

**LU-3.1** ALL PERSONS SHALL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO UTILIZE AND ENJOY THE REGION'S NATURAL RESOURCES AND AMENITIES >> STR impact: 84% increase guest access tickets IV beaches over 2 yrs >> beaches are overcrowded; illegal parking; very difficult to safely use kayaks; lots of trash on beach/in water

**LU-3.2** NO PERSON OR PERSONS SHALL DEVELOP PROPERTY SO AS TO ENDANGER THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE >> STRs are not accountable for meeting Health, Safety, Building code or Public Accommodation standards for Transient Lodging

**LU-3.3** DEVELOPMENT IS PREFERRED IN AND DIRECTED TOWARD CENTERS .... CENTERS SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS ... 7) Existing or planned street design ... so as to encourage mobility without the use of private vehicles >> STRs in Incline Village are substantially clustered near, but not in, the town center and tourist areas – the current density level in these neighborhoods exceeds all identified benchmarks yet transit development has not to date significantly proceeded in town center or tourist zones and existing and planned paths/transit/street design do not “encourage [described] mobility” the majority of the time. Further emphasis on clustering STRs in these few neighborhoods will destroy them for residential use – see below

**LU-3.4** EXISTING DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS IN RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS OUTSIDE OF CENTERS ... SHOULD BE MAINTAINED WITH NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE >> STRs dramatically change the character of a residential neighborhood: Is it “NIMBY” to not value cars blocking neighbors driveways; noise at all hours; public urination; beer cans hurled off of decks; bears attracted to unlocked house; overflowing trash bins; illegally parked cars blocking emergency vehicles or snow plows?

**LU-4.1** THE REGIONAL PLAN ... IDENTIFIES GROUPINGS OF GENERALIZED LAND USES .... AREAS ... ARE ... CATEGORIZED WITHIN ONE OR MORE OF THE ... LAND USE CLASSIFICATIONS: ... RESIDENTIAL .... Residential areas are urban areas having potential to provide housing for the residents of the region. In addition, the purpose of this classification is to ... allow accessory and non-residential uses that complement the residential neighborhood. >> STRs do not provide housing for the residents of the Region. In fact, this use depletes housing stock for a Transient Lodging Use. Further STRs are not a defined Accessory Use nor are they a Non-Residential Use that complements the residential neighborhood. In reality, they are at best tolerated and more often become a neighborhood nuisance/risk.

**LU-4.8** IN ORDER TO BE FOUND IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE REGIONAL PLAN ALL AREA PLANS SHALL INCLUDE ... MEASURES TO: ... 6) Preserve the character of established residential areas outside of centers while seeking opportunities for environmental improvements within residential areas >> STRs cause environmental damage and undermine the character of residential areas – strangers abound and are told to lie to neighbors; annoyances abound as well as true health and safety risks – note fires in IV related to STRs

**NH-1.4** TRPA WILL ENCOURAGE PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES TO PREPARE DISASTER PLANS >> The Incline Village area now has an evacuation plan – the officials have indicated that in the event of a required emergency evacuation, the occupancy level at busy times exceeds the evacuation capability. STR growth over the last few years has resulted in a 9% increase in average/ 18% in peak occupancy and more in 2019

**WQ-3.1** REDUCE LOADS OF SEDIMENT, NITROGEN AND PHOSPHORUS TO LAKE TAHOE .... >> STRs increase sediment by parking on dirt and in drainage ditches designed to capture sediment. In addition, more trash is left on roadsides, beaches and in water.. Proposed regs may help with this aspect, if enforced.

# Examples of TRPA 2012 Regional Plan Policies Adversely Impacted Related to Vacation Rental/STR in Residential Areas

**Transportation-3.3** SUPPORT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ... AND ENCOURAGE APPROPRIATE AGENCIES TO USE INCIDENT MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Transportation-3.4 DESIGN PROJECTS TO MAXIMIZE VISIBILITY AT VEHICULAR, BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN CONFLICT POINTS >> STRs add vehicles and vehicle trips; Illegal parking especially at intersections and along crowded roads impede safe passage for pedestrians and bicyclists

**Transportation-4.11** ESTABLISH A UNIFORM METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION FOR RESIDENT AND VISITOR TRAVEL BEHAVIOR Transportation-4.12 MAINTAIN MONITORING PROGRAMS FOR ALL MODELS THAT ADDRESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE LONG-TERM IMPLEMENTATION OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL MOBILITY STRATEGIES ON A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE PLATFORM >> These are critically important initiatives and should include emphasis on distinguishing resident from STR user travel patterns as well as providing data regarding added occupancy and vehicle use by STR users staying in properties owned and partially occupied by part-time residents

**S-1.4** TRPA SHALL DEVELOP SPECIFIC POLICIES TO LIMIT LAND DISTURBANCE AND REDUCE SOIL AND WATER QUALITY IMPACTS OF DISTURBED AREAS >> STR users park vehicles on dirt at rented properties – excessive vehicles brought by these renters is a common complaint. Proposed WC regs, if enforced, can assist by limiting vehicles overall with less allowed if there is inadequate appropriate on site parking

**PS-4** TO ENSURE PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE REGION, EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES SHOULD BE SIZED TO BE CONSISTENT WITH PROJECTED GROWTH LEVELS IN THIS PLAN **PS 4.2** EDUCATIONAL AND EMERGENCY SERVICES ORGANIZATIONS ... ARE ENCOURAGED TO ADVISE THE AGENCY WHEN DEVELOPMENT POTENTIALS EXCEED CURRENT OR ANTICIPATED SERVICE CAPABILITIES OR CAPACITIES ... information will be used ... to develop appropriate strategies to maintain an acceptable level of service >> STR growth and resulting increased area occupancy has exceeded the conservative projections included in the Regional Plan. Currently police and fire staffing in the Incline Village area is inadequate based on reports from these services and also compared with external benchmarks. This mismatch needs to be resolved, and until this occurs, there should be a moratorium on new STRs

**IAP-1.6** TRPA, IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER AGENCIES OF JURISDICTION SHALL DEVELOP AND ACTIVELY PURSUE AN EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE PLAN AND ORDINANCES OF THE AGENCY >> This has not occurred over 15 years since the 2004 TRPA Ordinance with irregularities in its procedural compliance and has now been fully delegated to WC – enforcement again is critical

**DP-4.2** ALL PROJECTS SHALL OFFSET THE TRANSPORTATION AND AIR QUALITY IMPACTS OF THEIR DEVELOPMENT. ... The ordinances will establish a fee to offset the impacts from minor projects ... on both commercial and residential development. The ordinances will also define what projects have significant environmental impacts; these projects will be required to complete an EIS and mitigate air quality and traffic impacts with specific projects or programs. >> How has a comprehensive assessment not yet occurred related to STR impacts overall in either WC or TRPA?

# **WASHOE COUNTY STR ORDINANCE, DEVELOPMENT/CODE ITEMS & RELATED TAHOE AREA PLAN**

## **Project Challenges & Recommendations**

**Washoe County Planning Commission  
January 7, 2020 Meeting Slides**

# Summary Recommendation for 1/7/2020 Planning Commission Meeting

**Recommend that Planning Commission defer approval of currently proposed STR Ordinance/Development Code changes.**

**WHY?** With the new Ordinance/Zoning Changes STR numbers/density are not reduced and will likely continue to grow, thus:

- **Findings for Planning Commission approval have not been met**
  - STR impacts threaten noncompliance with WC Master Plan, TRPA Regional Plan/ Neighborhood Compatibility and NRS
    - ♦ Increased Area Occupancy directly affects Population Safety & Environment/Conservation
    - ♦ Collateral impacts also threaten Community Character and Public Health, Safety and Welfare
  - All of these impacts have been known, but not addressed, for years despite other related code/regulatory actions – they are not new!
- **Restrictive project parameters/directives need to be modified** to allow comprehensive and accurate project recommendations for Planning Commission review and action
- **Regulatory/Zoning components are either missing or require modification** to address WC's responsibility to its constituents and for compliance with applicable governing plans/regs: WC, TRPA and NRS

# ZONING COLLATERAL DAMAGE: STR Area Occupancy Increase is a Major Risk & Requires a Long-Term Strategy

STRs had already generated **Added Area Occupancy** in WC Tahoe Area:

**750** People avg/day; **1500** People/peak day (4yrs)\*

**188-300** Vehicles avg/day; **375-600** Vehicles/peak day\*\*

**> 200** Vehicle Trips/day almost every day; **~ 1200** Vehicle Trips/peak day^

**116** Beach Visits/day; **94%** Increase in July/Aug (3yrs)^^^

Summer 2019 vs 2018 brought **Further Massive Occupancy Increase**:

**27,000** added Airbnb arrivals

**23%** additional increase RSCVA Vacation Rental Days

With new Ordinance/Zoning Changes STR numbers/density will likely continue to grow >

Recommendations:

1. Add STR Density and Intensity Restrictions - needed now!
2. Urgent comprehensive STR impact assessment/plan with EIS is necessary
3. Emergency services capacity and capability must be managed to match risk & area occupancy

Notes: Estimates derived from RSCVA & Census data, IVGID surveys & reports, WC staff; Airbnb press release; \* 2018 vs 2014; occupants/vehicle winter; 4/vehicle summer; ^ assumes 2 trips/vehicle/day; ^^ 2019 vs 2016

\*\* avg. 2.5

# Occupancy Impact Example: Parking Near the Beach

- Labor day weekend 2019 in Incline Village: Park Lots Full!

Parking directly under No Parking signs – no tickets.



# ZONING COLLATERAL DAMAGE: STRs **DO NOT** Mimic Residential Use & Programs Must Consider this Variance

- **Proposed STR Tier 1 level fails to meet design objective**
  - As currently described will inappropriately subject adjacent residents particularly in denser residential areas to significant adverse Neighborhood Compatibility impacts
- **Proposed STR Tier 1 remedies:**
  - Reduce the Tier 1 upper occupancy limit to  $\leq 4$  to more closely mirror actual residential use
  - Require Tier 1 Discretionary Permit (AR) in residential areas to allow neighbor noticing and input

Compare: Short Term Rental Occupancy Levels					
Occupants	10				
		2.4	2.8	~4.5	4
	Tier 1 WC Draft Ordinance	Census Data		Avg Short Term Rentals (IVGID survey)	Tier 1 Proposed Maximum
		Avg Residence	Avg Family Size		

# ZONING COLLATERAL DAMAGE: Failure to Implement Public Accommodations Regs Increases Public Health Risks in STRs for Occupants and Managers/Owners

## WHICH OF THESE GUYS WOULD YOU LIKE TO MEET DURING YOUR STR STAY?



**BUGS ...**



**VIRUS VECTORS...**



**BACTERIA ...**

Superbugs kill one person every 15 minutes in US, says CDC report

**SHARPS ...**

Biohazardous Waste Handling Operation Management Plan

# Defined Project Parameters Need to be Modified

## Current Status - Project Parameters/Constraints:

### STR Zoning

- **Apparently Predetermined Outcome with Creative (& at times Incorrect) Wordsmithing as cover**
- **Incorporate TRPA though not required & without full impact assessment**
- **Embeds & obscures zoning changes within STR Ordinance ignoring collateral impacts of zoning changes including to Public Health/Welfare/Safety and inconsistency with NRS**
- **Avoid EIS even though no full environmental assessment exists within WC or TRPA re STR impact**
- **Present a HUGE zoning change as “No Zoning Code Change” in the Area Plan process**

### STR Regulations

- **Single plan for all WC ignoring substantial Tahoe Area Occupancy impact with increased population safety risk based on area occupancy and dramatic long-term environmental impact**
- **Flawed STR Tiers based on incomplete, incorrect rationale: Tier 1 > 2 occupancy threshold is too high & must be significantly reduced to be comparable to actual resident usage and/or modified to include discretionary permitting at Tier 1 level**
- **No bans or Rental Density/Intensity limits despite proven neighborhood character adversity, adverse occupancy trends and TRPA best practice examples**
- **Program must “Pay for Itself” without using all legal opportunity to redirect maximal % of TOT funds to robust enforcement by most applicable experts and/or to impacted communities**
- **Consider all “constituents” but focus only on nuisance impacts without attention to neighborhood character which is a co-equal TRPA “Neighborhood Compatibility” element**

# STR Ordinance Priority Recommendations

- 1) Proposed development code zoning changes must be modified. As drafted these regulations are inappropriate, unnecessary, in conflict w/ NRS and will adversely impact appropriate public health, safety, welfare and neighborhood character protections embedded in other WCC chapters and NRS.**
  - Do not change the definition of Residential Use to include STRs.
  - Define STRs as "Transient Lodging" throughout WC Code to match WCC Chapter 25 including in the description of "Lodging Services".
  - To better protect public health, safety, welfare and neighborhoods, specify implementation in STRs/ Vacation Rentals of all protective regulations applicable to situations providing sleeping/lodging accommodations to the public for reimbursement for < 30 days. (Various labels apply including Transient Lodging/Lodging Services, Transient Commercial Use, Tourist Accommodation, Vacation Rental, STR.)
  
- 2) STRs do not mimic residential use - STR Tier 1 must be modified to correctly consider differences and collateral neighborhood impacts by lowering the maximum occupant threshold to  $\leq 4$  and adding a discretionary permit requirement (AR) to allow for neighbor input.** (Comparative justifications offered in WC documents to date have been shown to be inapplicable.)
  
- 3) Full assessment/mitigation of STR impacts on Neighborhood Character, Overall Area Occupancy, Environment is a critical priority which has not occurred:**
  - Add STR Density and Rental Intensity requirements to the proposed STR Ordinance.
  - Modify proposed zoning code changes based on comprehensive review of STR impacts on area occupancy, the environment (EIS), compliance with other regs & collateral impacts
  - Require development and implementation of a WC Tahoe Area Optimal Occupancy Management Plan considering STR impacts in concert with broader sustainability initiatives

## Mullin, Kelly

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**From:** Margaret Martini <[margaretmartini@liveintahoe.com](mailto:margaretmartini@liveintahoe.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 08, 2020 3:30 PM

**To:** Stark, Katherine <[KRStark@washoecounty.us](mailto:KRStark@washoecounty.us)>

**Subject:** Washoe County Planning Commission

**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

1-8-2020

Hello planning commissioners,

I was not able to attend last night's meeting of the planning commission but I would like my comments added to the minutes of the meeting.

I have reviewed the responses to some of the items presented by staff regarding the short term rentals. I do not feel that the primary concerns here at Incline Village were correctly reported in the WC Planners Report.

I did attend the meetings that were held in Incline Village and mingled and talked to almost everyone who attended as well as speaking to the representative who was leading the meeting in the public forum section after the presentation.

My observation was that public and neighborhood safety dominated the wishes of the attendees. This has also been the case at the many local meetings that I attend regarding the many issues that are important in Incline Village.

Parking is a hot topic, BUT, in the long run, what is parking if it is not public safety. Public safety for access for emergency vehicles (medical, fire and law enforcement) that need to have access to our streets and driveways. This cannot be attained if the snow removal cannot be effectively done to clear the access. In the summer, it is about the same with many vehicles blocking driveways and in some cases streets because inappropriate parking narrows the streets so that the safety vehicles cannot get through.

Fire safety is also an issue with use of bbq's and firepits. Many times I have observed 4-5' high flames emerging from them. I have called the fire dept more than once on these dangerous fires and sparks. What about working smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms...A fire is impacting to the WHOLE community, not just the one house that causes a fire.

It would also stand to reason that the workshop rating for permitting would have a lot to do with public safety by calling for a permitting that would require inspections and parking designations. So it should be noted that the permitting votes would have a lot to do with those parameters.

Again, on the online survey, the parking can directly be related to concerns for access for emergency vehicles. That is not to diminish the problems that 5-6 or more cars for a single family residence in residential neighborhood has with parking all over the neighborhood.

I can also understand the high numbers in the noise factor response. People who use their property as a home, not a commercial enterprise, do not appreciate their neighbors' guests' lack of respect for their quiet enjoyment of their homes which would be a reasonable expectation for their investment in the community.

The planner concluded that the most important issue is occupancy. But what is occupancy which results in all of the above conditions being a safety and public nuisance. It is not just occupancy but the result of the occupancy.

So in conclusion, ALL of the issues need to be addressed as a whole, and the ordinance as written is not in the comprehensive place that it should be.

Please do not approve the ordinance as written.

Margaret Martini

Incline Village

[margaretmartini@liveintahoe.com](mailto:margaretmartini@liveintahoe.com)

Cell: 775-722-4152

**From:** [Pamela Tsigdinos](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Cc:** [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#)  
**Subject:** January 7 meeting of Washoe County Planning Commission - STRs  
**Date:** Monday, January 06, 2020 6:22:18 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

We (Pamela and Alex) live full time at 1080 Oxen Road in Incline Village, Nevada. We are unable to attend the Washoe County Planning Commission meeting tomorrow, January 7, in Reno. We'd like to make sure our three-minute comments regarding STRs (below) get entered into the record.

~~~

Thank you for your work to mitigate the negative environmental and community impacts presented by STRs operating illegally today in unincorporated Washoe County.

STRs, by the letter of the law today, **are** operating illegally in R1 zoned areas and any new regulations concerning STRs cannot contradict R1 zoning requirements.

We want to address four important areas missing from staff recommendations:

**First**, a firm definition of an STR that conforms with the legal understanding of R1 zoning in unincorporated Washoe County. All new regulations must not permit any quasi hotel/commercial operations, much as other commercial operations such as restaurants, stores, etc. - - even if of the short-term 'pop-up' variety -- are not permitted in a residential area.

While staff has taken pains to cap the number of individuals in an STR, there is nothing in the recommendations to address the number of nights a residence can be rented per month or year. Surely, someone cannot rent their residence out to multiple parties 27 days out of the month EVERY month and still be considered a residence versus a commercial operation. Staff and commissioners must define and put limits on STRs so that the residence remains in compliance with R1 zoning.

**Second**, staff data indicates 53% of Incline Village/Crystal Bay properties are not occupied by permanent residents. It is safe to assume that Incline Village/Crystal Bay infrastructure, first responders, etc. are staffed at a level to service the 47% of owner-occupied

properties. So, if STRs fill 100% during peak seasons, how does the County and IVGID manage providing necessary services and adequate infrastructure? Shouldn't there be a community impact fee assessed to STRs to cover all added municipal service costs? At present, the staff recommends permit fees that only cover inspections and related administrative costs. Furthermore, hotel taxes go to the Reno Tahoe Tourism Board. Where are the funds for Incline Village/Crystal Bay – the community most directly impacted?

**Third**, what and where is the proposed timeline to put these critical inspections, permitting and licensing requirements in place?

As to this issue, roadmap and timing ... beyond putting a system in place for inspections, permitting and licensing, what will happen in the interim? Have you considered a moratorium on STRs (with accompanying fines) for those who rent their properties *before* proper inspection, permitting and licensing is put in place?

It seems we need a full reset. Let's not reward bad behavior by looking the other way now that all these issues have come to light. The County can start now with a zero-tolerance policy to be in compliance with the letter of the law today and ask all who want to operate an STR in 2020 to apply to a lottery system and begin inspections, permitting and licensing.

**Fourth**, and most importantly, we live in a fragile natural habitat with increasingly significant wildfire dangers. Those of us who live in Incline Village/Crystal Bay fulltime bear the burden of overcrowding during peak seasons and face health, safety and financial risks posed by those renting STRs ... consider an uneducated guest who leaves a barbecue or fire pit unattended or does not properly dispose of a cigarette. We can never forget there are life and death issues associated with a fire evacuation in a community with few ways out.

Again, this supports the need for a meaningful environmental/community impact fee on all STRs that will go to IVGID to ensure there are sufficient funds available to pay for increased infrastructure, public service and cleanup costs.

Furthermore, Lake Tahoe has an affordable housing issue. Residences used as perpetual STRs become unavailable to long-term renters as well as drive up rental costs.

We look forward to hearing how you will address these important community concerns and issues.

Pamela & Alex Tsigdinos

**From:** [Mark Worsnop](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Nelson, Kate S.](#); [Donschick, Francine](#); [Thomas Bruce](#); [Chvilicek, Sarah](#); [Chesney, Larry](#); [James Barnes](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rentals ONE RENTAL PER PROPERTY  
**Date:** Thursday, January 16, 2020 12:20:48 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Thank you for your response to my email questions about Short Term Rentals (STR). *See reference to the email in the appendix attached.*

Your statement about limiting to one rental per property does not make any sense whatsoever. ***This should be based solely on the number of people the property can accommodate.***

The houses for STR around natural attractions such as Lake Tahoe are typically rented by one person organizing a party for a long weekend or maybe for a week. Whether that renter collects contributions for the rental from the invitees is not necessarily known to the landlord. At the end of each day the group may have a party in the space around the home causing disturbance to surrounding residents. Further each invited person or couple arrive by car potentially causing an access hazard. These large houses often have groups of 20 or more people sleeping, and even more for a party. I assume such houses are what you class as Tier 3.

The STR houses in areas such as the Truckee meadows are typically used by people in transit who want a comfortable bed for the night and simple breakfast in the morning. Using my own house as an example, 74% stay for one night only in my three available rooms. Of the one night group 82% of them arrive after 6 pm and leave before 9 am. They do not party, there is only one car per couple, I have space for cars off the road. 93% of my reservations are two or less people. I assume such houses are what you class as Tier 1.

You created a Tier system and that fits easily without limiting a property to one rental. These two items are in conflict with each other. The Tier system handles everything well.

The board's direction to staff says ***do not ban short term rental use, it should be allowed.*** If the regulations add one rental per property that will basically *shut me down* as I currently rent several rooms and that is **against the board's direction.**

In closing the staff needs to adhere to the board's direction: ***do not ban short term rental use, it should be allowed.***

The item on the proposed regulations for one rental per property should be removed. ***This should be based solely on the number of people the***

***property can accommodate.***

Sincerely,

Mark Worsnop

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**Appendix I**

As a reference to my statement above, below is staff email response and *my comments*, broken down into separate section:

- Staff: Limiting properties to a single STR rented to one group at a time is one of the critical distinguishing factors between short-term rentals and commercial lodging use types such as hotels/motels and B&Bs. Without that specific limitation it would be nearly impossible to distinguish between the STR and commercial lodging services use types.

*Mark: How is this any different than limiting how many people can stay at the property? Your Tier system shows the limits on occupancy and also what the licensing requirements might be. If it's nearly impossible to distinguish between STR and commercial services, then how will you decide on the Tier for each property? That too would be nearly impossible.*

- Staff: This is similar to the ordinance Washoe County adopted to limit the limited gaming establishments within the County, as those were seen to infringe upon the larger establishments that have different regulations to follow within state law and county code.

*Mark: How is that similar? One establishment has gaming. One establishment doesn't have multiple gaming companies at that establishment. Are you now trying to argue that you are wanting to limit the total number of STRs so they don't infringe upon hotels? That would be against the board's direction to staff.*

- Staff: Without the regulation to limit the number of rental contracts at one time, people could construct a new building to residential standards and operate it as a smaller scale hotel/motel/hostel etc. in a residential area without meeting any commercial standards.

*Mark: Whether it's a new building or an existing building doesn't make any difference. It would still come until the Tier system.*

**From:** Washoe311  
**To:** CSO - Short Term Rentals  
**Subject:** FW: Airbnb Proposed Regulations - One rental per property  
**Date:** Monday, January 06, 2020 4:45:50 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

CSD staff,

Below please find public comment submitted to the Board of County Commissioners, and forwarded by Chair Hartung. Let us know if we can provide additional information.

Thank you,



**Washoe311 Service Center**  
Communications Division | Office of the County Manager  
[washoe311@washoecounty.us](mailto:washoe311@washoecounty.us) | Office: 3-1-1 | 775.328.2003 | Fax: 775.328.2491  
1001 E. Ninth St., Bldg A, Reno, NV 89512

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**From:** Washoe311  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 4:44 PM  
**To:** 'mark@worsnop.com' <mark@worsnop.com>  
**Cc:** Hartung, Vaughn <VHartung@washoecounty.us>; Brown, Eric P. <EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us>  
**Subject:** RE: Airbnb Proposed Regulations - One rental per property

Good afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of County Commission. Chair Hartung has routed this to the Washoe311 staff to assist. We would like to acknowledge that Washoe County Planning staff has received the original email below submitted Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.

Additionally, we would also like to confirm that there will be public comment at the scheduled Planning Commission meeting, Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. (link provided below). The draft language will then be presented to the Board of County Commissioners (anticipated to occur in Winter 2020).

[https://www.washoecounty.us/csd/planning\\_and\\_development/board\\_commission/planning\\_commission/index.php](https://www.washoecounty.us/csd/planning_and_development/board_commission/planning_commission/index.php)

Let us know if we can provide additional information. We are happy to assist!

Thank you,



**Washoe311 Service Center**  
Communications Division | Office of the County Manager  
[washoe311@washoecounty.us](mailto:washoe311@washoecounty.us) | Office: 3-1-1 | 775.328.2003 | Fax: 775.328.2491  
1001 E. Ninth St., Bldg A, Reno, NV 89512

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**From:** Hartung, Vaughn <VHartung@washoecounty.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 5:19 PM  
**To:** Washoe311 <Washoe311@washoecounty.us>  
**Subject:** Fw: Airbnb Proposed Regulations - One rental per property

**Vaughn Hartung**  
County Commissioner District 4 | Washoe County  
[vhartung@washoecounty.us](mailto:vhartung@washoecounty.us) | Office: 775.328.2007 | Cell: 775.432.4372  
1001 E. Ninth St., Bldg. A, Reno, NV 89512

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**From:** Mark Worsnop <mark@worsnop.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 8:40 AM  
**To:** Lucey, Robert (Bob) L <BLucey@washoecounty.us>; Berkgigler, Marsha <MBerkgigler@washoecounty.us>; Hartung, Vaughn <VHartung@washoecounty.us>; Herman, Jeanne <JHerman@washoecounty.us>; Jung, Kitty <KJung@washoecounty.us>  
**Subject:** Airbnb Proposed Regulations - One rental per property

**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

Dear Commissioner:

*I strongly object to the proposed regulations of having one rental per property.*

I rely on my Airbnb income to pay the mortgage as I am retired and Social Security does not pay enough to survive.

I have been renting rooms, in my house, through Airbnb for three years. I am in District 2, Southwest Reno. I live in my house and maintain control about whatever is happening here. I also have fire extinguishers, CO2 sensors and exit plans, listed for all the guests.

I see on the proposed regulations that I am only allowed to have one rental in my house. I rent 3 individual bedrooms and usually there is one or two people in the room at a time. I do not understand what the difference would be, if I had rented the entire house and several sets of people arrived, with multiple cars, and occupied the house. There is no difference between that and me having three individual people rent each room. *In fact it would be a lot less impact on the neighborhood with individual room rentals.*

Typically if somebody rents an entire house, they probably are planning a large gathering of people. That's when you have all the noise and parties going all night long, like what often happens at Incline. The houses in Incline usually have large groups and many cars and lots of noise. I would understand regulations that given this type of rental.

However the way I rent, as I said, they are usually have one or two people in each room. They are usually on their way through Reno, or visiting a relative or business in the area. These people usually arrive later in the day and leave first thing in the morning. They rarely come out of their rooms as all they are doing is sleeping here. With the full house rental, like mostly in Incline, the people are arriving, making meals with a group and staying up most of the night having a good time partying and thusly annoying the neighborhood. *This type of activity does not happen at my house.*

I would propose regulations that govern the number of people based on the number of rooms available.

Unless there is some dramatic reason, that I have not thought, about *I strongly object to the thought of having one rental space per property.*

I would appreciate your response to my letter here, explaining why this proposed regulation item is part if the proposed regulations. Please add this to the comments for the proposed regulations.

Mark Worsnop

775-338-0648



February 25, 2020

Washoe Board of County Commissioners  
1001 E. Ninth Street  
Reno, NV 89512

**Re: Code Language for Short Term Rentals**

Dear Board of County Commissioners:

Thank you for your careful consideration as you work to establish standards and a new permitting process for short term rentals. We support reasonable regulation and continue to implement policies and practices within our company to protect the security of neighbors, guests and hosts. Since March 2016, through our Voluntary Collection Agreement (VCA) with the County, we have collected and remitted over \$3.1 million in Transient Lodging taxes to Washoe County, Nevada.

However, we are concerned with the proposed short term rental permitting process, specifically:

- **Host response requirements.** Section 110.319.15(a) requires that a designated agent or property manager be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to respond to complaints/issues related to the short term rental, within 30 minutes of contact by Washoe County staff or its designated representatives. This language is unduly burdensome and presents a significant hardship on owners and property managers, many of whom may be out of the county. We ask that the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) consider allowing agents and property managers to contact County staff within two hours of contact and permit multiple mediums of communication with the County, including via text, email and phone.
- **Data Sharing.** Washoe County's Ordinance invokes Section 244.1545 2(d) of Nevada state law to require hosting platforms to submit quarterly reports that include data on the number of "lessees for the county" and current year-to-date revenue collected from all rentals "disaggregated by owner or lessee." Airbnb can provide the number of bookings and listings for the county but it does not collect information on whether a host is an "owner" or "lessee" and thus cannot distinguish accordingly on a quarterly report. Similarly, Airbnb can provide the year-to-date revenue collected from all rentals but, again, cannot distinguish between an "owner" or "lessee" property and would provide this information on an anonymized basis, e.g., using a Listing ID consistent with its Fourth Amendment protections absent a County subpoena. In the event that the County is



focused on verifying accurate and complete tax collection, it may conduct an audit as outlined in the March 2016 Voluntary Collection Agreement.

Airbnb was created out of the economic dislocation of the Great Recession and is powered by everyday people who use what is typically their greatest expense -- their homes -- as a way to generate extra income. Investing in and supporting the communities in which we operate, while providing our hosts with the economic opportunity that hosting enables continues to be a top priority for us. In 2019, the Washoe County host community earned a combined **\$9.3 million** in supplemental income, while welcoming over **46,000 guests** to the county.

In addition, we are launching enhancements to our trust and safety products based on feedback from local government and law enforcement. Airbnb's CEO, Brian Chesky, recently [announced](#) updated and new trust and safety measures. These include:

- **Neighborhood Support Page:** Our Neighborhood Support Page ([www.airbnb.com/neighbors](http://www.airbnb.com/neighbors)) provides a platform for anyone to submit a complaint regarding a problem listing, that Airbnb reviews and through which it may take action against hosts violating our terms of service.
- **Neighborhood Support Line:** For urgent communication, neighbors and communities can reach specialized rapid-response agents for nuisances requiring real-time support via phone ([www.airbnb.com/neighbors](http://www.airbnb.com/neighbors)).
- **Party house ban:** Airbnb has implemented a new policy to prohibit "open-invite" parties and is expanding manual screening of high-risk reservations flagged by automated systems to help identify reservations that could potentially present issues and help stop unauthorized parties before they start. We developed this policy with input from Retired Police Commissioner and Co-Chair of President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, Charles Ramsey and Former Director of the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing's Services, Ronald Davis.

Airbnb looks forward to continuing to work with Washoe County to ensure that we are doing our part in maintaining and building vibrant cities, and that our hosts continue to receive both the economic and social benefits that hosting provides.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please reach out anytime.

Laura Spanjian  
Senior Public Policy Director  
Airbnb

**From:** [cbwillb@charter.net](mailto:cbwillb@charter.net)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Cc:** [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#)  
**Subject:** Coronavirus/Covid-19 and STRs - Please Re-consider Requirements in the Proposed STR Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 24, 2020 11:20:19 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good morning, I know everyone is busy but I wanted to again raise the concern about Public Health regulation application to STRs in the context of the current review of the draft Ordinance.

As you know I have raised this concern repeatedly and remain perplexed and concerned at the apparent WC decision to not apply either the Public Accommodation requirements or comparable, tailored STR-specific requirements as are required for all other forms of Transient Lodging listed in the applicable section of WCC Chapter 25. As best I can tell, the result is that there are NO cleaning or sanitation requirements for STRs today or envisioned in the currently proposed STR Ordinance.

To me this has been a worrisome oversight and I am surprised that pleas regarding various transmissible agents and sharps/biohazardous waste have apparently been ignored. I am asking/hoping that this decision will be re-considered in the context of the emerging information about the Covid-19 virus. There are multiple news reports of studies related to survival of this virus on various surfaces and more will follow I am sure. A recently reported CDC study is of interest - the following news article provides a summary titled "Coronavirus stayed on surfaces for up to 17 days on Diamond Princess Cruise, CDC says" (<https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/cruises/2020/03/24/coronavirus-diamond-princess-cabin-surfaces-contaminated-cdc-report/2905924001/>).

Further, recalling that these cruise ships and their passenger populations were studied extensively, another interesting observation also reported in this article is that 17.9% of identified infected individuals had no symptoms. Thus a possible option of relying on the presence of individuals with symptoms or known infected contacts to trigger additional cleaning/sanitation is likely insufficient.

I am therefore respectfully requesting that, in the context of the current revision of the draft STR Ordinance, comparable Public Health requirements as are applicable to other forms of Transient Lodging listed in WCC Chapter 25 be applied to STRs for the protection of renters, owners and service providers.

Thank you for considering, Carole Black

**From:** [Eddie Farrell](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** STR  
**Date:** Thursday, July 16, 2020 4:04:32 PM

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Dear Commissioner Mullin,

As a permanent resident of Incline Village I want to register my dismay over the STR issue. Something needs to be done about the number of rentals and the lack of rules and guidelines, then the enforcement of them. I know there is an outline of possible ordinances that is languishing due to the virus, but life and business must go on.

I want to encourage you to continue to push restrictions and enforcement of strict rules concerning STR. Also I think it is important to have no less than 14 day rentals, preferably 30. Anything less is a hotel stay with the often weekend long loud, drunken and disruptive behavior that we see all around the neighborhoods of Incline. A longer stay is more of a vacation stay with people settling in and living more reasonably.

This was all precipitated by a house next to us that recently sold to a couple who told us they bought it to rent. Their first 2 renters over the extended 4th of July holiday were excessively loud, had 4-6 cars at the house and were aggressive to the neighbors, who asked they to be little quieter due to babies trying to sleep and working at home. One party were significantly drunk for several days in a row and only got louder, more aggressive and belligerent.

I look forward to hearing back from you and what will be done going forward to address the serious issue.

Sincerely,

Eddie Farrell  
546 Cole Circle  
Incline Village, NV  
925-980-4889

**From:** [Joe Farrell](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Short Term Rentals Incline Village  
**Date:** Thursday, July 23, 2020 11:29:31 AM

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Dear Mr. Mullin:

My wife and I have been property owners in Incline Village for 18 years and moved to our beautiful town permanently one year ago.

I want to articulate my significant concerns over the STR issue. Significant regulations/ordinances are required for the safety and peace in all neighborhoods of Incline Village. I am aware of a draft ordinance and guidelines which are being considered by the Washoe County Commissioners.

Please take note of the following paragraphs to understand my opposition to STR:

For nearly 10 days over the Fourth of July holiday my neighbor rented their home to two sets of renters. One set of renters were so noisy that we could not find a quiet space to go in our home from 10 AM to 8 PM for five days. Loud rap music, yelling kids and evenings of adults smoking dope was very troubling and disruptive to our quiet cul de sac. These renters were quiet after 8 PM; however, **I strongly suggest you add to your rules/guidelines for STR to be mindful of DAYTIME noise; NOT just night time noise.** Additionally, this family of 10 left the garage door open at night with bags of garbage which will attract bears, which is a problem in our neighborhood.

For another 4.5 days a second group of renters were relentlessly loud all day, very drunk and belligerent. Music, yelling and loud/drunken people ALL day and until 10 PM at night was the norm for this group of 10-14 partiers/renters. One of the neighbors kindly tried to ask this group to keep the noise down so their 7 year old son could sleep. One drunk renter called our neighbor and "old fart" and stated that "when he is on vacation he parties hard and never goes back to the same place twice." Well, I wonder WHY? We had family visiting with our 18 month old grandson who could not sleep for his afternoon nap and had difficulty getting to sleep in the evening due to the loud music and drunken behavior from the renters carrying on in the outdoor hot tub.

We have had our home for 18 years in Incline and have never experienced the constant noise, aggravation and drunkenness from a neighbors home in all the years we have owned a home on Cole Circle. We retired here for the outdoors, golf, skiing and the quiet of our neighborhood.

We have met with our next door neighbors about the above issue and filed complaints with Airbnb. We made sure our neighbors understood that their renters affected the lives of 6 homeowners on Cole Circle as well as some neighbors on Spencer and Dale streets. They were "sorry" but reported that they plan to rent their home as much as possible. Their home is set up for significant partying due to an outdoor hot tub and pool table within their home. We

live in a quiet neighborhood; NOT A RESORT. Our neighbors requested that we contact them if there are problems, although they live in San Francisco, thus what will they be able to do?? In retrospect, we should have called the Sheriff to shut the partying down.

As you can gather, I am strongly opposed to short term rentals in Incline Village and request more stringent guidelines and enforcement for STR. At minimal I suggest the following for the Washoe County STR guidelines and ordinance:

1. Permit to operate renewed on a yearly basis.
2. A significant Washoe County Tax of \$1200.00 to \$1500.00/year for owners of rental homes.
3. Require a representative appointed to deal with complaints of renters who can arrive on site within 30 minutes of a complaint.
4. A day time noise ordinance; NOT just a 10 PM to 7 AM noise requirement.
5. IF STR are not banned; then a 30 day minimal time frame of rental. This would hopefully eliminate the yahoo partiers who rent at holidays and weekends.
6. Home owners who are in non compliance of Washoe County regulations should be fined \$1000.00/day for non compliance.
7. Greater than one non compliance fine of \$1000.00 should yield a PERMANENT ban on the home owner renting the home as a STR.

In sum, as you can gather I am not happy about Incline Village and Washoe County STR regulations and ordinance. The regulations need to be more stringent, enforceable and yield significant financial consequences if the County decides not to ban STR (our County should BAN STR). My story is only one of many from concerned homeowners in Incline Village.

Thanks for addressing my concerns.

Sincerely,

Joe Farrell  
546 Cole Circle  
Incline Village, NV 89451  
Ph: 925-980-4888

**From:** [Nicholas Maiocco](#)  
**To:** [Sullivan, Mike](#); [Mike Lefrancois](#); [Lyons, Kevin](#); [Pupfarm1@gmail.com](#); [Todoroff, Pete](#); [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**Cc:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#)  
**Subject:** Fire Department incident July 9 at Incline Village STR 524 Spencer  
**Date:** Friday, July 10, 2020 9:23:16 AM

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To all concerned by the negative impacts of STRs on our environment:

Last night at approximately 6pm the Fire Department and Police were called out to 524 Spencer due to an open wood pit fire burning unattended on the deck of the STR. Living next door we were seeing black smoke and flames. At the time it was attended by a male tenant and a small child. We informed the man that it was very dangerous and illegal to have such a fire burning especially as it was very windy and embers could blow into the pine needles. He basically told us to "F--- off" and some other derogatory comments. I immediately called dispatch and the Fire Department and Police were notified. We notified the owner of the rental by voice message and never heard back. We do not know if there is any local management for this particular home. (This house also has various Christmas lights on 24 hours a day with plugs connected to extension chords and laying among the pine needles.) The male at the open wood fire got in his car and left so the fire was completely unattended until the Fire Department arrived a few minutes later. The firemen spoke with the remaining female who was in the hot tub throughout most of the event.

The potential for disaster is extremely frightening when visitors come into the area with no knowledge regarding our fragile, highly impacted, and completely flammable environment.

This is only one of many problems with STR in Incline Village. Parking, traffic, trash disposal and resulting active bear activity, noise pollution, light pollution and trespassing are some of the other issues that have been dealt with over the past 2 years at least in our area. The police unfortunately have had to spend too much time on these neighborhood calls.

As residents in the same home since 1995, we are against STR in Incline Village as we are witnessing first hand the destruction of our neighborhoods. Please forward this mail to anyone who has similar views on STRs and can help us get our safe and healthy environment back. We know there are many unheard voices in the area as we are not used to having to call the authorities and issue citations, but this is what our daily lives have become. These rentals are not managed consistently or at all, and the residents are now policing. This situation is exhausting.

Thank you for your time and concern,  
Keli Maiocco  
553 Len Way  
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Morty Molander](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Re: STR  
**Date:** Friday, April 03, 2020 10:50:16 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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Kelly, thank you and I hope you and yours are safe during this uncertain time. I appreciate your answer and I would recommend to the drafters of these rules when drafting language around the process and specifically regarding "asking for the document" to prove the right to STR by a homeowner that you ask for the CC&Rs only per the NRS 116. The CC&R's the only document relevant to activity within the unit as opposed to simple rules and regulations that are not legally binding on the rental use of a unit and property owner's rights, CC&R's are important legal documents that show usage specific to ownership rights, e.g. rentals. Simple rules and regulations are, on the other hand, only specific to simple enforcement of predominantly common area usage ( please see in pertinent part **NRS 116**). I am not sure if Washoe County has its own additional laws on how to change CC&R's, however, assuming my CC&R's rules for "amendment" are correct; there is a process and there is an eventual vote that requires a majority to agree to this change of this legal document regarding ownership rights. CC&R's language regarding rental unit usage prevails and in order to change CC&R's an HOA must hold that vote and that vote must be in adherence to NV laws on CC&R changes. As an example, my complex changed their rules regarding STR but not the CC&R's to restrict STR and when we the home-owners questioned our BOD and when we told them they were wrong and that the BOD could not unilaterally make this change, we advised the BOD that they wanted a change they needed to bring to vote a change of the CC&Rs to accomplish any limitation on the use of the unit. After we brought this up our BOD stopped enforcing STR so-called limitation rule, yet left the rule on the books. Our HOA never brought this up for a vote and no change was made to our CC&Rs. In summary please make sure that you use the legal documents needed to determine STR usage which is the CC&Rs only to avoid imposing on a restriction on a legal right of usage by a homeowner per the NV NRS. You will be saving yourself a lot of inquiries and objections if using the legal document CC&R's. Sorry for the long-winded email, however, I look forward to your reply.

Thank you Morty

**From:** Sara Schmitz [mailto:schmitz61@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:06 AM  
**To:** 'Berkbigler, Marsha' <MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us>; 'Vaughn Hartung:' <vhartung@washoecounty.us>; 'Lucey, Robert (Bob) L' <BLucey@washoecounty.us>; jherman@washoecounty.us; 'Jung, Kitty' <KJung@washoecounty.us>  
**Cc:** rondatycer@aol.com; 'Diane Heirshberg' <dbheirshberg@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Please put STR ordinance in place

Commissioners,

We are being overrun with short term renters who are ignoring social distancing, the use of masks, and renting homes without any sanitary requirements. We need regulation to mandate the same sort of sanitary standards to mirror hotels/motels in an effort to protect the renters and our community. Please add this to the ordinance along with language giving you the authority to halt STRs in the event of emergencies for the health and safety of our community.

We need your help. Please put in place regulations to keep everyone safe including, but not limited to:

1. Sanitation requirements to mirror hotel/motel
2. Local Property Manager
3. The ability for the Commission to halt rentals for the health and safety of the community

Thank you!  
Sara

**From:** [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**To:** [mberkbiger@washoecounty.us](mailto:mberkbiger@washoecounty.us); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#)  
**Cc:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Idea for a Short Term Rental Solution  
**Date:** Thursday, July 23, 2020 4:52:36 PM

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Honorable Commissioners,

As you are aware, Incline Village/Crystal Bay has had many challenges with Short Term Rentals (STRs) in the past, but definitely during the pandemic. Since the Governor declared they are "Essential Businesses", it confirms the fact; They are businesses. Because of new health concerns, I urge you to add language to the proposed ordinance to include sanitary requirements consistent with hotels/motels. They are hotels and their guests should be assured the property is sanitized.

With tourism comes traffic, parking challenges, and speeding problems. We have so many challenges with limited resources available to us. I'd like to propose you include in the proposed ordinance a \$25 per night per property charge as a "resort fee", local "tax", whatever you'd like to call it. These funds could be dedicated to the Washoe County Sheriff specific to serving Incline Village/Crystal Bay. Here is the math:

Assume 1000 short term rental properties  
Assume they rent for 4 nights every week of the summer months from Memorial Day to Labor Day (16 weeks)  
This comes to \$1.6M that could be used to address the needs and concerns of our community. Understand they rent in ski season too. Imagine how this would help fund additional resources needed.

We need additional resources and this is a simple and relatively painless solution.

Thank you for taking this into consideration.

Sara Schmitz  
(925) 858-4384

**From:** [Pamela Tsigdinos](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Washoe County, STRs and COVID-19  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 25, 2020 6:52:43 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Kelly,

I hope you're staying safe. As someone closely involved in Washoe County STRs, I am sharing my latest correspondence. Please see below.

Thank you for reviewing and sharing with any other relevant colleagues. Best regards, Pamela

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Pamela Tsigdinos <ptsigdinos@yahoo.com>  
**To:** mberkbigler@washoecounty.us <mberkbigler@washoecounty.us>; blucey@washoecounty.us <blucey@washoecounty.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 25, 2020, 6:50:35 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Washoe County, STRs and COVID-19

Dear Marsha, Bob,

As Washoe County Commissioners Chair and Vic Chair, I want to share the same request I made to Governor Sisolak. It concerns Washoe County short term rentals and the need to put a moratorium on these "essential businesses," which are a threat to our community. Please take a moment to read. Thank you, Pamela

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Pamela Tsigdinos <ptsigdinos@yahoo.com>  
**To:** mdelaney@nvhealthresponse.nv.gov <mdelaney@nvhealthresponse.nv.gov>; nvdhhs@dhhs.nv.gov <nvdhhs@dhhs.nv.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 25, 2020, 6:39:20 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Request to safeguard Nevadans during COVID-19

Dear Meghin,

I'm hoping you can share the following with the relevant individuals in Governor Sisolak's office. I both watched and read Governor Sisolak's remarks regarding COVID-19. I am grateful for the measures our officials and Nevada residents are taking to support to the health, public safety and well-being of Nevadans during this unprecedented public health crisis.

I am an Incline Village, Nevada resident (Washoe County) who suffers from chronic asthma; many of my neighbors, fellow Nevadans, also have underlying health conditions. We are following the state of Nevada and CDC guidelines to restrict our movement, engage in social distancing, wash our hands and disinfect whenever possible, etc., etc.

I also reviewed Emergency Regulation NAC 414 signed by Governor Sisolak on March 20, which identified short term rentals (STRs) as "essential businesses."

I'm writing to ask that Nevada leadership put an immediate moratorium on short-term rentals (STRs) here in Washoe County. These short-term rentals present a public health and safety hazard to Nevada residents during this COVID-19 pandemic.

As a small and remote mountain-lake community, our healthcare, first responders, support services and facilities will be under severe pressure from a COVID-19 outbreak. Compounding this threat are visitors, the preponderance of which come from hot spots in the San Francisco Bay area. These visitors are now accessing our community via short-term rentals. Ironically, the Hyatt, our major north Lake hotel/casino, is closed for public health and safety reasons until May 15.

Right now, our vulnerable populations and residents are at risk by those who continue to visit our community as a vacation destination. Please prioritize the health and safety of Nevadans and shut down short-term rentals. These quasi hotels marketed by second homeowners and managers of investment properties, are creating an unnecessary and dangerous risk.

Please note, that South Lake Tahoe on the California side of the Lake, is already taking action on short-term rentals for the reasons laid out above. The community leaders there understand that hundreds of non-residents will compete for precious resources during this crisis.

Please confirm receipt of this correspondence and let me know if there are others you'd recommend I contact. Thank you for keeping Nevadans safe.

Best regards,  
Pamela Mahoney Tsigdinos  
Proud Nevada resident, Incline Village, NV 89451  
email: ptsigdinos@yahoo.com  
ph: 775-298-7305

**From:** [Nick Maiocco](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Todoroff, Pete](#); [CSD - Short Term Rentals: ims919@sbcglobal.net](#); [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**Subject:** No on STRs  
**Date:** Monday, August 03, 2020 2:13:16 PM

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**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

We see there is a proposal for STR that will be read later this month by the board of commissioners. Here is a little chapter in our lives here for the month of July and there are many more in this community that have stories similar and worse.

Issues in July- I call police 4 times for noise complaints and once to the fire department for an outdoor fire on the deck. Wrote to Washoe county commissioners, SR Planner, Washoe county health, Airbnb on 5 parking issues, and not following public health concern with Covid cleaning while turning over house with less than 4 hours between tenants.

All events have been documented and/or videoed.

We had a bear break into our garage on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and we didn't have any garbage in our cans, cars, or nearby areas. We have never had one, ever, and it's due to STR leaving over stuffed garbage and coolers outside. Who will pay for this since we have tenants not following the rules and continue on even though there are ordinances? We as residents should not have to police our neighborhoods and have to call a "hotline". By this point, we are already frustrated, inconvenienced, and anxious. We have been doing this with owners and police. Most of these issues are not reported. I can guarantee you that our complaints are just the tip of the iceberg of residents fed up with policing our own neighborhoods.

We pay our taxes to the government to protect and serve our communities and elect the officials to help with this. The Washoe county commissioners have not represented the residents as there are many residents in Incline Village against STRs and we have basically been unheard for many years.

Meeting minutes:

*Commissioner Lucey emphasized "he did not want to see any kind of ban on rental properties in the County. He pointed out Lake Tahoe was a good draw for people to visit the community and home owners should not be excluded from sharing their homes. He indicated short-term rentals improved air quality and sacrificing short term rentals could have a negative impact on tourism, resulting in financial suffering. He pointed out there was only one hotel in the area and, without short-term rentals, people would not have a place to stay. He summarized the discussion should be about the Board drafting good policy which laid out how the County would interact with owners and renters."*

**We have not seen any studies supporting any of these statements. Our community is not a business that should be collecting tax revenue for Reno/Sparks RSVCA. Our neighborhood is not**

**a commercial area. We are part of a community that deserves to be protected and heard. We raise our families here. We are asking for transparency and to be considered.**

Commissioner Berkbigler agreed that issues were not always caused just by renters. She commented the problems were not as significant in Incline Village and Crystal Bay as they were in South Lake Tahoe. She felt nothing could be addressed without regulations. She stressed she did not want to make it too difficult for people to rent out their homes, but issues such as noise, disruption, and trash needed to be addressed. She said the County needed to work with realtors. She wondered whether it would be worthwhile to include a provision where an owner either needed to be within a two-hour drive of the property or have a local host. She moved to begin the process of drafting an ordinance or some regulations.

**Incline Village is NOT just made up of realtors. We know many realtors in our area and are well aware of how lucrative STRs are for them and for the management companies when they are rapidly turned over and over again. Residents are also very aware of how destructive this rapid turn over is to our safety and our environment.**

Long-term rentals of 28 days or more have been very successful in many other areas in the country. Taxes will still be collected for long-term rentals and will have less of an impact on our environment and will promote less of a “party” atmosphere in our neighborhoods.

In addition, most owners of STRs in Incline Village own more than 1 property, sometimes multiple properties and RITs. There are statistics and articles proving and backing up this fact. This is considered a business. These property owners are running a hotel business in the middle of our neighborhoods. Please explain how you have allowed this to happen. Citizens should be represented by our board and commissioners, not by lobbyists and businesses.

Why can't the STR ban be balloted and put to vote?

30 year resident  
Nick Maiocco

**From:** [cbwillb@charter.net](mailto:cbwillb@charter.net)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Cc:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); ["dbheirshberg@gmail.com"](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** STR Ordinance  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 05, 2020 11:08:27 AM  
**Attachments:** [OSHA-Ltr-Phase-II-Updated-6-26-20.pdf](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To: Ms Mullin, Cc: Mr Brown, Commissioner  
Berkbigler

Additional Cc: Diane Heirshberg

Kelly, I received the recent notice re WC STR Regulations and Diane also shared your recent comments regarding the status of the STR Ordinance update. I am writing to raise substantive concerns with a request for pro-active consideration prior to publication of the next Ordinance draft. I agree that it is important to finalize an initial regulation - however, the items below are critically important. Deferring all comment to Public Hearing at the BOC meeting will not allow for thorough, thoughtful, comprehensive review of the issues, adversely impacting and potentially delaying an optimally effective outcome. Priority concerns include:

**1) Public Health, Sanitation and Safety Requirements:** The current situation with SARS -CoV-2 virus spread and resulting Covid-19 infections & deaths have highlighted usage and risk profile similarities between STRs and other types of lodging services/transient lodging. Various NV and WC regulations (e.g., WCC Chapter 25) have previously classified Rentals < 28 days/Vacation Rentals/STRs as Transient Lodging; however standard Public Health/Safety requirements have not historically been applied in WC. Nonetheless, no matter how creative the attempts to portray otherwise for certain applications, STRs are a form of Transient Lodging where unknown guests come to stay for a brief period followed quickly by more, different unknown guests but with minimal, if any, on-site supervision and often with little knowledge of high risk local environments.

Examples of risks shared with other similarly located Transient Lodging, but potentially more significant in STRs, include:

Snacks, food, drinks may or may not typically be provided (and currently are probably restricted) though STR eating/cooking utensils and preparation facilities are typically available but unregulated; Occupancy is less restricted or monitored than in hotels/motels creating added safety risk; Cleaning, sanitation and health/safety risk prevention precautions for occupants & during "space turnover" are less consistent & apparently unregulated in STRs.

Thus Public Health/Safety risks to visiting tourists, servicing staff and other occupants (e.g., owners/guests staying in the same units immediately before or after a rental) are likely identical or potentially worse for those staying in STRs vs. other Transient Lodging. In addition, adjacent resident neighbors to STRs particularly in high density situations are exposed to increased risk by ever increasing numbers of variably compliant visitors and servicing staff.

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As a retired physician, I find it difficult to rationalize how proper public health, safety, cleaning and sanitizing regulations would not be applicable and appropriate protections in STRs as well as hotels, motels, etc. Given the same environmental circumstances, pathogen exposure and disease transmission should be just as likely in a rented apartment vs. a hotel/motel suite. Indeed, currently, this risk may be higher in/near STRs. Thus, in addition to comments re Emergency Declarations, as responsible public officials, I ask that you please include the Public Accommodation requirements (with specific limited exceptions if indicated) as required, enforceable elements in the STR Ordinance.

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**3) Parking and Traffic Safety:** As Diane noted in her recent email to you, the Incline Village parking situation has changed dramatically. In some spots it is somewhat improved, in others dramatically worsened as a result of both the recent surge in STR & day visitors and the recent requested and well intentioned changes. What has been lacking consistently is a comprehensive parking/traffic planning process for this community including immediately surrounding "feeder areas." Hence fragmented, piecemeal solutions repeatedly fall short and our lives are unnecessarily adversely impacted and sometimes endangered. Pending this planning and design effort, the initially proposed STR parking restriction would provide some measure of interim relief from a safety perspective and should be retained.

Thank you in advance for your attention to these important health and safety items. Kelly, I join Diane in asking for a (telephonic) meeting to discuss before the Ordinance draft is finalized and released. Thank you in advance!

Eric and/or Marsha, we would welcome an opportunity to discuss with you directly as well.  
Thank you, Carole Black, IV Resident (617-312-8834)

\*The compared situations were not comparable to STRs - they were better supervised and the transient occupants considerably less transient & better known to and knowledgeable of the environment than those in STRs thus somewhat mitigating risk associated with higher occupancy levels.

STEVE SISOLAK  
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA



TERRY REYNOLDS  
Director

JESS LANKFORD  
Interim Deputy Administrator

**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY  
DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH ADMINISTRATION**

June 26, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

**Scope: Updated Guidance for Businesses Operating in Phase 2 of Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery Plan**

This guidance applies to all businesses operating during Phase 2 of the Governor's *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan. This guidance supersedes previous guidance released on May 29, 2020.

On May 28, 2020 the Governor of Nevada announced the release of Declaration of Emergency Directive #021, which initiated the Phase 2 re-opening of some non-essential business within Nevada. The declaration, summarized in the guidance document titled "Roadmap to Recovery for Nevada: Phase 2" requires that during Phase 2:

*"All essential and non-essential businesses opening or continuing operations in Phase 2 must adopt measures promulgated by the Nevada State Occupational Safety and Health Administration (NV OSHA) to minimize the risk of spread of COVID-19, including social distancing and sanitation measures, and abide by all other guidance promulgated pursuant to the Phase 2 directive."*

In addition, Section 3 of Declaration of Emergency Directive #021 states:

*"Businesses may adopt practices that exceed the standards imposed by Declaration of Emergency Directives, guidelines promulgated by the Nevada State Occupational Safety and Health Administration (NV OSHA) or LEAP guidelines, but in no case shall business practices be more permissive than the provisions of this Directive or those imposed by NV OSHA and the LEAP."*

On June 24, 2020, the Governor issued Declaration of Emergency #024, which requires businesses operating during Phase 2 to ensure that all patrons, customers, patients, or clients utilize face coverings. Section 8 states:

*"NV OSHA shall enforce all violations of its guidelines, protocols, and regulations promulgated pursuant to this Directive."*

To support the continued efforts of the State of Nevada, NV OSHA is providing this guidance, and the recommendations/requirements found within, for businesses open during Phase 2. The measures contained in the document are recommended/required of each business and should be applied to all employees of that business. As we battle the coronavirus pandemic, this guidance may continue to evolve.

RENO  
4600 Kietzke Lane,  
Building F-153  
Reno, NV 89502  
(775) 688-3700

LAS VEGAS  
3360 West Sahara Avenue  
Suite 200  
Las Vegas, NV 89102  
(702) 486-9020

The NV OSHA recommendations/requirements for all businesses open during Phase 2 include, but are not limited to, the following:

**General Operations:**

- ▶ Face coverings:
  - All employers must provide face coverings for employees assigned to serving the public and shall require these employees to wear the face coverings. **(Required/Ref.** Declaration of Emergency Directive #021, Section 12)
  - All employers should require employees to wear a face covering in any space visited by the general public, even if no one else is present. **(Recommended/Ref.** Nevada Medical Advisory Team: Guidance on Directive 024: Face Coverings)
  - All employers must require employees to wear a face covering in any space where food is prepared or packaged, for sale, or generally distributed to others. **(Required/Ref.** Nevada Medical Advisory Team: Guidance on Directive 024: Face Coverings)
  - All businesses are required to mandate the use of face coverings by patrons, customers, patients, or clients and will notify/inform all patrons, customers, patients, and clients of the requirement prior to their entry into the establishment, with exceptions delineated in Section 7 of Declaration of Emergency, Directive #024. **(Required/Ref.** Declaration of Emergency, Directive #024, sections 6 & 7 inclusive)
  - Face coverings must be used in public spaces incorporated in or controlled by a business. **(Required/Ref.** Declaration of Emergency, Directive #024, section 5)
- ▶ Close or limit access to common areas where employees are likely to congregate and interact. When in common areas, face coverings are required for employees. **(Required/Ref.** Nevada Medical Advisory Team: Guidance on Directive 024: Face Coverings, Declaration of Emergency Directive #021, Section 15 and CDC - Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers Responding to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), May 2020) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>
- ▶ Promote frequent and thorough hand washing, including providing workers, customers, and worksite visitors with a place to wash their hands. If soap and running water are not immediately available, provide alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 60% alcohol. **(Required/Ref.** Declaration of Emergency Directive #021, Sections 7 & 15)
- ▶ Maintain regular housekeeping practices, including routine cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces and equipment with Environmental Protection Agency-approved cleaning chemicals from List N or that have label claims against the coronavirus. See: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2> **(Required/Ref.** Declaration of Emergency Directive #021, Sections 7 & 15)
- ▶ Provide sanitation and cleaning supplies for addressing common surfaces in multiple user mobile equipment and multiple user tooling. Recommended based on the specifics of a business's services and procedures. **(Required/Ref.** - Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, OSHA 3990-03 2020)

- ▶ Conduct daily surveys of changes to staff/labor health conditions. **NV OSHA is emphasizing the need for business leadership to be working with and aware of the health and well-being of its staff.** (Required/Ref. - Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, OSHA 3990-03 2020)
- ▶ Ensure that any identified first responders in the labor force are provided and use the needed Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and equipment for protection from communicable or infectious disease. (Required/29 CFR 1910.1030)
- ▶ Provide access to potable and sanitary water (Required/29 CFR 1926.15 or 29 CFR 1910.141)

Further, any guidance that is produced by the State of Nevada to support the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan (Phase 1 or 2) will be enforced by NV OSHA. Specifically, any guidance that pertains to a particular industry sector may have a column of “mandatory” measures that apply to that industry sector. Any mandatory measures found in the state’s promulgated guidance will be deemed enforceable if not specifically addressed in previously published guidance, regulations, or memorandums. Following these guidelines does not constitute, and is not a substitute for, compliance with all laws and regulations applicable at any particular time. Individuals and businesses are responsible to ensure that they comply with all laws and regulations that apply to them, including, but not limited to, federal and state health and safety requirements. Additionally, compliance with these regulations does not ensure against the spread of infections from COVID-19 or any other cause.

### **Social Distancing:**

Declarations of Emergency Directives #003, #018, and #021 allow for essential industries/businesses to continue operations and allows some non-essential business to reopen. The following measures are required to be implemented by the employer when employees are conducting specific job functions where 6 feet of social distancing is infeasible/impractical.

- ▶ A Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) may be completed for each task, procedure, or instance that is identified where social distancing is infeasible/impractical. Any JHA drafted for this purpose must be equivalent in detail and scope as identified in Federal OSHA publication 3071. <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/osha3071.pdf>
- ▶ A JHA developed for this purpose must identify the task being addressed, hazard being addressed (spread of COVID-19), and controls to be used to address the hazard.
- ▶ Any policy, practice, or protocol developed pursuant to the JHA must be as effective as or more effective than the 6 feet social distancing mandate.
- ▶ Engineering controls, administrative controls, and PPE identified and developed through the JHA to address the hazard must be supplied by the employer.
- ▶ Training must be provided to staff for any policy, practice, or protocol that is used to address the hazard via a JHA.

- ▶ Training must be provided to staff for any equipment, engineered process, administrative control, or PPE that was identified and developed through the JHA to address the social distancing requirements or alternative policies, practices, or protocols implemented when social distancing is infeasible/impractical.

**Social Distancing during breaks, lunches/dinners, and other slack periods:**

NV OSHA is aware that social distancing requirements are not always followed by employees despite the efforts of the employer. The following measures are recommended for all businesses open during Phase 2.

- ▶ Employers are recommended to monitor employees during break, lunch/dinner, and slack periods to ensure that they are maintaining proper social distancing protocols.
- ▶ If an employer representative identifies an instance where proper social distancing protocols are not being followed, the employee will be subject to the employer's existing methods established for ensuring compliance with safety rules and work practices per NAC 618.540(1)(e).
- ▶ These observations apply to parking lots, staging areas, and any other location identified by the employer to be a supportive part of the overall business.

**NV OSHA emphasizes that slowing/addressing the spread of COVID-19 is a required aspect of all activities/tasks/services associated with open businesses and will continue to enforce or promote the use of identified measures to address this public health crisis.**

NV OSHA seeks to ensure that all businesses open during Phase 2 implement the aforementioned mandates and also seeks to distribute this information so that all included sectors of business are fully aware of these requirements. If your business, group, or association is receiving this memo, then please recognize this memo as notice to your business, group, or association that the previously mentioned mandates and guidance may be adopted and put into effect.

For any further guidance, use the following links:

- ▶ Federal OSHA - <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/>
- ▶ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- ▶ State of Nevada- <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/>
- ▶ State of Nevada- Roadmap to Recovery for Nevada (Industry Specific Guidance for Phases 1 & 2)  
<https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Industry-specific-Guidance-Documents.pdf>  
<https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Roadmap-to-Recovery-Phase-2-Industry-Specific-Guidance.pdf>
- ▶ Mine Safety and Health Administration: <https://www.msha.gov/msha-response-covid-19>

▶ NV OSHA Information: <http://dir.nv.gov/OSHA/Home/>

**THIS GUIDANCE IS SUBJECT TO REVISION AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS GATHERED.  
PLEASE CHECK HERE FREQUENTLY FOR UPDATES.**

If you have questions, please call the number below.

Sincerely,  
Jess Lankford  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Phone # 702.486.9020

From: [Kip Tonking](#)  
To: [Susan Davis](#), [Maura Kelly](#), [Dorothy Morley](#), [Susannah Miller](#)  
Subject: 5756 Pineda Village  
Date: Wednesday, August 05, 2020 7:32:33 PM

**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County – **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.

Good evening Maura,  
Great talking to you today. This is what I come home to at the STR next door after work! That should bring the bears in tonight. Hope they don't take out my garagedoor like they did last year. No one should have to live next to people like this with no respect of our neighborhood or wildlife. In the 25years of living here I have never seen thing like this.I don't know I can stay in my home.  
Please help us!  
Kip Tonking







Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Louise Cooper](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Cc:** [Cooper, Louise](#)  
**Subject:** ADD TO STR"S,  
**Date:** Monday, August 03, 2020 12:49:00 PM

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THERE ONLY TO BE 2 IN EACH BEDROOM AND 1 PERSON SLEEPING ON THE SOFA. 3 BEDROOM HAS ONLY 7 PEOPLE ANS A 2 BEDROOM HAS 5 PEOPLE AND IT IS UP TO THE OWNER IF ANIMALS ARE ALLOWED. THE RENTER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ANIMAL. THERE IS A LEASH LAW IN WASHOE COUNTRY. INCLINE VILLAGE IS IN WASHOE COUNTY AND REMIND THE OWNER THERE IS A FINE! PLEASE INCLUDE THIS. MRS. LOUISE COOPER I LIVE IN INCLINE VILLAGE.

**From:** [mlkennedy1@charter.net](mailto:mlkennedy1@charter.net)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STRs: Residences or Essential Businesses?  
**Date:** Monday, August 03, 2020 3:15:32 PM

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Dear Washoe County Commissioners,

Thank you for the time and effort you have devoted thus far to creating regulations for STRs in Washoe County, and specifically in resort areas such as Incline Village. In your meeting on Aug. 25 I hope you will have time to address the conflicting definitions of STRs. Governor Sisolak has deemed STRs as "Essential Businesses" during the COVID lock down and phased reopening. My question is: If STRs are "Essential Businesses", how can they be allowed in residential areas? Additionally, if they are considered Essential Businesses, shouldn't they have to follow CDC guidelines for cleaning and occupancy regulations? Especially now, during the COVID pandemic, I am very concerned about the spread of the virus with high occupancy numbers and multiple families and groups (often from multiple states) renting STRs and then utilizing the same essential services, such as food stores, pharmacies, Post Office, etc. as residents.

Respectfully,  
Mary Lou Kennedy  
Incline Village resident

**From:** [Stephen Pearce](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Regarding the proposed STR ordinance for Incline Village Washoe County  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 05, 2020 10:47:32 PM

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I have the following questions about the proposed ordinance on STRs:

- Do the parking spaces have to be designated by lines painted on the property and do they have to be hard top such as tarmac supported within property boundaries?
- In using them to calculate maximum occupancy should 2 or 4 people per car be used? Presumably SUVs like mine with 7 seats would not be a valid calculation.
- In general how is occupancy calculated, for example number of bedrooms x2 or can rooms with large numbers of beds be counted?
- How are minors counted in the calculation of maximum occupancy, presumably same as adults?
- How do lavatories/bathrooms fit into the calculation, for example should a house have at least as many bathrooms as half the number of maximum occupants advertised?
- Can it be a violation for a renter to exceed the maximum occupancy limits? How are renters held accountable?
- Other parts of the world also limit the number of days per year that a property can be treated as an STR or have a minimum stay length, does Washoe plan on imposing something like that?
- Is there any chance Washoe might impose hotel ordinances and penalties on STRs? If so where can those be found?
- Lastly the fine/penalties are also a little vague and it is suggested that an increasing scale relative to the number of violations be imposed but could it not also be related to the revenue per night gathered from a particular property and some deterring multiple of that?

Warm regards,

Stephen

**From:** [Babs](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STR: I live at 930 Jennifer St, Incline. There are two STRs that are pretty much in our "backyard." These two houses are rented almost nonstop year round with weekly rentals.  
**Date:** Thursday, August 06, 2020 6:52:02 AM

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Suggestions for STR regulations:

1. Make a **BEAR BOX MANDATORY** (bear box big enough that it will hold two trash cans and a third trash can for recyclables) with information posted about how we live in BEAR COUNTRY. Post information in the house telling renters to be careful with food, not to leave house windows, doors and garage doors open and lock your cars--- and use the bear box. We need to protect our bears from uneducated and irresponsible tourists (and residents). Review the Bear League FB posts about the bear incidents in Tahoe because of uneducated and irresponsible people. We used to NEVER have a bear problem until STRs exploded.
2. Require a 24 hour property manager to be available 24 hours a day.
3. POST A VISIBLE SIGN FROM THE STREET WITH THE PROPERTY MANAGER'S NAME AND PHONE NUMBER and require that the manager respond within one hour.
4. Cancel license for six months after three noise or non compliance violation of rules.
5. MAKE A **DEFENSIBLE SPACE INSPECTION** FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT MANDATORY AND COMPLIANCE WITH FIRE DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS.
6. COLLECT all Washoe County taxes from these rentals.
7. Require all cars from renters to be parked on the rental property.
8. Educate how we must be very careful in the Tahoe Basin because of the huge FIRE THREAT. I walk Jennifer daily (dangerous with speeding cars and people on cell phones) and cannot believe the cigarette butts I pick up along with litter. We do not live in a pedestrian friendly town with speeding cars loaded with the beach toys.
9. How can these properties possibly be sanitized from COVID with the speed of maid services "cleaning" the rental properties?

WE did not buy our house thirty years ago to have MOTELS in our backyards. The speeding cars from renters, the hooting, hollering, loud music during the day and night are aggravating and disturb our tranquility. The atmosphere of our town has changed. There are too many people here; parking at beaches is a huge problem. Our sheriff's department does not have the manpower nor the space to store all the illegally parked cars IF they were towed. Illegally parked cars can make it difficult for fire engines to get up and down Incline streets.

YOU HAVE THE ABILITY THE PUT "BITE" in these new restrictions. Landlords are

making a huge amount of money with weekly rentals.

I look forward to reading the decision.

Thank you,  
Barbara J. Kendziorski

Babs

**From:** [cbwillb@charter.net](mailto:cbwillb@charter.net)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Cc:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); "[dbheirshberg@gmail.com](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com)"  
**Subject:** STR Ordinance  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 05, 2020 11:08:27 AM  
**Attachments:** [OSHA-Ltr-Phase-II-Updated-6-26-20.pdf](#)

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To: Ms Mullin, Cc: Mr Brown, Commissioner  
Berkbigler

Additional Cc: Diane Heirshberg

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Eric and/or Marsha, we would welcome an opportunity to discuss with you directly as well. Thank you, Carole Black, IV Resident (617-312-8834)

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STEVE SISOLAK  
Governor

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Interim Deputy Administrator

**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY  
DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH ADMINISTRATION**

June 26, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

**Scope: Updated Guidance for Businesses Operating in Phase 2 of Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery Plan**

This guidance applies to all businesses operating during Phase 2 of the Governor's *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan. This guidance supersedes previous guidance released on May 29, 2020.

On May 28, 2020 the Governor of Nevada announced the release of Declaration of Emergency Directive #021, which initiated the Phase 2 re-opening of some non-essential business within Nevada. The declaration, summarized in the guidance document titled "Roadmap to Recovery for Nevada: Phase 2" requires that during Phase 2:

*"All essential and non-essential businesses opening or continuing operations in Phase 2 must adopt measures promulgated by the Nevada State Occupational Safety and Health Administration (NV OSHA) to minimize the risk of spread of COVID-19, including social distancing and sanitation measures, and abide by all other guidance promulgated pursuant to the Phase 2 directive."*

In addition, Section 3 of Declaration of Emergency Directive #021 states:

*"Businesses may adopt practices that exceed the standards imposed by Declaration of Emergency Directives, guidelines promulgated by the Nevada State Occupational Safety and Health Administration (NV OSHA) or LEAP guidelines, but in no case shall business practices be more permissive than the provisions of this Directive or those imposed by NV OSHA and the LEAP."*

On June 24, 2020, the Governor issued Declaration of Emergency #024, which requires businesses operating during Phase 2 to ensure that all patrons, customers, patients, or clients utilize face coverings. Section 8 states:

*"NV OSHA shall enforce all violations of its guidelines, protocols, and regulations promulgated pursuant to this Directive."*

To support the continued efforts of the State of Nevada, NV OSHA is providing this guidance, and the recommendations/requirements found within, for businesses open during Phase 2. The measures contained in the document are recommended/required of each business and should be applied to all employees of that business. As we battle the coronavirus pandemic, this guidance may continue to evolve.

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Reno, NV 89502  
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The NV OSHA recommendations/requirements for all businesses open during Phase 2 include, but are not limited to, the following:

**General Operations:**

- ▶ Face coverings:
  - All employers must provide face coverings for employees assigned to serving the public and shall require these employees to wear the face coverings. **(Required/Ref.** Declaration of Emergency Directive #021, Section 12)
  - All employers should require employees to wear a face covering in any space visited by the general public, even if no one else is present. **(Recommended/Ref.** Nevada Medical Advisory Team: Guidance on Directive 024: Face Coverings)
  - All employers must require employees to wear a face covering in any space where food is prepared or packaged, for sale, or generally distributed to others. **(Required/Ref.** Nevada Medical Advisory Team: Guidance on Directive 024: Face Coverings)
  - All businesses are required to mandate the use of face coverings by patrons, customers, patients, or clients and will notify/inform all patrons, customers, patients, and clients of the requirement prior to their entry into the establishment, with exceptions delineated in Section 7 of Declaration of Emergency, Directive #024. **(Required/Ref.** Declaration of Emergency, Directive #024, sections 6 & 7 inclusive)
  - Face coverings must be used in public spaces incorporated in or controlled by a business. **(Required/Ref.** Declaration of Emergency, Directive #024, section 5)
- ▶ Close or limit access to common areas where employees are likely to congregate and interact. When in common areas, face coverings are required for employees. **(Required/Ref.** Nevada Medical Advisory Team: Guidance on Directive 024: Face Coverings, Declaration of Emergency Directive #021, Section 15 and CDC - Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers Responding to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), May 2020) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>
- ▶ Promote frequent and thorough hand washing, including providing workers, customers, and worksite visitors with a place to wash their hands. If soap and running water are not immediately available, provide alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 60% alcohol. **(Required/Ref.** Declaration of Emergency Directive #021, Sections 7 & 15)
- ▶ Maintain regular housekeeping practices, including routine cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces and equipment with Environmental Protection Agency-approved cleaning chemicals from List N or that have label claims against the coronavirus. See: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2> **(Required/Ref.** Declaration of Emergency Directive #021, Sections 7 & 15)
- ▶ Provide sanitation and cleaning supplies for addressing common surfaces in multiple user mobile equipment and multiple user tooling. Recommended based on the specifics of a business's services and procedures. **(Required/Ref.** - Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, OSHA 3990-03 2020)

- ▶ Conduct daily surveys of changes to staff/labor health conditions. **NV OSHA is emphasizing the need for business leadership to be working with and aware of the health and well-being of its staff.** (Required/Ref. - Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, OSHA 3990-03 2020)
- ▶ Ensure that any identified first responders in the labor force are provided and use the needed Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and equipment for protection from communicable or infectious disease. (Required/29 CFR 1910.1030)
- ▶ Provide access to potable and sanitary water (Required/29 CFR 1926.15 or 29 CFR 1910.141)

Further, any guidance that is produced by the State of Nevada to support the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan (Phase 1 or 2) will be enforced by NV OSHA. Specifically, any guidance that pertains to a particular industry sector may have a column of “mandatory” measures that apply to that industry sector. Any mandatory measures found in the state’s promulgated guidance will be deemed enforceable if not specifically addressed in previously published guidance, regulations, or memorandums. Following these guidelines does not constitute, and is not a substitute for, compliance with all laws and regulations applicable at any particular time. Individuals and businesses are responsible to ensure that they comply with all laws and regulations that apply to them, including, but not limited to, federal and state health and safety requirements. Additionally, compliance with these regulations does not ensure against the spread of infections from COVID-19 or any other cause.

### **Social Distancing:**

Declarations of Emergency Directives #003, #018, and #021 allow for essential industries/businesses to continue operations and allows some non-essential business to reopen. The following measures are required to be implemented by the employer when employees are conducting specific job functions where 6 feet of social distancing is infeasible/impractical.

- ▶ A Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) may be completed for each task, procedure, or instance that is identified where social distancing is infeasible/impractical. Any JHA drafted for this purpose must be equivalent in detail and scope as identified in Federal OSHA publication 3071. <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/osha3071.pdf>
- ▶ A JHA developed for this purpose must identify the task being addressed, hazard being addressed (spread of COVID-19), and controls to be used to address the hazard.
- ▶ Any policy, practice, or protocol developed pursuant to the JHA must be as effective as or more effective than the 6 feet social distancing mandate.
- ▶ Engineering controls, administrative controls, and PPE identified and developed through the JHA to address the hazard must be supplied by the employer.
- ▶ Training must be provided to staff for any policy, practice, or protocol that is used to address the hazard via a JHA.

- ▶ Training must be provided to staff for any equipment, engineered process, administrative control, or PPE that was identified and developed through the JHA to address the social distancing requirements or alternative policies, practices, or protocols implemented when social distancing is infeasible/impractical.

**Social Distancing during breaks, lunches/dinners, and other slack periods:**

NV OSHA is aware that social distancing requirements are not always followed by employees despite the efforts of the employer. The following measures are recommended for all businesses open during Phase 2.

- ▶ Employers are recommended to monitor employees during break, lunch/dinner, and slack periods to ensure that they are maintaining proper social distancing protocols.
- ▶ If an employer representative identifies an instance where proper social distancing protocols are not being followed, the employee will be subject to the employer's existing methods established for ensuring compliance with safety rules and work practices per NAC 618.540(1)(e).
- ▶ These observations apply to parking lots, staging areas, and any other location identified by the employer to be a supportive part of the overall business.

**NV OSHA emphasizes that slowing/addressing the spread of COVID-19 is a required aspect of all activities/tasks/services associated with open businesses and will continue to enforce or promote the use of identified measures to address this public health crisis.**

NV OSHA seeks to ensure that all businesses open during Phase 2 implement the aforementioned mandates and also seeks to distribute this information so that all included sectors of business are fully aware of these requirements. If your business, group, or association is receiving this memo, then please recognize this memo as notice to your business, group, or association that the previously mentioned mandates and guidance may be adopted and put into effect.

For any further guidance, use the following links:

- ▶ Federal OSHA - <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/>
- ▶ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- ▶ State of Nevada- <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/>
- ▶ State of Nevada- Roadmap to Recovery for Nevada (Industry Specific Guidance for Phases 1 & 2)  
<https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Industry-specific-Guidance-Documents.pdf>  
<https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Roadmap-to-Recovery-Phase-2-Industry-Specific-Guidance.pdf>
- ▶ Mine Safety and Health Administration: <https://www.msha.gov/msha-response-covid-19>

▶ NV OSHA Information: <http://dir.nv.gov/OSHA/Home/>

**THIS GUIDANCE IS SUBJECT TO REVISION AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS GATHERED.  
PLEASE CHECK HERE FREQUENTLY FOR UPDATES.**

If you have questions, please call the number below.

Sincerely,  
Jess Lankford  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Phone # 702.486.9020

**From:** [Louise Cooper](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Cc:** [Cooper, Louise](#)  
**Subject:** ADD TO STR"S,  
**Date:** Monday, August 03, 2020 12:49:00 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

THERE ONLY TO BE 2 IN EACH BEDROOM AND 1 PERSON SLEEPING ON THE SOFA. 3 BEDROOM HAS ONLY 7 PEOPLE ANS A 2 BEDROOM HAS 5 PEOPLE AND IT IS UP TO THE OWNER IF ANIMALS ARE ALLOWED. THE RENTER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ANIMAL. THERE IS A LEASH LAW IN WASHOE COUNTRY. INCLINE VILLAGE IS IN WASHOE COUNTY AND REMIND THE OWNER THERE IS A FINE! PLEASE INCLUDE THIS. MRS. LOUISE COOPER I LIVE IN INCLINE VILLAGE.

**From:** [Babs](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STR: I live at 930 Jennifer St, Incline. There are two STRs that are pretty much in our "backyard." These two houses are rented almost nonstop year round with weekly rentals.  
**Date:** Thursday, August 06, 2020 6:52:02 AM

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Suggestions for STR regulations:

1. Make a **BEAR BOX MANDATORY** (bear box big enough that it will hold two trash cans and a third trash can for recyclables) with information posted about how we live in BEAR COUNTRY. Post information in the house telling renters to be careful with food, not to leave house windows, doors and garage doors open and lock your cars--- and use the bear box. We need to protect our bears from uneducated and irresponsible tourists (and residents). Review the Bear League FB posts about the bear incidents in Tahoe because of uneducated and irresponsible people. We used to NEVER have a bear problem until STRs exploded.
2. Require a 24 hour property manager to be available 24 hours a day.
3. POST A VISIBLE SIGN FROM THE STREET WITH THE PROPERTY MANAGER'S NAME AND PHONE NUMBER and require that the manager respond within one hour.
4. Cancel license for six months after three noise or non compliance violation of rules.
5. MAKE A **DEFENSIBLE SPACE INSPECTION** FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT MANDATORY AND COMPLIANCE WITH FIRE DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS.
6. COLLECT all Washoe County taxes from these rentals.
7. Require all cars from renters to be parked on the rental property.
8. Educate how we must be very careful in the Tahoe Basin because of the huge FIRE THREAT. I walk Jennifer daily (dangerous with speeding cars and people on cell phones) and cannot believe the cigarette butts I pick up along with litter. We do not live in a pedestrian friendly town with speeding cars loaded with the beach toys.
9. How can these properties possibly be sanitized from COVID with the speed of maid services "cleaning" the rental properties?

WE did not buy our house thirty years ago to have MOTELS in our backyards. The speeding cars from renters, the hooting, hollering, loud music during the day and night are aggravating and disturb our tranquility. The atmosphere of our town has changed. There are too many people here; parking at beaches is a huge problem. Our sheriff's department does not have the manpower nor the space to store all the illegally parked cars IF they were towed. Illegally parked cars can make it difficult for fire engines to get up and down Incline streets.

YOU HAVE THE ABILITY THE PUT "BITE" in these new restrictions. Landlords are

making a huge amount of money with weekly rentals.

I look forward to reading the decision.

Thank you,  
Barbara J. Kendziorski

Babs

**From:** [mlkennedy1@charter.net](mailto:mlkennedy1@charter.net)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STRs: Residences or Essential Businesses?  
**Date:** Monday, August 03, 2020 3:15:32 PM

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Dear Washoe County Commissioners,

Thank you for the time and effort you have devoted thus far to creating regulations for STRs in Washoe County, and specifically in resort areas such as Incline Village. In your meeting on Aug. 25 I hope you will have time to address the conflicting definitions of STRs. Governor Sisolak has deemed STRs as "Essential Businesses" during the COVID lock down and phased reopening. My question is: If STRs are "Essential Businesses", how can they be allowed in residential areas? Additionally, if they are considered Essential Businesses, shouldn't they have to follow CDC guidelines for cleaning and occupancy regulations? Especially now, during the COVID pandemic, I am very concerned about the spread of the virus with high occupancy numbers and multiple families and groups (often from multiple states) renting STRs and then utilizing the same essential services, such as food stores, pharmacies, Post Office, etc. as residents.

Respectfully,  
Mary Lou Kennedy  
Incline Village resident

**From:** [Nick Maiocco](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Todoroff, Pete](#); [CSD - Short Term Rentals: ims919@sbcglobal.net](#); [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**Subject:** No on STRs  
**Date:** Monday, August 03, 2020 2:13:16 PM

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We see there is a proposal for STR that will be read later this month by the board of commissioners. Here is a little chapter in our lives here for the month of July and there are many more in this community that have stories similar and worse.

Issues in July- I call police 4 times for noise complaints and once to the fire department for an outdoor fire on the deck. Wrote to Washoe county commissioners, SR Planner, Washoe county health, Airbnb on 5 parking issues, and not following public health concern with Covid cleaning while turning over house with less than 4 hours between tenants.

All events have been documented and/or videoed.

We had a bear break into our garage on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and we didn't have any garbage in our cans, cars, or nearby areas. We have never had one, ever, and it's due to STR leaving over stuffed garbage and coolers outside. Who will pay for this since we have tenants not following the rules and continue on even though there are ordinances? We as residents should not have to police our neighborhoods and have to call a "hotline". By this point, we are already frustrated, inconvenienced, and anxious. We have been doing this with owners and police. Most of these issues are not reported. I can guarantee you that our complaints are just the tip of the iceberg of residents fed up with policing our own neighborhoods.

We pay our taxes to the government to protect and serve our communities and elect the officials to help with this. The Washoe county commissioners have not represented the residents as there are many residents in Incline Village against STRs and we have basically been unheard for many years.

Meeting minutes:

*Commissioner Lucey emphasized "he did not want to see any kind of ban on rental properties in the County. He pointed out Lake Tahoe was a good draw for people to visit the community and home owners should not be excluded from sharing their homes. He indicated short-term rentals improved air quality and sacrificing short term rentals could have a negative impact on tourism, resulting in financial suffering. He pointed out there was only one hotel in the area and, without short-term rentals, people would not have a place to stay. He summarized the discussion should be about the Board drafting good policy which laid out how the County would interact with owners and renters."*

**We have not seen any studies supporting any of these statements. Our community is not a business that should be collecting tax revenue for Reno/Sparks RSVCA. Our neighborhood is not**

**a commercial area. We are part of a community that deserves to be protected and heard. We raise our families here. We are asking for transparency and to be considered.**

Commissioner Berkbigler agreed that issues were not always caused just by renters. She commented the problems were not as significant in Incline Village and Crystal Bay as they were in South Lake Tahoe. She felt nothing could be addressed without regulations. She stressed she did not want to make it too difficult for people to rent out their homes, but issues such as noise, disruption, and trash needed to be addressed. She said the County needed to work with realtors. She wondered whether it would be worthwhile to include a provision where an owner either needed to be within a two-hour drive of the property or have a local host. She moved to begin the process of drafting an ordinance or some regulations.

**Incline Village is NOT just made up of realtors. We know many realtors in our area and are well aware of how lucrative STRs are for them and for the management companies when they are rapidly turned over and over again. Residents are also very aware of how destructive this rapid turn over is to our safety and our environment.**

Long-term rentals of 28 days or more have been very successful in many other areas in the country. Taxes will still be collected for long-term rentals and will have less of an impact on our environment and will promote less of a “party” atmosphere in our neighborhoods.

In addition, most owners of STRs in Incline Village own more than 1 property, sometimes multiple properties and RITs. There are statistics and articles proving and backing up this fact. This is considered a business. These property owners are running a hotel business in the middle of our neighborhoods. Please explain how you have allowed this to happen. Citizens should be represented by our board and commissioners, not by lobbyists and businesses.

Why can't the STR ban be balloted and put to vote?

30 year resident  
Nick Maiocco

**From:** [Stephen Pearce](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Regarding the proposed STR ordinance for Incline Village Washoe County  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 05, 2020 10:47:32 PM

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I have the following questions about the proposed ordinance on STRs:

- Do the parking spaces have to be designated by lines painted on the property and do they have to be hard top such as tarmac supported within property boundaries?
- In using them to calculate maximum occupancy should 2 or 4 people per car be used? Presumably SUVs like mine with 7 seats would not be a valid calculation.
- In general how is occupancy calculated, for example number of bedrooms x2 or can rooms with large numbers of beds be counted?
- How are minors counted in the calculation of maximum occupancy, presumably same as adults?
- How do lavatories/bathrooms fit into the calculation, for example should a house have at least as many bathrooms as half the number of maximum occupants advertised?
- Can it be a violation for a renter to exceed the maximum occupancy limits? How are renters held accountable?
- Other parts of the world also limit the number of days per year that a property can be treated as an STR or have a minimum stay length, does Washoe plan on imposing something like that?
- Is there any chance Washoe might impose hotel ordinances and penalties on STRs? If so where can those be found?
- Lastly the fine/penalties are also a little vague and it is suggested that an increasing scale relative to the number of violations be imposed but could it not also be related to the revenue per night gathered from a particular property and some deterring multiple of that?

Warm regards,

Stephen

From: [Kip Tonking](#)  
To: [Susan Davis](#), [Maura Kelly](#), [Dorothy Morley](#), [Susannah Miller](#)  
Subject: 5756 Pineda Village  
Date: Wednesday, August 05, 2020 7:32:33 PM

**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County – **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.

Good evening Maura,  
Great talking to you today. This is what I come home to at the STR next door after work! That should bring the bears in tonight. Hope they don't take out my garagedoor like they did last year. No one should have to live next to people like this with no respect of our neighborhood or wildlife. In the 25years of living here I have never seen thing like this.I don't know I can stay in my home.  
Please help us!  
Kip Tonking







Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Keli Maiocco](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#)  
**Cc:** [nmaiocco@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nmaiocco@sbcglobal.net)  
**Subject:** Letter of complaint regarding STRs to be read and made part of public record for WC Commissioners meeting Aug 25, 2020  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:10:59 PM

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Commissioners and Board Members,

I have been a resident in the same neighborhood in Incline Village since 1995. When you call Tahoe your home, you desperately want it to remain “The Gem” that it has always been known. I do not want to restrict others from enjoying Lake Tahoe, but with the Covid Pandemic driving everyone out of cities and hot spots, it is impossible to accommodate everyone who wants to be here all at once without ruining our environment, over using our infrastructures, and endangering others by neglecting fire codes, wildlife, and traffic/parking rules.

While acknowledging the many hours multiple staff has spent on the proposed STR ordinances, they do not protect our residents since the number, location, and density is not limited. Building codes and definitions of “transient housing” and “business” are not clear. Plus the ordinance does not require any sort of residency to obtain a permit.

The suggested “hotline” does nothing to help the level of frustration that is felt by residents when they are watching illegal wood burning fire throw sparks in the air, are woken in the middle of the night by noise and bright flashing Christmas lights, or are trying to pay for a new garage door after a bear break-in when STR garbage and coolers are outside. All of these events (and more) are cause for anxiety and stress with EVERY tenant change which could happen anywhere from 4-8 times per month (possibly more). As I write, a new group has checked in next door and I am already “on alert” as I see the open wood burning stove on the deck and hear the voices of several young men with 4 cars in the drive. That is only on one side of my home. The other side I can see the cleaning crew getting ready for yet another check-in which fills me with dread.

The STR ordinance cannot guarantee compliance, discipline, or removal of the STR, only fines. Fines do not benefit the residents. This raises the question of where the manpower will come from and be paid for inspections, permits, patrolling, and disciplinary action. Most importantly to the residents, how long will we have to suffer as the ordinances due process plays out?

Other communities have banned STRs successfully and continue to host visitors in a safe and enjoyable environment. South Lake Tahoe and Hawaii just to name a few popular tourist areas. Longer term rentals can still bring in revenue while keeping our environment, residents AND visitors SAFE. Please consider the above issues. The Pandemic continues to grow, so will the complaints and problems.

Thank you for the chance to be heard.

Respectfully,

Keli Maiocco

553 Len Way

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Alexander Tsigdinos](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Public input to the Short-term Rental (SRT) Policy at the Commission's 8/25 meeting  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 12:52:28 PM

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Please read my email at the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting on 8/25/20 and make it part of the public record.

Dear Washoe County Commissioners,

Re: Short-term Rental (SRT) Policy

I'm writing to urge you to adopt much more stringent regulations on STRs in Incline Village/Crystal Bay – much as Las Vegas has done -- than those currently drafted.

As an Incline Village homeowner since 2004, I've seen firsthand the dramatic increase in sustained tourism here -- over the last five years in particular. Given the persistent crowds, traffic congestion, dangerous illegal parking and what's best described as just generally uncivil behavior, it seems as if the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend now lasts all summer. This new reality is especially disheartening during this pandemic: Just as state public health guidelines in both California and Nevada advise citizens to stay home and to limit travel and group exposure, tourists continue to overwhelm the Tahoe Basin. We already feel the long-term effects and stress on our fragile environment, public health and community.

The surge in visitors is directly linked to the proliferation of STRs, enabled and commercialized on an industrial scale, by online platforms such as VRBO, Air B&B and Vacasa. Over time, the increasingly negative impact SRTs have on communities favored by tourism is universal, be it in Lisbon, Venice Berlin, Dublin, Seattle, Las Vegas, South Lake Tahoe or Incline. One only need Google terms such as "communities banning short-term rentals" for examples. The basic progression is as follows.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->First, local primary residents make additive income by occasional renting a room or their apartment/condo/house while they are out of town. This worked in Tahoe for decades.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Second, affluent individuals, real estate groups, and companies -- get into the SRT business by buying up multiple properties solely for financial return and effectively inserting commercial lodging into residential-zoned neighborhoods. (Ask yourself, would it be OK if someone effectively turned the residence next door to yours into a hotel that hosted one nightly bacchanalia after another? And if such a conversion of a residence into a commercial enterprise is acceptable in defiance of zoning laws, would then conversions residences into stores,

restaurants, dance clubs or other commercial enterprises also be acceptable?)

• Third, communities come under growing pressure as available housing units for local residents are removed from the market (directly competing with other government initiatives to increase affordable housing); first-responders, public facilities and local infrastructure become overtaxed; and the community and environment frays.

• Fourth and finally, a boiling point is reached when the community loses its identity to become a sort of “Disneyland” (e.g., DisneyVenice, DisneyTahoe) resulting in a severe political backlash in which SRTs are banned outright and/or heavily taxed – but only after real and lasting damage has already been done. Everyone loses.

Experience tells me we are already well into phase three of the above. We can avoid further digression by adopting SRT policies with real teeth, much as our fellow south Nevadans have done. If we don’t, experience elsewhere has shown we will “kill the goose that laid the golden egg.” The communities of Incline/Crystal Bay -- your constituents -- will no longer be recognizable.

In closing, I’ll add that I was nearly dissuaded from writing to you by a friend and neighbor. He told me I’ll merely be written off as a “NIMBY neighborhood crank” and would “... waste my time, as the money is behind STRs and the money always wins.”

I disagree with those cynical assertions. My hope is that the long-term interests of this beautiful area your constituents will prevail over the short-term interests of real estate investors out to make a buck. As our County Commissioners, please take another hard look at the SRT policy as drafted, take the community input of actual residents to heart, and act accordingly.

Sincerely,

Alex P. Tsigdinos  
LCDR, USN (Ret.)  
1080 Oxen Rd.  
Incline Village, NV

**From:** [JOSEPH FARRELL](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#)  
**Cc:** [Edie Farrell](#); [Sara Schmitz](#); [Nick Maiocco](#); [Nick Maiocco](#); [Ronda Tycer](#); [Todoroff, Pete](#); [Diane Heirsberg](#); [Judy Miller](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** STR Additional Suggestions  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 10:46:24 AM

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Hi Marsha:

Thanks for going to bat for Incline Village in terms of STR's and also a belated thank you for all the work you have done over the years to bring the Tax Revolt against the county to a hopeful end!

**Additional STR Suggestions that could be instituted sooner than later (Short of Banning STR's):**

1. Mandate a rental license with a high fee for those wishing to rent as a STR.
2. Cleaning requirements: Mandate certification by Washoe County Health department that the STR meets CDC cleaning requirements AND that the home be vacant 72 hours post cleaning prior to new renters coming into the STR. As I mentioned today on the ZOOM call, Marriott Corporation has a stringent cleaning requirement due to COVID and does not rent a hotel room or timeshare until 72 hours has passed post cleaning.
3. Mandate NLTFPD defensible space certification for all STR's.
4. Mandate bear boxes. HOWEVER, some STR's house up to 12 people who generate a lot of garbage. Over the 4th of July Weekend our neighbors STR's left a number of garbage bags in an open garage since the Bear Box had reached capacity. A gift to bears. How can we police this?
5. Mandate significant "fines" for multiple infractions of the STR regulations. After 3 infractions, the STR owner is BANNED from renting forever.
6. **Define STR as a property owner renting their home for a MINIMUM of 28 days. This has worked in Hawaii and I believe an outdated Washoe Co. ordinance also had a 28 day minimal rental timeframe??**
7. Another Key issue is how the regulations will be enforced? E.g. is it up to neighbors of STR to be the enforcers????
8. Bottom line: if we can not achieve a ban on STR. let's attempt to make the regulations so stringent that home owners will not want the hassle or expense of becoming a STR property.

Should I go on the [washoe311@washoecounty.us](mailto:washoe311@washoecounty.us) and post the above or will this email suffice.  
Thanks again.

Kind Regards,

Joe

Joe Farrell  
546 Cole Circle  
IV, NV  
Cell #: 925-980-4888

**From:** [Ellie](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Cc:** [Erin Casey Placer County](#); [Todd Leopold Placer CEO](#); [William Penzel](#); [lwalsh@douglasnv.us](#); [wrice@douglasnv.us](#); [David "Dave Nelson](#); [John Engels](#); [John Marshall TRPA Legal](#); [Joanne Marchetta TRPA](#); [Sue Novasel TRPA GB](#); [Bill Yeates TRPA GB](#)  
**Subject:** Washoe County Vacation Home Rental/STR PROBLEM MUST be addressed immediately Comments for the Record August 25, 2020 meeting  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 9:12:56 PM

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Washoe County Commissioners,  
Washoe County Vacation Home Rental/STR PROBLEM MUST be addressed immediately Comments for the Record August 25, 2020 meeting

Much like Lake Tahoe in Douglas County Nevada, the Vacation Home Rental PROBLEM has escalated beyond anyone's perceptions. South Lake Tahoe is ridden with not your regular type vacationers but large groups of younger people that respect nothing in the way of private property rights, quiet neighborhoods and just plain courtesy to fellow human beings.

Several comments have been submitted and verbally (public comment during Douglas County Board of County Commissioners 8-18-2020, 8-12-2020, etc.) expressed in the past several weeks about the nuisance level issues of trash, rudeness, parking on streets, etc.

Enforcement is difficult to keep up with and Douglas County has recently released the following information. A new third party contractor has been hired to address the overwhelming enforcement issues.

[Douglas County Public Information Officer Melissa Blosser • 1 day ago](#)

[Douglas County Advises the Public About Process for Reporting VHR Issues.](#) Stateline NV- Douglas County would like to advise the public the process for reporting issues with Vacation Home Rental (VHR) properties in the Tahoe Township in Douglas County has changed. Effective immediately, a new third part administer, HdL, will handle VHR complaints.

The Douglas County Sheriff's Office will continue to handle noise and parking violations. As a reminder, a VHR is defined as one or more dwelling units, including either a single-family, detached or multiple-

family attached unit, rented for the purpose of overnight lodging for a period of not more than 28 days.

“It is important to the County that we provide a way for our residents and visitors to effectively report issues and concerns involving VHR’s,” said Patrick Cates, Douglas County Manager. “Moving forward we will work in collaboration with the Sheriff’s Office and HdL to resolve and respond to complaints in a timely manner.”

Noise and Parking Complaints For non-emergency issues the Douglas County Sheriff’s Office will respond in person to any complaints related to noise and/or parking. In these cases, please contact Douglas County Sheriff’s Office non-emergency line at 775-782-5126.

If you feel there is a true emergency, please call 911.

All Other Complaints Non noise or parking complaints should be directed to HdL.

HdL work diligently to investigate and resolve complaints received. Please contact HdL at: Email address: [DouglasCounty@hdlgov.com](mailto:DouglasCounty@hdlgov.com)

Phone: (775) 238-4135 HdL is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If a complaint is made after hours, HdL will initiate an investigation and take necessary action the following business day.

**You as County Commissioners MUST take an active roll in fixing this problem NOW.**

**Maybe it's time for TRPA to also take an active roll in this systemic problem as this is a REGIONAL LAKE TAHOE ISSUE.**

Respectfully, Ellie Waller Douglas County Resident, Lake Tahoe is my Backyard

**From:** [Margaret Martini](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed STRS in Incline Village and the discussion at the August 25th Commission meeting.  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 6:26:35 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello all,

Please read this email at the commission meeting of Augusts 25, 2020 and make it part of the public record for same meeting...thank you !

We all appreciate your efforts to bring forth an ordinance to deal with the issues of short term rentals in Incline Village.

Incline Village is located in one of the most susceptible areas for fire! We are in a basin surrounded by uphill slopes. A perfect fire storm. Even worse than the Paradise aka Camp fire as far as spread of fire is concerned. Your proposed STR regs will pack our Village with perhaps thousands (that is NOT an exaggeration based on the number of homes and condos here) during PEAK FIRE SEASON. The road capacity just will not handle the exodus if a fire starts. STR's bring multiple cars adding to the residents cars all vying for the same 3 inadequate escape routes. There is gridlock on all roads with no fire !Local residents will be blocked by a plethora of confused visitors not knowing escape routes. We do not have the numbers of police/fire personnel to handle the mass exodus trying to escape fire.

Your inadequate and ill planned STR proposal is a safety disaster for our community residents. The number of STR's must be limited at a reasonable number like perhaps 200-300 with a maximum time period of years to be then going at the bottom of the list for permits in a rotation manner. This is a reasonable solution for safety.

After reading the proposed ordinance and comparing it to the effective ordinance that Las Vegas has there are the following deficiencies in your proposed ordinance that are very apparent in the Las Vegas ordinance:

- Considered a commercial use, requiring a business license
- STR can have no more than 3 bedrooms (this cuts down on parking issues also)
- Occupancy is limited to 2 people over 12 years of age per bedroom +2
- Maximum daytime occupancy is limited to 1 1/2 times night time occupancy
- STR's in HOA's must show a letter from the HOA documenting approved use as an STR
- Must list on permit all hosting platforms on which the STR is advertised on line
- Evacuation map and emergency numbers permanently listed in all bedrooms
- Vehicles must be parked on site-not in adjacent right of ways. This is a must in snow country where street parking is illegal during plowing
- Prohibit sound producing devices at the exterior of the property.
- No weddings, parties or similar events allowed. Homes are not public venues
- Business license required
- Suspension of license upon 2<sup>nd</sup> violation over a 2 year period. Permit denied if violating any provision in Ordinance

- No STR closer than 600 feet to any other STSR residence
- Dwelling must be occupied by owner during rental period.
- Floor plan identifying bedrooms and living spaces including bedroom occupied by owner during rentals.

In Incline due to our rural area it would be mandatory that tenants were informed by a form stating trash disposal, parking regulations, exiting the area in an emergency, protecting our bears and wildlife and our noise ordinance. The form must be signed by all who intend to occupy.

This IS POSSIBLE because it is already being done and in place in the second largest tourist area in our state. Doesn't Incline village deserve the same protections and safety that Las Vegas has ?

If they can protect their neighborhoods then so should you protect ours. We have much more risk of a catastrophic fire and for sure STR renters have not shown much respect for fire hazards and evacuation.

Thank you for presenting this correspondence to those who will be making the decisions that will impact our community and residents.

*Margaret Martini*

**From:** [dhjunk](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); "[Kathy Emerson](#)"  
**Subject:** STRs  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 5:21:55 PM

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**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

I would like this email read and be included as part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioners Meeting on 8/25/2020.

We have used VRBO and AirB&B many times for our vacations. However, we are responsible and respectful renters. What is happening in Incline Village is ruining our town and is a danger to our environment!

- Permitting Process: (ex. fees, fines, review times, etc.)

If there is not a permit, there needs to be one (in addition to the taxes Washoe County is receiving). There need to be stiff and enforceable fines to the owners if any of their tenants violate any of the rules (see below).

There should be an owner or someone who can respond to go to the property within 30 minutes. This is required in many vacation communities and keeps the owners responsible for any mayhem.

- Fire and Guest Safety: (ex. defensible space, smoke detectors, structures meeting code standards, etc.)

This is a huge concern! I have seen fires started in back yards and on decks. We do not want our town burned down due to ignorant and irresponsible renters.

- Occupancy Limits: (ex. number of guests allowed per room, home, etc.)

There should be a minimum of 10 night stay, preferable 14 days. This would at least weed out the weekend parties that are causing most of the issues. Homes should be limited to 2 people per room, no more than 8 in a home. If they want a party venue, then they need to go to a hotel that accommodates that, not our neighborhoods. A hotel can at least kick them out. Many owners that rent do not care, as long as they are making money and will do nothing. Therefore, we are required to call the sheriff, which is a careless use of our sheriff's time and resources.

- Parking: (ex. adequate off-street parking spaces, designated parking areas, etc.)

Limit parking to 2 cars per property. When they come with more than 2 cars, it's always a problem. They had the nerve to park in our driveway and then cuss us out when we told them they could not park there.

In the winter, we cannot have cars on the road inhibiting the snow plows and causing danger.

- Trash: (ex. placement or volume of trash, bear-proofing, etc.)

Each property should be required to have a bear box and if that bear box is not used or there is excess trash, a fine of \$1000/day should be assessed. We do not need any more bears roaming around and breaking into garages.

- Noise: (ex. excessive noise, late-night/early morning noise, etc.)

We had a huge VRBO group drinking and partying in our street and they actually drove a car off the cliff! Other than the obnoxious noise, my concern was the car starting a fire in the brush. This is NOT acceptable!

We **live** in our neighborhoods. The weekend renters are partiers with no care about anyone who actually lives here. When they are loud all day and their dog barks incessantly, they don't care, because they are leaving the next day. I realize this is extra income for Washoe County, however, WE, the local residents of Washoe County are paying the price.

Many other resort towns have had to put into place some enforceable restrictions, fines and limits in place, in order to maintain the integrity and origin of their town. The time has come for Washoe County to please honor and respect OUR real estate purchase and taxes, and do the same.

Thank you,  
Diane Higgins  
Incline Village Resident



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** [Bill Tamblyn](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rental (STR"s)  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 4:07:57 PM

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To Whom It Concerns:

I appreciate the desire to address problem situations, but a blanket policy, as proposed is stifling to individuals who wish to have some income from a property.

This appears to be a bureaucratic pitch for permit funding to support aspects of the county.

Example: The fact that if I stay in my property - there is no noise restriction, but if it's rented - it has quite hours from 10pm to 7am. Isn't there an overall common 'quiet hours' that is enforced? Why create a new "class" to enforce? The claim that there were 64 noise incidents - doesn't clarify that they were ALL STR candidate properties.

This looks like a grab for fees. The fees will have to increase regularly - such as fire inspections etc. to address compliance. I believe there are already overworked inspectors to address current infrastructure and housing in the county. Adding this complexity will not be favorable.

We already have an "occupancy tax" for short term rentals - what are the owners of STR's receiving for the increased revenues to the county? Has there been consideration of "what if" the current short term rental folks STOP renting out? That revenue will decrease - but you may think it will go to hotels.....hotels won't have capacity.

Bottomline - the extensive rules for STR's seem like overkill to existing laws that are in place. Respectfully, as a owner of property in Washoe County - I believe this is excessive and not of significant value.

Regards

Bill Tamblyn

**From:** [Judith Simon](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Cc:** [Judith Michaels Simon](#); [David Simon](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rental  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 3:06:59 PM

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To: Washoe County Commissioners

From: Judith Simon, Incline Village

I request that this e-mail be read and made a part of the public record.

I understand that on August 25, 2020 you will be reviewing the latest iteration of the Short Term Rental Ordinance. I object to several provisions in the Ordinance; briefly, the ordinance does not limit the number of STRs in Incline Village nor outline their locations. Additionally the Ordinance does not require that STR property owners actually reside in Incline, nor to be present when the rentals occur.

Unlimited STRs lead long-term, far-reaching problems, both in public safety and in the quality of life in our neighborhoods. I urge you to

- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Limit the size and number of bedrooms, defining dwellings having more than 3 bedrooms as commercial use, requiring a business license.
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Limit occupancy to 1 person per 200 square feet
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Require STRs to list hosting platforms
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Require emergency/evacuation maps, with emergency telephone numbers affixed in each bedroom
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Limit vehicle parking to on-site, not in adjacent public right of way.
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Prohibit sound-producing devices outdoors as well as prohibiting large parties, receptions, and similar events.
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Verify that applicants owning dwellings that are part of a HOA document that the HOA approves of the STR.

**From:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Comments for your consideration Prior to the Upcoming August 25, 2020 Hearing on Draft Short Term Rental Ordinance  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:32:34 PM

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**From:** Diane Heirshberg <[dbheirshberg@gmail.com](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** Brown, Eric P. <[EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us](mailto:EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us)>  
**Cc:** Berkbigler, Marsha <[MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us](mailto:MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us)>  
**Subject:** Comments for your consideration Prior to the Upcoming August 25, 2020 Hearing on Draft Short Term Rental Ordinance

**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

Diane L. Becker

(805) 290-2779

[dbheirshberg@gmail.com](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com)

April 19, 2020

Re: Short Term Rental Ordinance Set for Hearing August 25, 2020

Dear County Manager Mr. Eric P. Brown,

I am writing this letter to follow-up on our conversation last week. As I expressed to you, the Short-Term Rental Ordinance is the single most important concern to Incline Village at this time because of the very difficult experiences which so many local residents are having with what can only be described as "bad" STR visitors in their neighborhoods.

I respectfully submit that the current draft STR Ordinance is contrary to the direction almost all other local government entities at the Lake and in Southern Nevada are taking with respect to STRs, and some of the provisions are based on what Staff perceives are directions from the Commissioners, not necessarily what Staff as prudent planners would have drafted as in the best interests of Incline and others.

Other local governmental entities in Southern Nevada, around the Lake, and across the United States have been endeavoring to protect local residents and residential neighborhoods from the harmful effects of STRs, while still allowing STRs to operate in residential neighborhoods. I believe that a Washoe County STR Ordinance could be drafted that is both protective of the character of residential neighborhoods and at the same time would not unfairly interfere with the ability for Incline property owners to offer their residences for rentals as STRs, as I will discuss below.

I will also review below several problems with the current draft Ordinance, as well as deficiencies in the process leading to the final draft of the Ordinance. I urge you to thoughtfully consider the lack of fair and equitable process in developing the Ordinance, and also the risks to the County, STR visitors, and IVCB residents and neighborhoods, if these deficiencies in the current draft of the STR Ordinance are not corrected, or if a process is not put in place to correct them via a public

comment and amendment process.

**1. A Discussion of Select Significant Problems with the Current Draft Ordinance That Will Likely Lead to Further Nuisance, Noise, Parking, Trash and Other Potential Problems in Local Neighborhoods; These Problems Could Be Injurious to STR Visitors and IVCB Neighborhoods and the County.**

While at pages 4-5 the Staff Memorandum states that “Most jurisdictions in southern Nevada and around Lake Tahoe have already established or are working to establish standards...due to the relative newness of standards for this type of use, there is limited consensus in how STRs are regulated...” I disagree with the conclusion that “there is limited consensus”, because there is great consensus/consistency in str ordinance provisions addressing many of the key issues to protect neighborhoods, in the STR Ordinances around the Lake and in Southern Nevada.

**A. Occupancy Limits of the draft Washoe County STR Ordinance Are Not Consistent with STR Ordinances of Other Local Jurisdictions; The Washoe County Ordinance Maximizes Occupancy in a Way That Will Lead to Excess Noise, Nuisance and Parking Problems in Incline Village/Crystal Bay Residential Neighborhoods (“IVCB”), and Adds Increased Risk of Liability for Injury and Damages to STR Visitors and IVCB Neighborhoods.**

At page 3 of Staff’s July 24, 2020 Memorandum (“Staff Memorandum”) the method for calculating occupancy is set at “one occupant per 200 sq. ft. of habitable space”, rather than being based on persons times the number of permitted bedrooms, which is the basis in all of the other local jurisdictions at the Lake and in Southern Nevada. Use of the standard of occupants per permitted bedroom would have resulted in fewer potential individuals in each STR rental. Page 3 of the Staff Memorandum states that this “standard” is from the International Building Code (“IBC”) which was adopted by Washoe County.

Local residents urged that to reduce noise, parking, trash, crime and public nuisance problems, the County adopt protective provisions from the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Short-Term Rental Neighborhood Compatibility Guidelines for Local Jurisdictions, a copy of which I sent to you attached to my last email (“TRPA Guidelines”). The TRPA Guidelines recommended 2 persons per bedroom. Local residents urged the County to adopt the standard of 2 persons per bedroom + 2 persons, which is the current standard around the Lake and in Southern Nevada. To give you examples of occupancy limits from other STR Ordinances:

Placer County: 2 people per permitted bedroom +2 persons

El Dorado: 2 people per permitted bedroom + 2 persons

Douglas County: 2 people per permitted bedroom + 2 persons

City of Henderson: 4 people in first permitted bedroom + 2 for each other bedroom

City of Las Vegas: 2 people per permitted bedroom

(Some ordinances allow for the addition for children under specified age limits, i.e. 5 yrs.)

The standard based on permitted bedrooms is easy to apply and requires far

less inspection for the other IBC requirements discussed below, than the IBC standard of one occupant per 200 sq. ft. of habitable space.

If believe that if you ask Moira Hauenstein, who I understand is an architect, she will hopefully confirm to you that there are risks to the public health and safety in selecting one small provision out of the IBC, without requiring the many other provisions of the IBC which contain many other life safety protections and limitations that are ignored in the current draft Ordinance. The additional IBC requirements which support the one occupant per 200 sq. foot calculation cannot be met in the bulk of the homes in IVCB which are older homes and pre-date the IBC, such as:

- a) Gas appliance fireplaces are required in most IVCB homes, as wood burning fireplaces are not generally allowed due to TRPA's Chapter 91.3B (unless the fireplace was grandfathered in, or with strict limitations). The IBC requires that a gas fireplace in a sleeping room must have a sealed combustion chamber rating so that no carbon monoxide can escape from the unit. This is not required in living rooms and other non-sleeping rooms where gas fireplace installations are not required to have sealed combustion chambers. Therefore, the County is unintentionally putting STR visitors at risk by causing them to sleep in rooms which may have fireplaces with unsealed combustion chambers, potentially subjecting sleepers to carbon monoxide poisoning.
- b) The IBC does not allow a door to lead directly from a garage to a sleeping room, again to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning from a garage. In older IVCB homes and condominiums. I am told that it is common to find doors between living rooms and garages, rendering the non-bedroom sleeping areas dangerous.
- c) The IBC has code provisions for required light and ventilation for different rooms, and this is very important for bedrooms. Many living room/den/office rooms will not have adequate ventilation to meet sleeping room requirements. Some living rooms/dens/offices that are built into hillsides, etc. will not meet light requirements for sleeping rooms.
- d) The IBC has required egress from bedrooms that is not required for other rooms, again for safety if escape is required. For example, many condominium projects in Incline have lofts which have no windows at all for emergency egress, and others have windows that do not meet IBC size standards to allow for egress. An example of how dangerous this can be is the case a year or so ago where a young man was visiting alone in a home, and slept in a loft that had no windows for egress; he died in a fire because there was no window egress from the loft available to him.
- e) Separate from the IBC, electrical codes for bedrooms require ARC and Ground fault interrupters, whereas living rooms, etc. do not. This is to protect sleepers using electric blankets and other heating systems which contain transformers in them. If an electrical system does not have an ARC, the transformer can over-heat and cause a fire when a person is sleeping, because the breaker does not shut off. A person sleeping can then die from smoke and fumes when the breaker does not shut off. In the winter, electric blankets are common in the mountains.

In short, living rooms, dens, offices, media rooms, etc., do not meet other code and other IBC safety requirements for sleeping rooms. STR visitors are strangers to a home who have no knowledge of the home and who need to be protected from unknown dangers. Although page 8 of the Staff Memorandum states that areas proposed for sleeping purposes have specific safety feature requirements based in existing, adopted codes, if the inspections really do a thorough list of requirements, including those above, and all the other related IBC requirements, and there are actually inspections of all of the IBC, IRC and NEC requirements, these requirements cannot be met by many of the homes in IVCB which are STRs, and the burden on the inspectors/inspections will be huge. So much easier to count permitted bedrooms!

At a minimum, if the County does continue to utilize the one person per 200 feet limitation, at least to protect the STR visitors (and neighbors from fire), the Ordinance should require that any approved sleeping area other than a permitted bedroom must meet the standards of the 2018 IBC, 2018 IRC and the 2017 NEC for sleeping areas. But then you still would need to specify a standard for the majority of the homes in IVCB which will not meet those standards in non-bedroom areas.

**B. It is Crucial that Parking for STR Visitors be Limited to Actual Available Parking Spaces on Site, and that the STR Visitors be Advised as to the Number of Cars and Vehicles (Boats, etc.) They Can Bring**

The Commissioners expressed at the public hearing on the last draft of the Orders that they did not want to impose difficult parking requirements for STR visitors, I think because they believe that IVCB has streets and street parking similar to Reno. This assumption incorrect as IVCB has different topography and has very different requirements for snow, snow removal and snow storage from November to May.

The requirement of one parking space for every four proposed occupants does not limit the number of cars and additional vehicles (boats, trailers, etc.) that visitors can bring to the home to actual available onsite parking spaces. There needs to be a limitation on the total number of cars that can be brought to an STR home based on available on-site parking, based on a parking map. This is common in other STR Ordinances around the Lake, and was recommended in the TRPA Guidelines, due to the particular issues which impact IVCB and other Lake communities. STR Visitors bring RVs and boats and boat trailers with no place to park them and then park illegally around IVCB.

There is a tremendous shortage of parking spaces in IVCB, due to the many narrow streets with insufficient room for any street parking at all, the lack of onsite parking provided for in the older developments, and the fact that public streets in IVCB are used for snow storage during the winter. Effective November 1 – May 1 of each year, to allow for snow storage and removal of snow from the roads, street parking is prohibited under Washoe County Snow Removal Regulations, Chapter 70.425 and 70.437.

Please consider speaking with Rich Thomsen about the problems encountered by the County when the snow plows hit cars illegally parked on public streets. When cars are illegally parked on public streets during snow plowing, this can and has caused the plows to be disabled, and I assume could lead to potential claims against the County for damage to individual's cars as there are no signs posted with this requirement.

Further, because most areas do not have no parking signs in the winter, it is also critical that visitors are advised that there is no street parking during the winter due to the need for snow removal on streets in IVCB.

Additionally, the County has snow storage areas all over IVCB at the sides of all streets, as there is more snow in most years than can be accommodated just by

building the snow up at the sides of the streets. If a location has been used for years by the County for snow storage, and if the County and an STR owner assume that the area in the street will be available for over-flow parking by STR visitors during permitting, that is an error that will lead to future problems for all.

Finally, local residents have requested that the STR Ordinance require that garages be made available for parking of STR visitor cars, if the garages are counted as available in the on-site parking requirement. In IVCB, many homes that are STRs do not allow parking in their garages, because the garages are locked with the personal belongings and a car of a local owner left for their own use. A garage retained for the owner's private use should not be counted towards on-site parking.

### **C. Annual (At Each Permit Renewal) and Unscheduled Health and Safety Inspections of STRs are Needed**

One of the few protections that local residents and neighborhoods had in the prior draft of the STR Ordinance was inspections, both annually at re-permitting and unannounced for certain purposes. If you review Ordinances from other areas and the TRPA Guidelines, annual inspections at permit renewal and unscheduled inspections are included for life safety issues.

The unannounced inspection provision has been removed per Board direction at the February, 2020 Board of Commissioners hearing because some property managers urged that this could be abused by the county or our local Sheriffs or Fire Officials. The annual pre-permit renewal inspection was changed to after three years at re-permitting.

Removing unscheduled inspections is dangerous both to future STR visitors and to neighborhoods. One example of how important such inspections are, is a recent red-tagging of a home on Lakeshore, where an STR owner, in order to maximize revenues, had illegally and without permits converted the garage into a large, dormitory style sleeping room to maximize revenues, and had illegally run a gas line and put a unpermitted, illegal heater in the garage, which could have led to carbon monoxide poisoning of STR visitors sleeping in the garage. The Fire District did an inspection and this was discovered, and the home was red tagged as not inhabitable. The red tagging by the Fire District potentially saved lives of visitors and neighbors!

The Douglas County Fire Chief spoke at one of the TRPA meetings and urged that all jurisdictions at the Lake include strong mandatory pre-permit and annual fire safety inspection provisions in their STR Ordinances because Douglas County Fire Department had found serious fire threats in 90% of its STR inspections, many requiring substantial remedial action before STR permits could be issued. Douglas County and IVCB both have a large number of older homes that pose fire dangers that need to be mitigated before being operated as an STR.

Self-certifications for almost a three-year period, with no monitoring are unfair to STR visitors and to neighborhoods, and are equivalent to no monitoring or inspections. It is urged that there should be inspections at each permit re-issuance annually.

Additionally, inspections for all fire issues should be done by qualified North Lake Tahoe Fire District personnel and Washoe County Code Enforcement personnel, and not by unqualified individual owners and their property personnel who have the incentive to save money and avoid making needed repairs.

### **D. Sanitary Provisions to Protect the STR Visitors and IVCB Residents Should be Added.**

I have seen more detailed discussions by other IVCB residents requesting cleaning/sanitation/safety procedures, which is an issue that was rejected out of hand by the County. I will not repeat their arguments here, with the exception of one. I

believe that Commissioner Berkbigler is currently attempting to get some cleanliness requirements included in the STR Ordinance, but I do not know if she will be able to do so. In any event, I think that this is another area where you as County Manager should double check on the legal analysis and get a written opinion as to why NRS Chapter 447 does not cover STRs, and as to why the County cannot include any health/sanitary/cleanliness provisions.

County Legal Staff has stated that Nevada Revised Statutes, Chapter 447, "Public Accommodations" does not apply to STRs because the STRs are residential and not hotels. Chapter 447 applies to "Hotels" and then defines Hotels at NRS 447.010 as "Hotel" means every building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public, whether with or without meals, including without limitation, a lodging house or rooming house where transient trade is solicited."

I urge you to consider why STR visitors do not deserve to come to clean facilities with proper ventilation and screens on windows. How is an STR not a "building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public." Please recall that when the request was made to close down STRs in IVCB when we had the highest incidence of COVID 19 infection in April, 2020 of any community at the Lake, and even though all other Lake communities had closed down STRs, you were told by Legal that the STRs could not be shut down because Governor Sisolak had included STRs as "Essential Businesses" along with hotels, motels, etc. in his March, 2020 Emergency Orders. It seems contradictory to treat STRs as Essential Businesses on the one hand, and then to say that cleanliness standards required of all "buildings .....held out to the public to be a place where sleeping... accommodations are furnished to the transient public..." are not applicable because an STR is not a business. Also, there are sanitary regulations in Washoe County for Bed and Breakfasts, which have more supervision because the B & B operator is present, which sanitary standards should at a minimum be imposed on STRs.

Additionally, consider that the State has considered health and safety and draft these sanitary and protective provisions after a great deal of thought. Don't the STR visitors coming here deserve the same minimum sanitary protections that they would receive at a local motel? Even the TRPA Guidelines recommend that "state law public accommodation requirements in state law be met" at page 3 under Example of Public Health and Safety Best Practices #5.

Further, please consider the ease of the spread of disease in tiny IVCB, with its one supermarket, Raley's, where almost everyone in the community shops, and its one small post office with insufficient room to social distance, where most people must go to the post office to get their mail as the post office does not deliver mail to many IVCB addresses; think of the potential injury to STR visitors, neighbors, neighborhoods and all of IVCB due to a lack of cleanliness and the spread of disease.

**E. Under the Current Draft Ordinance, STR Permits Could be Issued to Condominium and PUDs which have Express Provisions Disallowing STRs, in Violation of Nevada law NRS 116.340.**

I had discussed the subject of HOA CC&Rs prohibiting short term rentals with Commissioner Berkbigler and Kelly Mullin early in the STR discussions, and suggested to Kelly including language similar to that in Section 3(e)(i) and (ii) of the Henderson str ordinance, along the lines of the following:

"The applicant is required to: (a) certify that operation of the short-term rental would not violate any homeowners' association agreement, bylaws or covenants, conditions and restrictions, limiting the use of the house as a

short-term vacation rental, and (b) acknowledge that registration will not supersede any such private agreements."

Similar language was originally included by Ms. Mullin in the first draft that she circulated to the public, and it put no burden on the County, and allowed the County to comply with NRS 116.340, to avoid its permit being the cause of a breach of the CC&Rs by an STR owner who violated a CC&R covenant against short term renting. This was deleted by the Commissioners or Legal at the first reading of the first draft, even though it was in the draft circulated to the public.

For your information, the City of Henderson requires the confirmation by an applicant described above and the City of Las Vegas requires that an applicant provide the City with a document signed by the HOA approving the short-term rental. Other local jurisdictions at the Lake are allowing HOAs to send letters to the County's str permitting staff, including copies of their CC&Rs saying that no short-term rentals are allowed, and then the jurisdiction does not issue an STR permit under NRS 116.340. Washoe County has taken the position that the County is not bound by NRS 116.340, and further that it will not recognize letters from HOA enclosing CC&Rs with restrictions on short term renting, stating that HOAs and neighbors will have to sue the owner who breach the CC&Rs in Court. This will lead to a multiplicity of actions (an unnecessary burden on the Courts) and an unfair financial burden on the HOAs and non-breaching owners.

NRS 116.340 states, in pertinent part:

"1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a person who owns or directly or indirectly has an interest in, one or more units within a planned community that are restricted to residential use by the declaration may use that unit or one of those units for a transient commercial use only if:

(a) The governing documents of the association and any master association do not prohibit such use;

(b) The executive board of the association and any master association approve the transient commercial use of the unit...; and

(c) The unit is properly zoned for the transient commercial use and any license required by the local government for the transient commercial use is obtained.

...

4. As used in this section:

...

(b) Transient commercial use means the use of a unit, for remuneration, as a hostel, hotel, inn, motel, resort, vacation rental or other form of transient lodging if the term of the occupancy, possession or use of the unit is for less than 30 consecutive calendar days."

Including the language originally drafted by Ms. Mullin on this issue puts no burden on the County, allows the County to comply with NRS 116.340 and does not allow owners to breach the CC&Rs on this subject.

I am hoping that you will consider asking for further research on this subject to

confirm that such protection is appropriate under Nevada Revised Statute 116.340. The rest of the Lake and Southern Nevada believe that this provision applies.

I should add that it is possible that NRS 116.340 concerned someone at the County who mistakenly feared that such a clause in the application would allow owners outside of HOAs to assert that under their Declarations and Covenants restricting business activities would bar all STRs in Incline. NRS 116.340 only applies to planned communities as defined in the NRS, and that is a community that has an HOA that is a condominium or PUD, which has CC&Rs that prohibit short term renting.

**F. There are No Limitations on the Total Number of STRs in a Neighborhood, or on Density or Concentration, No Requirement that the Owner be a Resident rather than a Business Owned STR, No Protections for the Nuisance That Occurs When There is Too Much Concentration of STRs in a Small Area**

While several types of limitation are recommended in the TRPA Guidelines (limiting distance between STRs; limiting the number of days per month or times per month or per year that a rental is allowed, requiring that the home be a primary resident and not a business), etc.), the County has repeatedly stated that such limitations are illegal in Nevada, and that is the reason that they were never considered by the County. Also, the County has stated that there are no such limitations in any str ordinance anywhere in Nevada. Both of those premises are not correct, and I ask that these protections be considered now or at least in the future, if the Ordinance that is adopted does not get rid of the party houses and their noise, the trash problems, the parking problems, etc., because the premises were incorrect.

The City of Las Vegas Ordinance, for example, provides that an STR must be at least “660 feet from any other short-term residential rental.” I recently called Steve Swaton, of the Las Vegas Planning Department (702-229-4714) who is the person who wrote most of the latest City of Las Vegas STR Ordinance. I asked him why he felt that the provision requiring STRs to be 660 feet apart in the Las Vegas Ordinance was legal in Nevada, and he said that it was clearly legal, and that the purpose of this provision is to discourage conglomeration of STR uses in one area, in order to lessen the adverse impacts to the neighborhoods, which is necessary to further public health and safety and avoid nuisances of noise, traffic and crime problems from STRs. Mr. Swanton explained that the City of Las Vegas had realized that short term renters do not own the places they rent, and they come to party and do whatever they want to do, as they feel that they are not being watched. He said that this provision is lawful under the zoning regulation power and the power to promote health and safety. Mr. Swaton said that he is willing to talk with anyone in Washoe County Planning, about the limitation to 660 feet, the Las Vegas Ordinance, the detrimental impacts of party-house STRs on a neighborhood, etc.

The City of Las Vegas’ attorney approved the STR Ordinance including this provision; yet limitations were never even discussed in Washoe County because someone at the County said that such limitations on STRs were illegal in Nevada, which is apparently not correct.

The TRPA Guidelines included at Residential Compatibility Best Practices #2: “allow STR use in residential areas only if the home is occupied by a primary resident the majority of the year (i.e. make STRS an accessory use).” The rationale for this is to protect the neighbors, because an owner who is also a primary resident will be less likely to allow renters to disturb neighbors in the owner’s absence. Also, the entire basis for approval of STRs around Lake Tahoe by TRPA in or about 2007, was that the STRs would only be an accessory use by an owner who owned and lived in a home, and that such use would not be a burden on residential neighborhoods, and that is why each local jurisdiction, including Washoe County, are even allowed to have STRs. Washoe County even signed a Memorandum of Understanding with TRPA that its noise, parking, trash, nuisance and other local ordinances would be enforced to protect the quality of the neighborhoods. If you would like a copy of that MOU or a history of the basis for TRPA’s decision to allow STRs around Lake Tahoe, I can provide these.

One thought for Staff is that perhaps, STRs that are an “accessory use” by a resident could be treated differently than an STR that is owned by people who do not ever or rarely live in the STR house or by LLCs formed solely to own and rent STRs. One way to consider these limitations to protect communities, is to apply the limitations as to density, etc. to STRs that are not owned and operated by people who primarily reside in their home in IVCB. I have not researched this issue, but TRPA’s inhouse attorney who is a Nevada attorney approved the TRPA Guidelines on these subjects.

## **G. Summary**

While I have other concerns with specific provisions of the draft, I will not burden you further by going through point by point, as this letter is already too long. It would be greatly appreciated if some issues could be corrected now, before the first reading, and some issues specified and tabled for further real dialogue between the County and its effected citizens for future amendment if the current draft is passed.

### **2. The Deficiencies in the Process Leading to the Current Draft Ordinance Have Resulted in a Loss of Public Confidence in the Integrity of the Process; The Discussion in the Staff Memorandum at Pages 5-6 Sounds Good, but it Does Not Tell the Full Story from the Standpoint of IVCB and its Residents and Neighborhoods**

The draft STR Ordinance and its history is unfortunately a study in how a rift develops between government and the public due to a lack of effective communication, a lack of public participation in decision making, and a perceived bias on the part of the County leading to a lack of public trust.

I believe that Staff, if asked individually, would tell you that the Ordinance was drafted with direction as to what was and was not acceptable to the Commissioners, and that it was not drafted by Staff and presented to the Commissioners based on Staff’s opinion as to what constitutes best practices and is in the IVCB best interests in all particulars. This Ordinance was drafted in a way that greatly damaged public trust, and which ignored the needs of the local residents who are the most affected and

most adversely impacted by STRs.

For example, the one “resident” input session in July discussed under Stakeholder input had 3 invited attendees from IVCB (5 were invited but only 3 could attend due to schedule conflicts and the shortness of the notice of the meeting), although the attendees have reported that they diligently and vigorously articulated the great difficulties in IVCB caused by STRs.

Another example is the “Structured Public Input” meetings discussed at page 5. What does “Structured Public Input” really mean? These meetings did not develop public confidence in the integrity of the process of drafting this Ordinance, and failed to take public input on many important issues. Incline Village with only 6000 total residential units (houses, condominiums, apartment units) produces over 90% of the transient occupancy tax collected by Washoe County. Therefore, Incline Village residents should have had a great deal of input into the problems that should be addressed in the STR Ordinance that is so crucial to their daily lives. At these 2 public meetings in Incline, the County representative stated a list of items that could not be considered in the Ordinance, and among the items we could not discuss were limits on density and concentration, and use of TOT for any purpose in Incline (such as additional sheriff or fire services, etc.). We were put into groups of 8-10 people to discuss our concerns by topics such as occupancy, noise, parking, safety, enforcement, each lead by a County representative who made notes on little yellow sticky tabs. The County representative from each table orally stated a summary of what was discussed at the group meetings. The meeting room was not full in Reno, but the first meeting in IVCB was so booked by reservations, a second meeting date was set and that was also full. Attendees asked to speak publicly and that was not allowed. Attendees asked to discuss the “forbidden topics” and that was not allowed. The oral summaries presented by County employees did not include all of the comments by IVCB residents because public comments on concerns related to forbidden topics were not mentioned. Ms. Mullin handled the meeting well and was sympathetic and articulate, but she was clearly given directions by others on both the meeting structure and the refusal to discuss the “forbidden topics”.

Following the 2 public meetings in Incline, while a group of IVCB residents attended BOC meetings and made many public comments about the great difficulties that STRs were causing in the IVCB neighborhoods, we did not feel that the other Commissioners were truly listening to what we said or crediting it as the sentiment of the majority of the community. The perspective of IVCB residents was that the other Commissioners did not want us to come to the Commission meetings and take up their time speaking during public comment, and that the Commissioners had already made their minds to have a weak Ordinance.

An STR Ordinance was drafted and presented at the February Board of Commissioners Meeting, that had minimal protections for residents after we had numerous conversations with Ms. Mullin. At the February meeting, a large number of realtors came, not having attended past Board meetings, and we lost even more of the minimal protections for residential neighborhoods which Ms. Mullin had included.

I describe what has occurred and the sentiment of much of the IVCB community with the hope that in the future, meetings can be used for two-way communication and expression of concern, to increase the public trust and confidence.

### **3. Conclusion**

All of the other local governments at the Lake and the local governments in Southern Nevada have passed protective Ordinances because they decided that they wanted to protect their residential neighborhoods. The other local governments at the Lake used the TRPA Guidelines and came up with consistent STR Ordinances, and after adoption, when their Ordinances were not working sufficiently to curb the party

houses and other deleterious impacts of str's on communities, the local jurisdictions amended their ordinances further to increase protections for residential communities. When I called Las Vegas and spoke with the drafter of their Ordinance he said that the Las Vegas City Council felt sorry for the residents and wanted to protect them. When I spoke with the person responsible for the drafting of the Henderson Ordinance the same thing was said, that the City wanted to protect its residents from party houses. The Clark County representative said that they had banned str's in the County as neighborhood protections weren't working.

We do not understand how the decision can be made that neighborhood interests are subservient to all other interests, which is what has happened in the current draft Ordinance. The current draft Ordinance is not standard and it is not protective. Other Washoe County Ordinances have been drafted by Staff, with Staff's expertise, without such strict initial direction from the Commissioners and the protections and care and concern for the local citizenry is evident (i.e. see for example, the neighborhood protections in the Home Office regulations).

Most problems raised by residents are not addressed or "helped" in the current draft of the STR Ordinance. While the Ordinance serves to require STR owners to get permits and to pay fees to the County, it does little to address the concerns expressed by residents as to the impacts on them. We need real rules, real enforcement and real inspections. I am writing in the hope that it is possible to add to/change the draft Ordinance before or at the upcoming public hearings? I hope you can consider if there is a way to help our community. I believe that if a different direction had been given to Staff, we would have seen a very different and better final product for our community. I have a lot of confidence in your Staff, including Ms. Mullin, if your Staff is left to using their credentials and expertise to get true public comment and to get input from other jurisdictions at the Lake and in Southern Nevada, and to then use this in their draft Ordinance as appropriate, without a pre-conceived outcome.

I know that there is a great deal of information here and if I had more time, I would have written a better shorter email. But I wanted to provide you with some of the concerns about the Ordinance as drafted, as soon as possible.

I thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of my comments. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Very truly yours,

Diane L. Becker

Full-time resident of Incline Village

805-290-2779

[dbheirshberg@gmail.com](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com)

**From:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** FW: CAB's and STR's.  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:32:15 PM

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Judith Miller** <[pupfarm1@gmail.com](mailto:pupfarm1@gmail.com)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 11:20 AM  
Subject: CAB's and STR's.  
To: Berkbigler, Marsha <[mberkbigler@washoecounty.us](mailto:mberkbigler@washoecounty.us)>, Robert (Bob) L <[blucey@washoecounty.us](mailto:blucey@washoecounty.us)>, <[vhartung@washoecounty.us](mailto:vhartung@washoecounty.us)>, Jeanne <[jherman@washoecounty.us](mailto:jherman@washoecounty.us)>, Kitty <[kjung@washoecounty.us](mailto:kjung@washoecounty.us)>  
Cc: <[ebrown@washoecounty.us](mailto:ebrown@washoecounty.us)>

Good morning, Commissioners,

I watched the video of the BOCC meeting yesterday and appreciate your efforts to restore the role of the CAB in bringing the voice of our remote communities to County boards. I agree one solution may not fit every district, and am confident our County Manager will design a program that will fit each of your needs.

In retrospect, perhaps that same approach could have been taken with STR's. Regarding the proposed short term rental regulations, from the perspective of my community (based on years of community input at CAB meetings), there are still 2 major problems: 1) There are no limits and 2) The enforcement provisions are weak.

It appears the negative effects of too much tourism ("overtourism") have finally gained national attention. This is not news to the residents of Incline Village. As some of you know, in 2014 I asked why the County had no regulations to back up its ordinance that declared occupancy in residential use types should be "wholly or primarily non-transient". Now you're going to throw out that concept. And unless limits are enacted, transient occupancy equates to too many tourists. Transient occupancy under the proposed regulations will continue to result in a much higher than normal household occupancy, and in many cases the disturbing and dangerous over-occupancy that contributes to so many problems.

And as to our County counsel's opinion that STR's are not businesses, please ask why the City of Las Vegas requires a business license. Why do they require a special use permit and restrict STR's to owner hosted operations?

If the regulations are passed as presented, it will look to the community that you commissioners have caved to the real estate interests.

Almost every request that the proponents of short term rentals made was accommodated:

1) No signs - so neighbors will not know if an STR is permitted, how many occupants are allowed and who to call when there is a problem.

- 2) No unscheduled inspections - so how will any violation ever be confirmed. A neighbor will have to present evidence, however it was suggested that evidence may not be sufficient because meta data can be changed. Occupancy limits will be ignored since confirmation will not be possible. Kitchens (stoves) in illegal secondary dwelling units will appear in ads and magically disappear before an inspection.
- 3) Parking requirements have been decreased.

And one of the most objectionable added provisions is that permit fees for STR's managed by licensed property managers will be discounted. This is a clear and unwarranted gift to the real estate community.

I strongly believe that the best managed STR's are those that are either owner hosted or have a manager within "shouting distance". My daughter lives on the other side of the lake and operates 2 such vacation rentals there .With an owner onsite or close by, there are rarely any problems. No self-respecting owner would allow guests to disturb neighbors, destroy property or ignore community rules. And no onsite or nearby owner/manager is going to allow over-occupancy to occur. A licensed property manager who lives elsewhere is less qualified and less able to oversee an STR than a local resident. Proximity of a manager and knowledge of the community is more important than a license. I looked at the educational requirements for a Nevada licensed property manager. Most of these have no relation to avoiding the problems associated with short term rentals advertised on a site like Airbnb.

Discounts, if any, should be given to owner hosted rentals or those managed by someone who actually resides in close proximity, therefore much more likely to be familiar with local problems like trash, bears and parking.

There may be fewer STR's this year, (perhaps more 30 day plus rentals by those allowed to work remotely), but once the pandemic is under control, we expect a resurgence. Unless some type of limit is included in the regulations, your legacy will be to make Incline Village unsuitable as a place to live, raise families or retire. Is that what you want?

I hope you will reconsider the proposed STR regulations and allow staff to come back with suggestions on how to better protect Lake Tahoe, our residents and our visitors.

Thank you for dedicating your time and energy to public service.

Judith Miller

Member of the Incline Village, Crystal Bay CAB, speaking as an individual because the CAB was not allowed to vote on these issues.

**From:** [Penny Dupin](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Kathy Emerson](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** SHORT TERM RENTALS IN INCLINE VILLAGE  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 4:21:30 PM

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I have been a resident of Incline Village for the past 24 years, living on Cole Circle which has remained very peaceful until this summer. The reason: new home buyers have turned their house into a STR. Without going into detail, renters must pay \$1550.00 per night for the privilege of tormenting all neighbors with loud music, foul language, intoxicating behavior, exposed garbage and multiple automobiles. Evidently we are not alone! Residents living on 2 streets above mine are encountering similar situations as well as multiple locations in Incline Village. My question to you is: While the revenue is quite attractive to Washoe County, what is the solution to this problem and what are you going to do about it? And please.... not another roundtable discussion to discuss the issues. Actions speak louder than words.

Penny Dupin  
545 Cole Circle  
Incline Village  
775 750-4745  
[penny.dupin@yahoo.com](mailto:penny.dupin@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Helene Larson](#)  
**To:** [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Submission for 8/25/20 Commissioner""s meeting  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 2:17:55 PM

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To the attention of the Washoe County Commissioners:

Please have this read and made part of the public record at the Washoe County Commissioners' Meeting on 8/25/20; thank you for serving our communities and representing all of us.

This letter represents my concerns regarding the proliferation of STRs in Incline Village, without any limits imposed, and with very little, if any, enforceable regulation proposed. This invites, and then tolerates, inappropriate, and indeed sometimes illegal and dangerous use of housing here. Instances of untended garbage, parking violations, open fires, violations of the peace and quiet of the community with loud partying and music have resulted from unregulated short-term rental use. Self-regulation is obviously a failure. We need our representatives at Washoe County to speak on Incline's behalf as well.

In addition to that, it reduces the number of rentals available to the community of non-homeowners. Subsequently, due to the law of supply and demand, the rents that are available tend to have inflated rental costs. Personally, my rent has increased 42% in less than two years. You can well correctly imagine that my income has not increased to meet that need. I have lived in my current apartment here for 11 years come this October. Even the non-accountants among you know, this spells disaster! If it continues, I will have to move off the hill and re-establish myself as I begin my 70<sup>th</sup> year, over half of which I have lived here, contributing to the North Shore community.

I have lived at Tahoe since 1983, my kids went through school here; my son graduated from Sierra Nevada College. I have grandkids here who are fourth generation Incliners. For eight years I helped publish *North Tahoe Week Magazine*. I certainly understand the value of tourism. I am fond of saying that, without tourists, we could probably not keep quite a number of businesses going at all on on the north shore. Some of them barely even weather the off-season with only locals as customers. STRs reduce the number of residences available to locals, increasing the possibility of our local small businesses having to close doors here.

When you reduce the availability of rental housing, there is a cascade of challenges. Two-bedroom apartments or condos mostly allow one, or if you are VERY lucky two, parking places. Most households of this kind need two incomes to get by. Because the workforce is trying desperately to stay here to be available to provide needed services, and because their rents have increased so much, and wages hardly at all, many of those two-bedroom units are now occupied by 3-4 people each. Just drive down Southwood Boulevard or Oriole when people are not at work, and look at the cars piled up on the side of the road. It is downright dangerous for all of us!

I understand that Incline is physically, and by population, a very small part of Washoe County. I also know that the property taxes here, and other County fees, are well-shored-up by our participation. It is time to recognize that if the STR rentals continue to flourish here, that there is a possibility of a lessening of value of Incline properties. The Realtors seem to perhaps be looking only at the short-term increases; eventually, the nature of Incline Village will change dramatically, and, instead of the town it was chartered to be, it will become a mecca for STRs, and quite unlivable by locals.

Kindly take these comments into consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Helene Larson

822 Northwood Blvd., #1, Incline Village, NV (for now!)

**From:** [Joe Farrell](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Kathy Emerson](#)  
**Cc:** [edith farrell](#); [Joe Farrell](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rentals (STR) Incline Village/Washoe Co.  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 12:37:12 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners:

**I would like this email read and be included as part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioners Meeting on 8.25/2020.**

In the recent past I have articulated my significant concerns relating to the STR issues in Incline Village. I would like to preface my comments and suggestions; which until you have experienced out of control STR's, you really can not appreciate the nuisance and aggravation a STR can be to a quiet neighborhood and community. My hope is that you as commissioners understand the seriousness of the STR problem to residents of Incline Village where 90% of all Washoe County STR properties are in Incline Village. Unfortunately many investors have bought homes in Incline Village to rent out for significant profit. They are operating a Business in a residential area which is suspect; essentially running a hotel in residential neighborhoods.

Our community is NOT a tourist resort to the residents since many of us moved to Incline Village to retire peacefully and to enjoy the amenities of N. Lake Tahoe. Incline Village should also not be viewed as a "cash cow" for Washoe County for collection of "rental taxes"!

**A brief summary of my experiences with STR:**

- Over the past 5-6 years we have experienced excessive noise (all day) and numerous times late into the night from drunk and obnoxious renters on streets above our home (Len Way and Spencer) which have resulted in numerous calls to the Sheriff's department. Additionally, a house burnt down 3-4 years ago (on Spencer) when STR renters built a fire on the deck, which if the Fire Department did not arrive rapidly, we could have had a major forest fire burn down our town. A similar incident with fire occurred on 7/9/2020 on Len Way.
- Recently, for nearly 10 days our neighbors rented to two large families over the 4th of July Holiday. This house is a set up for a huge party with a hot tub in the backyard and sleeping capacity of 12; charging \$1550.00/night. Meaning multiple families required to pay the nightly rate which in reality spells TROUBLE for the neighbors.
- We experienced constant noise (e.g. loud rap music, yelling drunk and dope smoking parties) from 10 AM to 10 PM. The noise was so intense our 1.5 year old grandson could not take a nap at 2 PM and had difficulty going to sleep at 7 PM. In the mountains, hopefully you are aware that sound travels a long way (our master bedroom is 150" from the hot tub; thus we hear everything).
- One of the above renters left garage doors open with bags of garbage in an open sight for bears to feast on. Yes, we have bears roaming our neighborhood!

- There was also not enough "onsite" parking for one group of renters who had friends come for their 4 day party!

From my summary above, you likely will understand **why I favor a ban on STR's**. It is evident the current STR Ordinance does not protect me from future problems since the Ordinance does not limit STR's in IV/CB by number, location or density; and it does not require Incline Village residents who rent out their homes to have a permit.

**Furthermore, I am concerned that the "proposed" Washoe County STR guidelines are not rigorous enough to control and enforce the Short Term Renter violations and nuisance complaints.** Besides excessive noise, I am also concerned about safety (fire issues), excessive drunkenness which could lead to violence, garbage left outside of homes which attract bears, lack of parking on site of STR's and the obvious fact that the County is allowing residents to rent homes out to the public as if the home is a hotel in a residential zone.

In sum, I am not happy about the Washoe County STR proposed regulations and ordinance. The regulations need to be more stringent, enforceable and yield significant financial consequences if the county decides not to ban STR's (our County should BAN SRT's). My concerns and story is only one of many from concerned residents in Incline Village.

Thanks for addressing my concerns.

Sincerely,

Joe Farrell  
Resident: Incline Village

**From:** [Eddie Farrell](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** STR  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 11:24:09 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioner Mullin,

I have owned my home at [546 Cole Circle](#), Incline Village for 17 years and never in my life have my husband and I experienced such disruptive, loud aggressive behavior from renters at the STR next door or in the neighboring area. We had a terrible 10 day experience from 2 different renters in the STR next to us. The music and voices were extremely loud all day long, there were way more than the allowed 10 people in the house and the cars were all over the street. I happened to have my 18 month grandson one weekend and he was unable to nap or get to sleep at night due to the noise. When we complained to the owner of the STR she only said sorry but that she bought the house to “rent as much as possible”.

The proposed ordinances do not limit the number of STR in residential areas, has no teeth in enforcing any rules and doesn't have a minimal number of days that must be rented at a time. These houses are run like hotels and not vacation homes. I think a minimal of 2 weeks rental would limit the rowdy visitors that come for the weekend and party as hard as possible. One renter next door said “when I go on vacation I party as hard as I can and never go back to the same place again”. His was the worst behavior of all the others.

I beg you commissioners to listen to those of us who live, work, protect our town and the surrounding area. We have invested our money and time here to keep the area healthy and clean.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Eddie Farrell

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Joe Shaefer](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#)  
**Subject:** Life and death in Washoe West  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 10:46:42 PM

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Washoe County Commissioners Lucey, Berkbigler, Brown, Herman, Emerson, Mullin, Hartung and Jung,

You are killing us. Literally. In order to ensure maximum revenue from short-term rentals at least one of you has succumbed to two false narratives:

The first false narrative is that those protesting the depredations of short-term renters in residential neighborhoods (STRs) are just a few whiny rich folks up the hill. This falsehood disparages the thousands of hard-working service workers in home health care, hotel and home housekeeping, teaching, landscaping, and running small businesses, all of whom pay either primarily or secondarily into Washoe County and State of Nevada coffers. It disparages those of us still working, or who have started second careers. Just because Zephyr Cove and Incline Village/Crystal Bay residents do not come to your meetings en masse in the time of COVID-19 does not mean that the thousands of us Washoe County residents in the western suburbs are not deeply harmed by your intransigence in this matter.

The second false narrative is that there are bigger fish to fry. If a few old people die from COVID-19 as a result of the assault from weekend or one-week renters, well, the western suburbs are, after all, lightly populated.

Not all short-term renters are bad people. But the trash they spew in every location is bad. Without intelligent regulation, 14-20 people in 6 or 8 cars can stay in a family home designed for 4-6. Of course their garbage overflows! And of course the bears and other wildlife that help make Lake Tahoe Washoe County's biggest tourism draw will be slaughtered as "dangerous." The danger comes from failure to act. Now.

Their vehicles are not inherently evil. But parking so many cars in so small a space, overflowing into the middle of both sides of many residential avenues, means paramedics, police and fire personnel are unable to traverse many streets. Is a life-and-death situation to the few outweighed by the greater distribution to the many?

I have yet to see any of these invaders, so relieved to be beyond their own states' restrictions, wear a mask as they walk our trails. The redeeming fact is that they are outdoors – but so were the people on the beaches in Miami. Every trail for miles around is packed with people inches apart, passing each other in both directions.

No one from the Nevada side of Stateline in the south to Crystal Bay in the north is asking for a ban on STRs. We Washoe County residents merely ask that intelligent regulation be instituted for the protection of Washoe County citizens, Washoe County property, and the beautiful lake that defines Washoe County's western boundary.

Not being willing to consider a dialogue about how STRs should be regulated is a breach of legal, fiduciary and community trust. Please advise how you plan to address the dangerous issues being promulgated on one of the most vulnerable neighborhoods in Washoe County. I look forward to your response.

In the spirit of discussion,

Joseph L. Shaefer  
Brigadier General, USAF, Ret.  
775 832-5440

**From:** [Heather Williams](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Incline Village STRs  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 5:55:00 PM

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**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

Dear Mr. Brown

The new STR policy adopted by the Washoe County Commissioners is not even “a good start”.

While it may reflect the views and interests of the Commissioners, it certainly has no bearing on the issues and problems of Incline residents. .

I have sent e-mails and pleas to the Commissioners (Only Ms Berkbigler has had the courtesy to respond – once.) I have attended Public Forums where the meeting was opened with “There will be no ban on Short Term rentals”, and then we were given a limited number of issues we could discuss – as well as issues we were not allowed to raise. That sounds more like County input, than public input.

Mr. Brown, let me give you my personal and public input. All 3 of these incidents occurred **just this weekend**, and are not atypical:

1. Outside my home, I picked up 12 – yes, 12 – piles of dog poop and dog poop bags.
2. On Sunday morning, the STR down the street had 3 bags of garbage sitting outside the Bear Box.

3. And, finally, beginning Friday afternoon, another rental in the neighborhood had 8 cars parked on the street (with 2 more in the driveway). For one rental. If there had been an emergency, a fire truck could not have gotten through. As it was, 2 cars could not pass on this active roadway.

Without being dramatic, we are under siege in Incline. It used to be just the summer. Now it is year round and only getting worse year by year. I now live on Hotel Row – not a neighborhood. We used to go for walks without fear of being mowed down. We used to watch out for each other – summer and winter. We knew our neighbors. Now, it is all professional investors and property management services. Dog poop, garbage, speeding, boats/cars on my street, in front of my house - everywhere. Mr. Brown, does this sound like somewhere you want to live? There is no respect for the residents, the wildlife or the lake. And that is my biggest concern.

By not limiting and placing restrictions on STRs, we are going to lose this beautiful lake, and Washoe County is going to kill its Golden Goose. We have already lost our community and our quality of life. .At the very least, the following restrictions should be applied:

1. NO off street parking. Our streets are too narrow, and emergency vehicles and snowplows can not get through.
2. Bear boxes should be mandatory – with instructions as to how to use them!
3. Require Incline Village residency in order to be issued an STR permit. And limit those permits by number, location or density.
4. Repeated violations – no! First violation is a hefty fine (Monroe County in Florida imposes a \$15,000 fine per violation.) Second violation results in a permanent loss of any and all STR permits.

Contrary to what the Incline residents have been told, repeatedly, by the Commissioners,

“Understand that we cannot stop AirB&B.”

“Our DA has told us we have no authority to stop people from renting their property to others for whatever reason...” , and

“We are located in NV a Dillions Rule state that does not allow municipalities to interfere with the properties rights of residents or property owners in the State.”  
(Uhhh....Las Vegas??)

many, many, many other communities have effectively shut down STR abuses. Since our “guests” are not going to respect the lake or our community, it’s time we take the initiative and preserve our lake and our quality of life. Thank you for helping us control STRs in IVCB

I also request that this email be made part of the Public Record for the Washoe County Commissioner’s meeting on 8-25-20.

Respectfully,

Heather Williams

**From:** [Beth Minick](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Problems and complaints about STRs in Incline Village  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 4:04:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [BethMinick8-17-20.docx](#)  
[BethMinickSTRComplaint11-6-19.docx](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners and Manager Brown,

We understand you are taking up consideration of an STR ordinance again, and wanted to draw your attention to some important issues to consider. The number one issue is that we understand the draft regulation does not include effective enforcement mechanisms to stop the problems our community encounters regarding STRs particularly during this life threatening covid pandemic. Without enforcement, we believe any regulations will be ineffective. Tahoe City is an example of where a single enforcement officer has been highly effective.

In addition, I would like to draw your attention to the attachmentEd two letters that further describe issues we have had in our neighborhood regarding STRs that negatively impact our health and safety.

## STR complaint

Next door to me there was an STR problem. One day I drove home to find a man trespassing my property. I asked him if he was renting the home next door. He said yes. I asked him to get off my property immediately. He said “ I just took my glove off on your property” in a threatening way. I was alone and did not want to provoke him so I asked very nicely if he could get off my property. I took a photo of him and checked my bear box and sure enough, he was on my property dumping his trash in my bear box. The next day he left trash in the street. Then it snowed and covered the trash, including a shovel. Someone could have gotten hurt by running over the shovel that was covered with snow. I called the management company to report the incident. It was VERY disturbing in our clean quiet neighborhood to have trespassing, using our garbage and leaving dangerous trash on our roads. Not to mention being threatened by this man. This is a health and safety issue. This impacts the enjoyment of my home and the health and safety of our neighborhood and must stop.

Beth Minick

Beth

Beth Minick  
Incline Village, NV  
brminick@gmail.com

Dear Washoe County Commissioners,

>

> We appreciate that you are undertaking to address the major issue in our community regarding short term rentals. As long-time residents in Incline Village, we recently purchased and moved into a new home here in Incline. We have hired an architect, engineer, designer and contractor to update this house. However, we just learned that a house in our neighborhood is going into short term rental and we have immediately ceased our construction project until Washoe County institutes regulations substantially restricting short term rentals. In talking to our neighbors, many feel the same way and are putting plans on hold. Clearly this is having major impact on local businesses.

>

> When we purchased our single family home in a quiet residential neighborhood, there were specific binding declarations of restrictions included with our deed about how homes here can be used that were an important part of our decision to buy here. These included that the house had to be owner occupied, that it could not be used for business, etc. It was clear that the homes in our residential community were highly restricted and could not be used as a short term rental tantamount to a hotel. We would never have purchased a home in a neighborhood that didn't prohibit short term rentals and neither would our neighbors.

>

> In looking at the draft staff recommendations, it appears that you are considering taking away those existing restrictions and that would substantially diminish the value and take away the use of our property as well as increase the environmental burden in the area with more traffic, people, noise and waste. In addition, that will drive away the people who contribute to our community and are major supporters of local charitable institutions such as the Tahoe Fund, Tahoe Safe Alliance, Sierra Nevada College and many others. What would be the gain from such an action? Perhaps some additional taxes/fees to the county and some additional income to the property owner who is violating the restrictions contract under which they purchased the property.

>

> We and our neighbors strongly object to taking away our property rights in order to enrich short term rental property owners who are violating the terms under which they purchased their property. We and our neighbors are prepared to fight any such action in court, which will only increase costs for the county to defend itself from such an ill-considered action. The citizens of Incline Village recently won a major lawsuit against Washoe County and we believe that it is not in the county's best interest to engage in another expensive lawsuit against its residents that may well result in another legal loss to the county.

>

> We urge you to put the people who live here first before greedy property owners who only want to make money and damage our community.

>

> Thank you for your consideration,

**From:** [Chrystie O Lowden](#)  
**To:** [diane morrison](#)  
**Cc:** [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [robb morrison](#); [Heidi Allstead](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Short term rentals  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 3:52:04 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners:

17 people in a residential house every couple of days is not acceptable. What a joke!

Commissioners, please help those of us who now have mini motels operating next to us. We are trying to raise our families just like you. We need aggressive regulations and restrictions for safety and sanity. The realtors and short term rental/motel owners are making a fortune at our expense. Please imagine for a moment that you had a house like the one in these pictures next to your own. It is not ok!

Please help!

Chrystie Lowden

> On Aug 18, 2020, at 3:28 PM, diane morrison <diane\_m\_morrison@yahoo.com> wrote:

>  
>

**From:** [diane morrison](#)  
**To:** [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#)  
**Cc:** [Chrystie Lowden](#); [robb morrison](#); [Heidi Allstead](#)  
**Subject:** Short term rentals  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 3:28:44 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good Afternoon Washoe County Commissioners:

I understand there is an ongoing conversation regarding the Short Term Rental policies and wanted to pass along an email I sent last summer. Throughout the year we have experienced STR challenges with renting to too many people, excess cars, noise pollution, careless fire practices, and trash, trash, trash; however with the pandemic and many choosing to "Shelter in Paradise" (as I have seen advertised), the situation has become out of hand. It's no longer a nuisance with parking, irresponsible behavior resulting in threatened wild life, but has become a danger to our region.

This 4th of July, I personally asked 3 groups of VRBO renters to cease their firework igniting. While my request were met with a barrage of name calling and threats, what many, not familiar with the area, don't realize is one errant spark, could set the basin ablaze. They don't understand the dryness of the climate, nor that there is essentially one road in and out of town. The number of people, animals and homes which would perish is unimaginable.

I understand the current STR Ordinance does not protect us from any future problems because the Ordinance does not limit STR's in Incline Village/Crystal Bay by number, location, or density; and does not require Incline Village homeowners to get a permit.

I would like to request that my original and subsequent emails be made part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting on 8/25/20.

I can be reached at 775.250.4549 or via email to answer any questions which might arise.

Thank you for your commitment to keeping Tahoe the paradise it is, and for your service.

Diane Morrison  
825 Geraldine Drive  
Incline Village, NV 89451

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** diane morrison <diane\_m\_morrison@yahoo.com>  
**To:** aventetuolo@washoecounty.us <aventetuolo@washoecounty.us>; Heidi Allstead <heidiallstead@gmail.com>; Chrystie Lowden <chrystieq@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 28, 2019, 03:40:11 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Short term rentals

Hi Amy:

As I mentioned in my earlier email, I will be unable to attend tonight's meeting due to a scheduling conflict, however wanted some photos and comments logged in your discussion.

I live at 825 Geraldine Drive in Incline Village. I am not opposed to RESPONSIBLE short term rentals in our village. I do however, strongly oppose short term rentals with no regulation.

There is a house directly next door to my home which is a repeat offender in the short term rental game. I have included a few photos to show an example of the renters total disregard for the locals, laws which need to be followed or our region's general safety guidelines.

The owners of this home will provide you with empathetic lip service however continue to market their home to large parties. A quick visit to their VRBO and AirB&B site shows they offer the home to large parties, sleeps 18 and can perfect for weddings, events and corporate retreats. This is a 4 bedroom/3 bath home with a total of 4 parking spots.

A quick bullet point list of some of their questionable and unsafe practices:

- \* booking to large parties 18+
- \* providing means (a fire pit) to have outside/open flame/uncovered fire (just last weekend a group of 17 men had an outside fire, uncovered, on their deck during HIGH fire season.)
- \* Loud and boisterous renters; drinking and screaming until early morning hours.
- \* Upwards of 15 cars parked on street. In winter, although we are on a school bus route, the plows often could not plow because of parked cars
- \* Trash - LOADS of it. You can imagine the amount of trash 20 people can accumulate.
- \* Unsafe, unwelcome behavior. Drinking, smoking and all night partying. We are a child rich neighborhood. There are 5 young (13) and pre-teen girls within a 4 house radius of this house. We parents no longer feel safe letting our children walk our dogs, ride their bikes, or generally play unsupervised while these large groups are present.

Solution? HEAVILY regulate and HEAVILY fine the home owners. A number of substantial fines will encourage home owners to stop marketing their property inappropriately.

Fine the owner when a plow can't plow a street.

Fine the owner when the trash is overflowing and wildlife gets into it

Fine the owner when cars are parked on the street.

Fine the owner when the police are called due to noise.

Fine the owner when illegal, unsafe activities are done (fires.)

Fine the owner when the number of people renting a house exceeds the allotted amount.

I understand an owner can not control the actions of their renters, however fines will go a long way toward self regulation. People should be able to rent

homes in our beautiful area. They should however be expected to be respectful, safe and responsible.

Finally, the tax dollars generated from short term rentals should directly benefit the community in which the taxes were earned.

Thank you for your time, I am available for any questions or comments.

Appreciate you opening the conversation and affording several opportunities for community members to express their concerns.

Regards,  
Diane Morrison  
775.250.4549

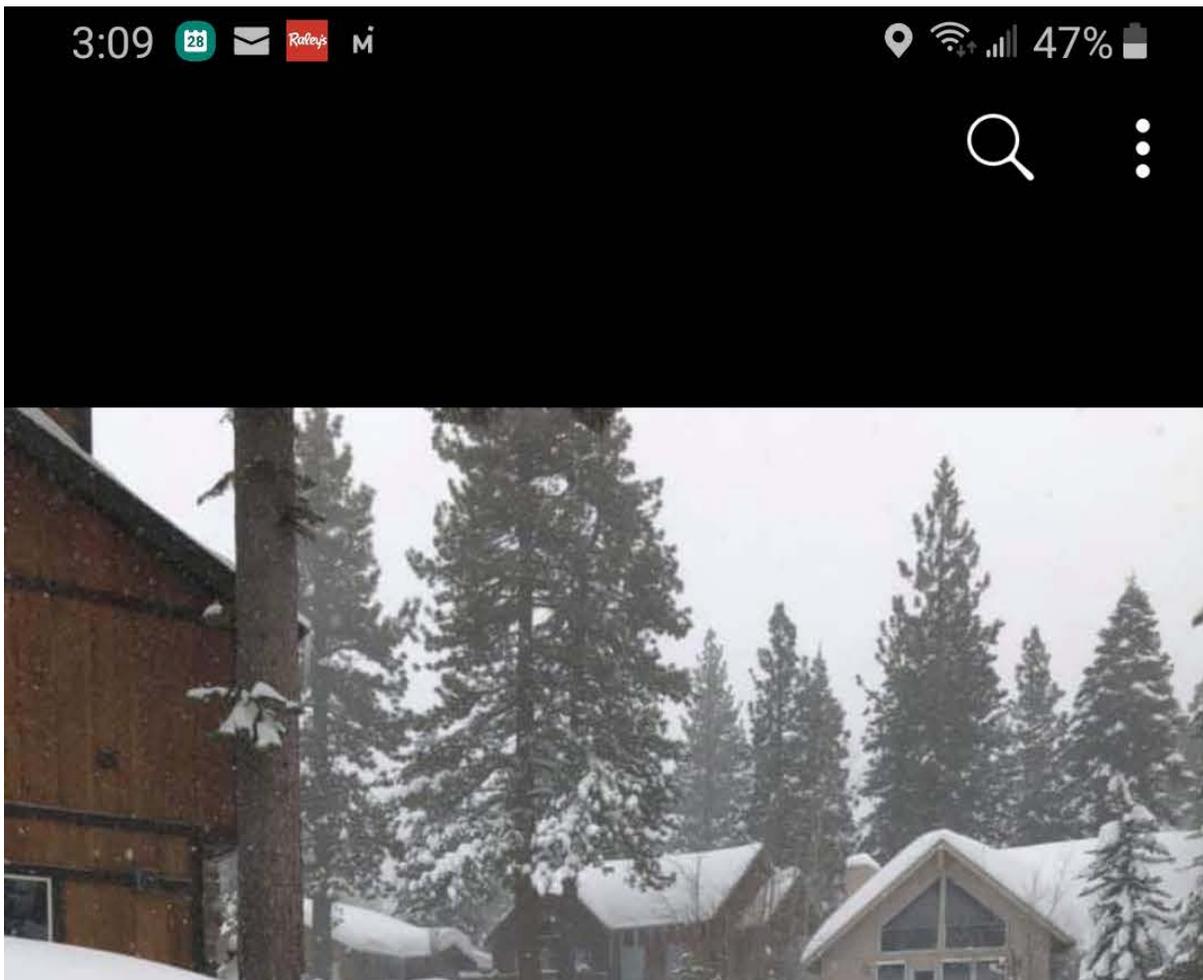
----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** diane morrison <diane\_m\_morrison@yahoo.com>

**To:** diane morrison <diane\_m\_morrison@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 28, 2019, 03:08:55 PM PDT

**Subject:** Short term rentals





**Chrystie Quilici Lowden**

FEB 9 AT 2:30 PM



3:09



47%





**Diane Fatovic Morrison**

FEB 10 AT 11:35 AM



3:10



47%





**Diane Fatovic Morrison**

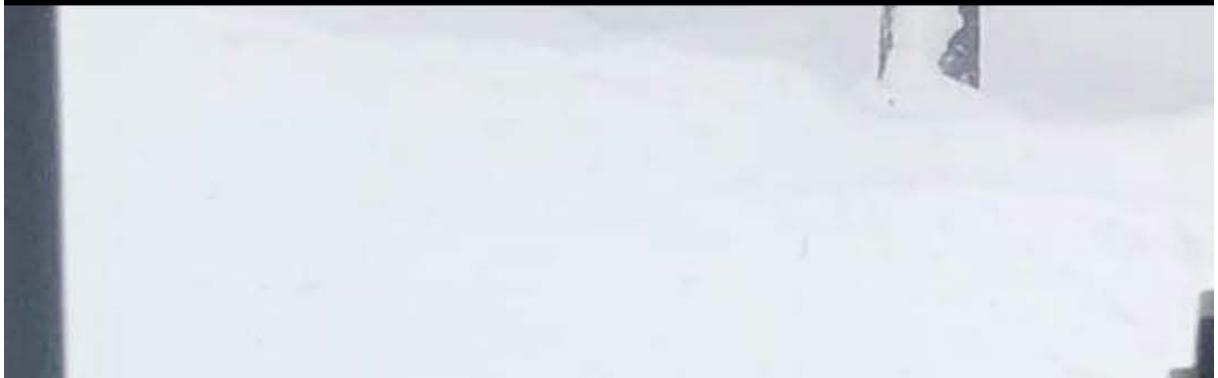
FEB 10 AT 12:38 PM



3:09



47%





**Diane Fatovic Morrison**

FEB 10 AT 11:35 AM





**Diane Fatovic Morrison**

FEB 10 AT 11:37 AM



1:24 70%

## Reviews



table, TVs, decks, just everything about this house was very nice.

I would highly recommend this house and would most definitely stay here again.

Published Feb 22, 2019

### Cozy Winter Retreat

5/5 ★★★★★ Stayed Jan 2019

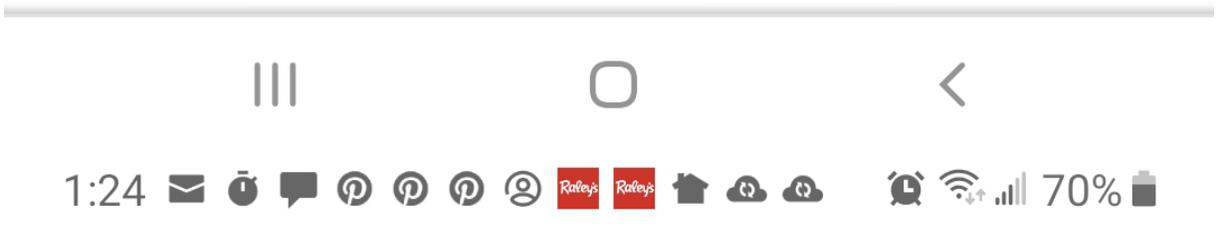
Angela C.

Great home for our weekend ski trip! The home was

nicely appointed, clean, and very comfortable for our group of 12. Kids loved the bunk room and the adults loved the awesome kitchen and pool table downstairs. Robin was a great host and very responsive to questions. Overall a great stay!

Published Feb 16, 2019

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## Reviews



Alexandra

Published Jun 5, 2019

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## Great house for our large group! Even a small group would be great!

5/5 ★★★★★ Stayed Feb 2019

Anders H.

What a great stay 17 of us had here!

Robin was pleasant to work with and responded quickly to my questions.

17 of fit very comfortably and all had beds to sleep in. It's also a really nice house from the hardwood floors, marble countertops, appliances, beds, furniture, pool table, TVs, decks, just everything about this house was very nice.

I would highly recommend this house and would most definitely stay here again.

Published Feb 22, 2019

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1:23 70%

## Reviews



### Family Fun in a Beautiful Modern Setting

5/5 ★★★★★ Stayed Aug 2019

We had the best vacation here! The home was so spacious, gorgeously redone and very accessible to all the beaches and nearby fun. We had 11 family members and there was plenty of room. We barbecued on the large deck, enjoyed the views of the trees and the stars, it was so peaceful. The older kids enjoyed playing pool and boardgames while the adults hung out in the beautifully renovated kitchen. The bedrooms were nice, the master was huge and stocked with comfortable blankets and sheets, so soft I plan to purchase some for home! Robin was very informative, responsive and provided all we needed for a great and memorable stay. I will definitely stay here again.

Published Aug 19, 2019

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## Beautiful summer getaway

5/5 ★★★★★ Stayed Jul 2019

Caryn N.

Our large family really enjoyed this property. The house was beautiful and very roomy. We especially enjoyed evenings out on the large patio having dinner. The views and smell of the pine trees was amazing



1:02 73%

[Overview](#) · [Reviews](#) · [The Host](#) · [Location](#)

Value



**Adam**  
August 2019

Robin was a wonderful host who made everything about this trip absolutely seamless. She was very responsive and went out of her way to help me with anything I needed before I arrived. She has great suggestions for local activities too. This house is PERFECT for golfers as it is minutes

HOUSE IS PERFECT FOR golfers as it is minutes from the Incline Village Mountain and Championship courses, which are both immaculate. We also rented boats one day and the private beaches were a great way to finish the day and only minutes from the house. The house itself was updated with a beautiful kitchen and plenty of gathering space for a group. The charcoal grill on the large deck made group dinners easy, cheap, and fun. The beds and couches were comfortable, and the pool table is a great way to spend some down time inside. I would recommend this home to anyone or group looking to stay in the Tahoe area.

**\$650** per night  
★★★★★ 8

Reserve



[Overview](#) · [Reviews](#) · [The Host](#) · [Location](#)

looking to stay in the Tahoe area.



**Bobby**

July 2019

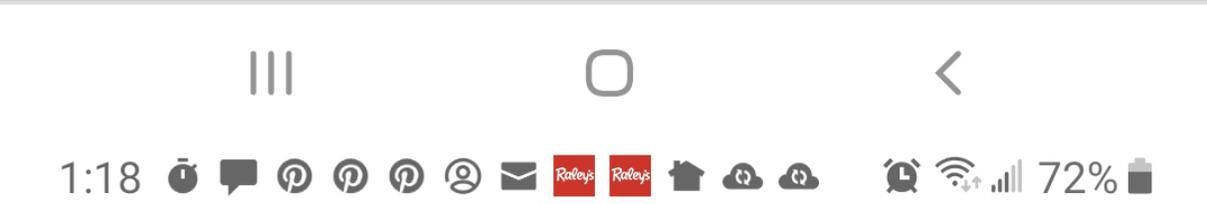
Place was beautiful and in a great location near beaches. Host was pretty quick with responses and had great communication. Only thing to take in consideration would be noise volume. This is something out of the hosts hands but there is a neighbor across the street who has an extremely low noise tolerance. The only reason I write this on the review is because he came and aggressively knocked and screamed at us because we were playing a game of beanbags(cornhole) out on the patio at 10am on a Saturday morning and he stated the bean bags were too loud. He was very aggressive when he came to the door and it made the rest of our stay a bit uncomfortable. Again this is something to take into consideration but other then that the house is beautiful and the host had amazing communication.

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**\$650** per night  
★★★★★ 8

**Reserve**



[Overview](#) · [Reviews](#) · [The Host](#) · [Location](#)

Great property. Family had a great time.  
Owner very helpful and accommodating.  
Highly recommend.



**Ryan**  
March 2019

What a wonderful stay at this beautiful home!



**Nikolas Gabriel**  
February 2019

Robin was an amazing host, the first day we were there the heater was broken and within an hour or so Robin had someone out there to fix it. The home it self was very spacious and the kitchen was a great communal space to hang out in after a long day of

to hang out in after a long day of snowboarding. Everything was clean, the beds were comfortable and after the heater was repaired the house was nice and toasty. If I ever have a large group again this will be at the top of my list. More than enough sleeping space for my group of 17

**\$650** per night  
★★★★★ 8

**Reserve**





# Incline Chateau at Lake Tahoe

Incline Village



 **Entire house**

16+ guests · 4 bedrooms · 12 beds · 3 baths

 **Great location**

100% of recent guests gave the location a 5-star rating.

 **Great check-in experience**

100% of recent guests gave the check-in process a 5-star rating.

**\$650** per night

★★★★★ 8

**Reserve**







[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Adam Hirsh](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** IV STR Input  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:35:54 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners:

My name is Adam Hirsh, and I'm the owner of 1021 Saturn Ct. in the Apollo neighborhood of Incline Village. There is a year-round STR on the same street, which is listed in the property record as a 3100 SF, 3 bed house. The owner bills it as a 5 bedroom accommodating 14 people. No sprinkler system.

Issues:

A house fire started by guests.

Up to 14 cars parked on street/increased traffic. Recently had 5 cars and a bus.

Animals in trash (which we clean up).

Party with strippers and a drug overdose/ambulance and fire called.

Lighted cigarettes tossed in bushes.

Much late night noise. A regular and continual problem.

Lots of strangers in previously residential neighborhood. Serious safety concerns.

Cars parked illegally on the street in winter.

Elderly neighbor was charged by STR "guest's" dogs.

Bottom line is that the STR has changed everything for the worse. There are countless numbers of strangers in our cul-de-sac, many cars driving up and down, parking on the street, lots of noise which didn't exist before.

The owner, who does not reside on the property at all, has at times attempted to cooperate, but it's basically an unsupervised motel. Some "guests" might not disturb, while others present major problems. We never know who or what is coming tomorrow, so we live on edge.

I hope that you will consider passing the regulations proposed before Covid in order to help address some of the issues.

Thanks for your attention.

Best regards,

Adam Hirsh.

**From:** [csamende@gmail.com](mailto:csamende@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Short term rentals: for commissioners  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:09:48 PM

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**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

To Whom It May Concern,

We purchased our home, in the Ponderosa subdivision of Incline Village, in 2007. This subdivision is a residential-only area of single-family homes.

Beginning about 6 or 7 years ago, one of our neighbors, a Realtor who lives in Los Angeles, began renting out his large house, which is advertised on VRBO as sleeping 14 people. We began seeing (and hearing) large groups of young people hanging out on the property, drinking, smoking, yelling, laughing, and playing loud music, often starting in late afternoon and continuing into the middle of the night, sometimes into the morning. This often happens for days at a time, occasionally a week or more. There is a back deck on this property that overlooks a ravine and creek, along which our and many other houses sit, and that topography acts as an echo chamber that amplifies the noise. I have spoken via phone and text numerous times to the owner of the property, but he continues to rent to large groups of young people with no adult supervision. He does try to get them to quiet down, which sometimes works, but he also continues to rent to them.

The behavior we have witnessed includes:

- Yelling and laughing loudly into the wee hours of the morning
- Drinking and drug-taking
- Driving repeatedly up and down the street (at least a dozen times) with 6 or 7 people standing in the bed of a pickup truck, yelling at the top of their lungs
- Some kind of skateboard contest where about 15 people stood out in the street, yelling and laughing at full volume, for 6 or 7 hours (until I finally stopped them)
- Trash all over our property and adjacent parcels (bottles, cans, condoms, etc.)
- Trash left in open bags on the street, which the bears got into
- The kids of the cleaning service employees using the property every single night as a party house and crash pad (this is no longer happening, but did for several months)

I have no problem with someone renting out their property from time to time to CONSIDERATE renters, but because there is no recourse when there are too many people in a house or too much noise/partying/trash, I am in favor of a STRONG set of laws that govern these rentals. The property owner, whose residence is out of town and who doesn't have to live with this, and the county both profit from these transactions, while the permanent residents are just supposed to grin and bear it. This is unacceptable in quiet residential neighborhoods and we strongly urge you to consider regulations that provide some recourse for the full-time residents, ideally limiting these short-term and vacation rentals to city centers and high-density areas and prohibiting them in neighborhoods that have no businesses.

Please enter this e-mail into the public record for the Washoe County Commissioners meeting. Thank you.

Coral Amende  
334 2<sup>nd</sup> Creek Dr.  
Incline Village, NV 89451  
775-832-5423

---

**From:** rondatycer@aol.com <rondatycer@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** csamende@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Group 1 - STR Input to Commissioners

Dear Coral,

You let us know that you have a STR in your neighborhood. Would you be willing to write an email describing your concerns to the Washoe County Commissioners?

We're sending them a description of our problems with STRs in a last-ditch effort to influence the STR Ordinance before we go to Plan B. If at all possible, please each send an email on 8/19/20.

You may want to mention the current STR Ordinance does not protect you from future problems because the Ordinance does not limit STRs in IVCB by number, location, or density; and does not require IV residency to get a permit.

Please add a request that your email be made part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting 8/25/20.

Address to:

Eric P Brown            [epricebrown@washoecounty.us](mailto:epricebrown@washoecounty.us)  
Marsha Berkbigler    [mberkbigler@washoecounty.us](mailto:mberkbigler@washoecounty.us),  
Bob Lucey              [blucey@washoecounty.us](mailto:blucey@washoecounty.us),  
Jeanne Herman        [jherman@washoecounty.us](mailto:jherman@washoecounty.us),  
Vaughn Hartung       [vhartung@washoecounty.us](mailto:vhartung@washoecounty.us),  
Kitty Jung             [kjung@washoecounty.us](mailto:kjung@washoecounty.us),  
Kelly Mullin           [KMullin@washoecounty.us](mailto:KMullin@washoecounty.us),  
Kathy Emerson        [kemerson@washoecounty.us](mailto:kemerson@washoecounty.us)

BCC:                    [iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com](mailto:iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com)

Thanks again.

All the best,

Ronda

PS: If you happen to have emails for your neighbors who might also be bothered by the neighborhood STR, could you please forward this request to them and ask if they could also weigh in to the commissioners?

**From:** [Elie Massabki](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Input on Proposed Standards for STRs  
**Date:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 8:13:23 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

I am an Incline Village homeowner with primary residence in California and my family uses the property several times a year. I rent my condo to vacationers to help with the mortgage expenses. I have registered my property and pay Washoe County taxes on my rental income. I have been self-managing the property for several issues and I have strict House Rules in my rental agreement that all my guests sign and they cover all of the concerns that residents and stakeholders have expressed regarding noise, parking, occupancy limits and trash.

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that requires that a property manager or representative be located locally. As the owner of the property and unlike most property managers, I am available 24/7 to respond to complaints and I have the greatest interest in my property and well-being of my neighbors. I don't see the need for a property manager to be located locally. I have successfully managed my property remotely for several years. Imposing a requirement for a local representative or property manager will force me to incur unnecessary additional costs without clear benefits to the community that cannot be achieved with my remote management of the property.

I would like to request that the following clause be modified in such a way that **local** representation or **onsite** response within 1 hour are stricken from the requirement.

*Every STR must have a designated local responsible party available 24/7 through a single phone number who shall respond to complaints within 30 minutes of contact (via text/phone acceptable). If an on-site response is necessary, it should occur within the following hour.*

I look forward to receiving your acknowledgement of this email and any suggestions you may have to further pursue this issue to a satisfactory resolution.

Thank you.

Elie Massabki  
(650) 867-1072  
400 Fairview Blvd, #80

**From:** [JOSEPH FARRELL](#)  
**To:** [Ronda Tycer](#); [Diane Heirshberg](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Cc:** [Judy Miller](#); [Sara Schmitz](#); [Edie Farrell](#); [Nick Maiocco](#); [Nick Maiocco](#); [Todoroff, Pete](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: South Lake Tahoe bans vacation rentals  
**Date:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:43:32 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

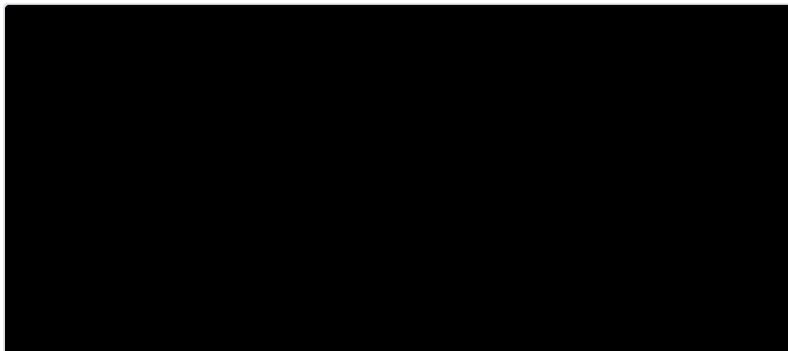
Hi Ronda, Diane and Kelly:

I apologize for not copying you on this email I sent to a number of my neighbors, Sara Schmitz and Marsha Berkgigler. It relates to an article that appeared in the paper last week concerning STR in South Lake Tahoe (See Forward below) and my experience with "noise" awakening me on Thursday night. S. South has some tough regulations that we likely should adapt if we cannot get a full BAN on STR.

Please also follow the email stream from Marsha and Sara. I believe we have the attention of Marsha and I know Sara's on side in a big way since she is dealing with STR's issues with a neighbor.

Check the new law on STR in Oahu!!!!!!!!!!

[3 Months After New Law, Oahu Vacation Rental Numbers Drop on Oahu](#)



### 3 Months After New Law, Oahu Vacation Rental Numbers Drop on Oahu

Ryan Finnerty

The number of vacation rentals on Oahu declined more than 5 percent from the same time last year. Honolulu's rec...

I trust this topic will be discussed at length on Peter's Friday Zoom call. Please call me as needed.

Kind Regards,

Joe

Joe Farrell

Cell #: 925-980-4888

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**From:** Joe Farrell [mailto:jpfarrell@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 15, 2020 9:26 AM  
**To:** Sara Schmitz; Nick Maiocco; Marsha Berkbigler; Edie Farrell; kate pearce; Stephen Pearce; ketzz@aol.com; Cliff Dobler; Barry Nudelman; Doug Willinger  
**Subject:** Fwd: South Lake Tahoe bans vacation rentals

Hi All:

Just received this from one of our neighbors.

My hope is that Washoe Co. follows suit to make STR a difficult and expensive business (STR is a business in our own neighborhoods) endeavor or truly ban STR in Incline Village.

I am really feed up with the STR situation in Incline Village. Last night I was awakened at 1:00 AM by honking car horns and obviously drunk people yelling & screaming. The noise was likely 2-3 blocks away, however, sound travels in the mountains. Needless to say, very alarming since STR are a breeding ground for visitors to party without respect of our neighborhoods and our citizens!!

The Washoe Co. proposed STR regulations are not strong at all. I plan to write to all commissioners of the county with my suggestions of which I hope are taken seriously.

Please take time to write the County commissioners this week so our voices are heard strongly at the Washoe Co. commissioners meeting on 8/25. I know I am preaching to the choir with this email. Thanks neighbors!

Kind Regards,

Joe

Joe Farrell

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "fdelfer@att.net" <fdelfer@att.net>  
**Date:** August 14, 2020 at 3:15:53 PM PDT  
**To:** Joe Farrell <jpfarrell@sbcglobal.net>  
**Subject:** South Lake Tahoe bans vacation rentals

# Joe, FYI. Frank

## South Lake Tahoe bans vacation rentals: What you need to know

Measure T effectively banned vacation home rentals, such as those on Airbnb and VRBO, from residential neighborhoods in South Lake Tahoe. In the November 2018 election, Measure T passed in South Lake Tahoe, meaning that short-term rentals, such as Airbnb and VRBO, will be partially banned.

[The measure allows for unlimited rentals in commercial zones](#), but outside the tourist core, rental homes will be limited for tourists. While permanent residents would still be able to rent out their homes for up to 30 days per year, the measure will gut the vacation home rental business in South Lake Tahoe.



Volume 90%

Author: Samantha Solomon

Published: 5:44 PM PST December 4, 2018

Updated: 12:17 PM PST December 5, 2018



*If you are viewing on the ABC10 app, [tap here for multimedia.](#)*

In the November election, Measure T passed in South Lake Tahoe by only 58 votes, meaning that short-term rentals, such as Airbnb and VRBO, will be partially banned.

[The measure allows for unlimited rentals in commercial zones](#), but outside the tourist core, rental homes will be limited for tourists. While permanent residents would still be able to rent out their homes for up to 30 days per year, the measure will gut the vacation home rental business in South Lake Tahoe.

After the votes were all counted 50.42 voted "yes" on the measure, while 49.58 percent of voters chose "no."

South Lake Tahoe is the lake's only incorporated city and is a large tourist area during ski season, which is just beginning in Northern California. The public now has five days to request a recount. That must be done in writing to the local election official.

For those in the area trying to make a profit from seasonal rentals, short-term rentals are like businesses. Measure T will severely limit homeowners' ability to run this business effectively, even if they are permanent residents. The measure could also somewhat stifle the tourist economy in Lake Tahoe, where the demand for short-term rentals is high during peak times.

Before the vote, a vacation home rental (VHR) permit was required for any person interested in operating a VHR outside of the tourist core. Residents of South Lake Tahoe could then drive up tourist interest by posting their homes on Airbnb and other rental property websites.

Now, Measure T will eliminate most VHRs by 2021, except for

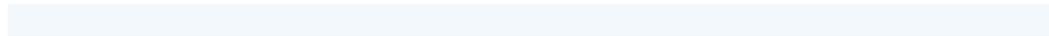
certain “qualified” VHRs. Based on a [VHR Map](#) provided by the city of South Lake Tahoe, there are up to 1,400 active VHRs in residential neighborhoods, the owners of which could lose their permits with the passage of Measure T. In the community of Al Tahoe alone, there are more than 100 active VHRs, and this is just one of several South Lake Tahoe residential neighborhoods.

According to the "No on Measure T" group, “vacation home renters infuse over \$100 million annually” into the local economy, which will likely be reduced with the loss of VHRs in residential areas. Visitors to Lake Tahoe can still stay in traditional lodging properties, such as hotels, motels, condominiums, and timeshares. Measure T also still allows VHRs to operate within the tourist core and all commercial areas.

For those in the South Lake Tahoe area who are unsure if their property is in a commercial area or a residential zone, the city of South Lake Tahoe's [Neighborhood Zoning Map](#) can help.

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**Want to know how small business owners in South Lake Tahoe are dealing with lack of snow? Check out the video below:**



**From:** [Wayne Ford](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Marsha Berkbigler](#)  
**Subject:** Residential Use/ STR"s bedrooms, sleeping areas  
**Date:** Saturday, August 15, 2020 10:48:01 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

## BEDROOM USE OF A HOME GENERAL AREAS FOR SLEEPING:

Adding a smoke or carbon monoxide detector does not make a area safe for bedroom use.

A. If a living room has a gas appliance in it that has been added to a fire-place , if that was in a bedroom it would need a sealed combustion rating, so no carbon monoxide could escape from the unit. These are rated units for bedroom use and may not have been looked at for a living room.

B. If a living room has a door that opens to the garage, that would not be allowed for a bedroom.

C. There is a section in the code that deals with light and ventilation for all rooms. Bedrooms are most important for meeting this code. Many times in plan review the light and ventilation is not well reviewed for living rooms. Most meet light, yet may not meet venting.

There is also the section in the code where based on the relationship of one room to the other the opening distance between each room will make the assessment for the area as two different rooms as one big room. This can change the light, and ventilation numbers for the area.

D. Add required egress for bedrooms that is not required for living room areas you have a real challenge in saying it is alright to use a living room as a "legal" bedroom. Living rooms may have awing casement or slider windows, that do not allow for exit clearances.

There is a difference between a "legal" room being defined for sleeping, or a home owner just having the grand-kids sleep in the living room, when they came to visit. Ask your attorney's about this.

So it would be best to not have this in the STR Code and allow for areas of a home to be deemed to allowed for sleeping, that were not approved as bedroom, when the home was built. The Code should refer to the 2018 IBC, 2018 IRC and the 2017 NEC, for current approved sleeping areas approved for the home's building permits, when constructed.

When you go into just adding smoke and carbon monoxide detection someone will turn a garage into bedroom space. You know it has been done and a garage does not meet egress, light and ventilation or electrical codes in most cases.

Then there is the electrical code for Bedrooms. ARC and Ground Fault needed for these rooms. Where living rooms do not have the same requirement. This is to protect the use of electrical blankets and other heating systems that have transformers in them. On a electrical system that does not have a ARC Fault the transformer can over-heat and cause a fire when one is sleeping.

The breaker does not shut off if not ARC, so the person can die from smoke and fumes.

I speak from experience for if my son had been in his water bed when this took place ( day time) he would have died of the fumes from the plastic. Living rooms under the code as many other rooms do not have the proper protection for being a sleeping area.

The blanket ( pun intended) approval for other rooms to be used as sleeping areas is dangerous to people who rent home as a STR and may become a big liability for the County.

Wayne Ford

**From:** [NICOLE GULLIXSON](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Re: COVID 24hr Between Tenant Cleaning Violation 8/14  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 5:53:02 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

Airbnb rental 547 Lantern Court had a large group of guests leave today, 8/14 and another group of renters is entering the airbnb rental right now, same day, 8/14. There was definitely less than 24 hours in between tenants.

Please make these complaints as an official record.

Thank you,

Nicole Gullixson

On Sun, Aug 9, 2020 at 4:54 PM NICOLE GULLIXSON <[nicole.gullixson@gmail.com](mailto:nicole.gullixson@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hello,

Airbnb rental 547 Lantern Court had a large group of guests leave today, 8/9 and another group of renters is entering the airbnb rental right now, same day, 8/9. There was definitely less than 24 hours in between tenants. I would say even less than 12 hours!

This is NOT safe for us, the neighborhood NOR the community.

Please come up with regulations for STRs in the Incline Village community!

--

Cheers,

Nicole Gullixson  
805.452.0503  
Classic Wines of California, Lake Tahoe Region

--

Cheers,

Nicole Gullixson  
805.452.0503

## Classic Wines of California, Lake Tahoe Region

**From:** [Wayne Ford](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Marsha Berkgigler](#); [Thomsen, Richard](#)  
**Subject:** Follow up to email August 13 2020/ 8:59 PM  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 5:19:27 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

## Kelly: Washoe County Snow Removal Regulations:

Chapter 70. 425/ 70.437 See that section.

Needs to be part of the STR Code and needs to be part of the packet sent or available to all

renters in Incline Village/. Crystal Bay , Washoe County.

Effective from Nov 1 - May 1 of any year to allow for snow removal on the streets. It is a safety issue for all who live here.

It is also a cost issue to the County: In the past heavy snow years Rich Thomsen in one of the years has at least 7 plus cars, that were hit by the plows. That will in many cases disable the plow and cause costs to the County to repair. ( delay in the removal on the streets and paths).

That is why I have included his email in this area for your to contact him on the need to have STR renters know about the rules for winter snow removal on the roads for our area.

## Washoe County Snow Storage Areas.

Snow storage areas are a little more difficult to deal with, yet in may cases the snow storage can be between homes , like on Lynda Court. Many of these areas

are not marked , yet needed to have a place to store he snow. I believe if such a location has been used over the years that a sign need to be place ( or signs) by the STR owner so the plow is not stopped from putting the snow on the area because of guest parking. Just having all the parking on the site does not take care of this kind of conflict.

In living here I will tell people not to park at the corner of my property for it is a snow storage area.

Over time as the snow gets piled up then it is apparent that it is being used for that purpose.

Wayne Ford

**From:** [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Cc:** ["Diane Heirshberg"](#); [rondatycer@aol.com](mailto:rondatycer@aol.com)  
**Subject:** The citations begin  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 7:14:52 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Marsha,

Today I am sending, via certified mail, the complete compilation of all letters previously sent to the property owner and the letter below. The Sheriff's Deputies were kind and considerate when taking the information for the citation. They told me they know of the issues with the property, witness the excessive cars, people and partying. This is a nuisance property for which legal action will be taken. I have been writing the property owners almost daily with the issues since the beginning of July. We have had no response from them which is why I am sending copies by certified mail.

Here is today's letter.

August 14, 2020

John and Cynthia Hunter  
4740 Opal Cliff Dr.  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hunter,

On the night of August 13, the Sheriff's deputies issued your renters, a large group of young men, a citation for disturbing the peace. As the photos show, on August 12<sup>th</sup>, they were partying hard all day in the back yard. Lots of drinking, smoking, shouting, yelling, cheering for hours. I was hopeful they would just pass out at some point, but they continued into the evening. The renters don't seem to understand or care that this is a residential neighborhood, with neighbors. Unfortunately, once again the Sheriff had to send resources at the County Taxpayer's expense to 'educate' them.

When speaking with the Deputies issuing the citation, they knew of all of the issues at your property. They know it well. People around Incline Village know it well, they all comment to me about the number of cars, people and observed misbehavior. When speaking with new neighbors, they were in disbelief and horrified to also observe and understand your home is a short term rental party house.

As I've written you before, your unmanaged short term rental is consuming taxpayer resources, is disturbing the peace of the neighborhood and is a nuisance. Nevada State statutes (NRS 40.140) has language about homes that are a nuisance and disrupting the peaceful use of neighboring homes.

If this behavior continues and you continue to ignore our documented complaints, the surrounding neighbors will have no choice but to start legal proceedings. We'd prefer to work together as 'neighbors', however you have yet to show your interest or willingness to do so.

Please call us to discuss the situation with your short term rental.

Thank you!

Sara and Patrick Schmitz  
932 Lakeshore Blvd.  
Incline Village, NV  
925-858-4384      Email: [schmitz61@gmail.com](mailto:schmitz61@gmail.com)  
Enclosure: all emails and photos sent to date

**Sara Schmitz**  
**(925) 858-4384**

From: [Wayne Ford](#)  
To: [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
Cc: [Marsha Berkgigler](#)  
Subject: STR"s/ Parking  
Date: Thursday, August 13, 2020 8:59:20 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Ms. Mullin: A few observations: When a occupancy is over 10 to me the number of cars is at least three and in some cases 4. Had 8 cars for a 4 bdrm home last week near me.

Garages must be left open for renters to use for parking. In many cases they are the two off street parking spaces which resulted for the approval of the home. Driveways that lead to some of these garages can have space to park, yet if that becomes the only place for 4 cars to park, is becomes a tandem parking and is a problem . That is one car in back of another. That in the end leads to frustration and in a case of a home near me, parking in the dirt in the front yard. To control that, barriers must be installed to prevent parking on dirt, that leads to compaction of the soil and thus water quality issues. So the type of barrier that TRPA has imposed are large boulders that cannot be easily moved. A wood rail fence would also work. This mainly will apply to property on flatter lots. These barriers must be in place for a permit. Yet the one area that is missing, is that the law allows for off property parking. Winter regulations need to be mentioned for STR parking . These can be added as a reference to the code. That code outlines the "red" and "green" day off site parking for snow removal. So when the on site rule

is not followed in the winter who will enforce? In the winter taking a hour to get to a residence will lead to the snow removal being hindered and that will impact neighbors. That should be a clear violation that goes against the owner. If you have the code that has a phone number for what has been determined for that day's parking by roads ,then at least they will know to check to see if parking is allowed. To answer the question: It is "roads" that enforce and have a car moved or towed.

In addition you need to mention that the owner of a STR must contract snow removal for keeping the parking open in the winter on site. I have seen people show up to a home and cannot get in the driveway for it has 4 feet of snow in it. That has ended up with people parking in the street and thus the obstruction of snow removal. It can take many ours for a person to shovel out a place to park and be able to get the car onto the site.

The STR owner must provide snow removal of all walks that are primary exits for the use of the home. That is a safety issue for sheriff, fire and medical. It is also a issue with egress for a event in the home.

If a home is permitted in the winter they have a set time period to get certified in the summer for defensible space compliance or the permit is revoked. The current STR near me has done no summer work at all, for defensible space is a yearly requirements after each winter and is a big

safety issue for the use of the home. ( ie: found in pine needles cigarette butts found in piles of pine needles on the property). No outdoor fires pits allowed in STR's . One metal unit was used this summer on a deck and was left to burn with no one there to make sure it was under control.

Violation: If a home is found to be left open and bears enter due to negligence that is a violation.

The STR on my street has had three events where one was the renter left the door unlocked and the door knob was a lever. Bear went in. The cleaning lady left garbage in the garage and the garage side door open, the bear went in. ( Took the Sheriff two hours to clear the home, 4 officers )

Garbage was left in the front yard and was left in a trash can. Bear raided the can. A violation.

So this is a start. Will be back to you with more. I will get the winter road code for the next set of comments.

Wayne Ford

**From:** [Suzie Parks](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Lake Tahoe Environment  
**Date:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 10:28:00 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I'm tired of being overrun by tourists, their rudeness and rubbish. Our '2 lane' road around the Lake is bumper to bumper. Garbage is everywhere ~ plastic bottles float by me when I kayak. Dog feces is on every trail I hike.

While I appreciate people wanting to make money there needs to be some control. The owner in the condo next to mine insists everyone who arrives, all different, every week are relatives ~ to avoid paying taxes that might help to keep our beautiful area free of trash, help our sheriffs dept, etc.

I've lived here 30 years and I've NEVER seen so many people ~ something must be done

--

Suzie Parks

**From:** [agdiancin@hotmail.com](mailto:agdiancin@hotmail.com)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STR in Incline Village  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 11:12:11 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I am writing as a concern resident of Incline Village regarding short term rentals. As pandemic hits our country, more short term renters are seen in Incline Village. More problems are on the horizon now that short term rentals have taken over Lake Tahoe.

1. Traffic and parking problems: The main highways are not intended to pack in STR during these high traffic times. More accidents are occurring, especially from Incline to Sand Harbor area. Also, STR cannot restrict the amount of cars these tourists bring in, therefore overcrowding the streets and blocking garbage trucks and deliveries as well as snow plows (importance during winter time in Tahoe). Main problems are parking along hwy 28 with no regards where there is a tight street highway with no accessible parking yet they still park along the side of the highway causing major accidents.
2. Fire: There have been STRs where houses have caught on fire Bc the recklessness of the renter and or the landlord.
3. Trash and pollution: Every year residents are left to pick up trash after tourists who leave Tahoe's trails and lakes with trash they brought in. We know it's a STR problems because high littering occurs right after 4th of July and extremely high this summer because of the pandemic.
4. Bear problems: STR are not educated to know that bears can break into their garages or homes where food is present. Therefore, they automatically call the sheriff and NDOW to trap the bear(s) to be killed. Residents of Incline are opposed to this and will not stand for killing innocent animals because STR could not prevent this from happening.

There are so much more problems with STR but these are main concerns.

I propose these solutions

1. Limit STR so streets are not overcrowded with their multiple cars and their boats.
2. STR owner to pay HIGH fees for bear break ins and have STR brokers/landlords educate renters when checking in.
3. All STR should have inspections yearly so that it's in code. Inspection should be paid by STR owner.
4. STR should pay a fee for every time their place is renting out since tourists use trails that are at no cost for them but at a cost for the town since the town is the one cleaning up after the tourists. This money should be used to give back to the town, ei. Beautification or towards parks.
5. Children should be counted as to how many renters can occupy a STR since they are given beach passes in Incline Village via IVGID.
6. All STR hosts should be accessible via online directory for any neighborhoods with complaints or problems to be resolve.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Julia Simens](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Incline Village  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 9:42:53 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Having bought in Incline in 1998, we love it here.

We do not like the impact that short term rentals have had in our neighborhood. In the past we have had to call the sheriff a few times for loud parties and way too many people in one unit. This was when we only had one STR in our 24 units.

This summer alone we have had seven+ units converted to STR, this has resulted in watermelons being tossed off second floors, trash being left in hallways. Trash being left outside the bear trash bins. Loud parties and unbelievable parking issues. Many of the renters did not know about the CC&R's and rules. Our CC&R's clearly outline where you can park and how recreation vehicles, trailers, RV are not allowed to park. Renters have even parked in the fire lane.

When we call the sheriff department, they are wonderful to try and help with these situations. The fire department even came out to help us get a huge RV out of the fire lane.

We have taken it upon ourselves to remove the trash or store the trash as any responsible person would do in order to help 1000 Lakeshore Blvd. association.

As a full time owner in Incline Village, I would like to see the STR's have a much better way to deal with these irresponsible renters.

Julia Simens  
1000 Lakeshore Blvd. #5  
Incline Village, NV. 89451  
925-357-5542

**From:** [cindy.ferrell@wellsfargoadvisors.com](mailto:cindy.ferrell@wellsfargoadvisors.com)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rentals  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 11, 2020 9:29:06 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello, I'm unable to attend the board meeting addressing short term rentals but I would like to voice my input as a 36-year resident. I own a single family home in Incline Village and have observed significant and steady deterioration of the community in Incline Village and surrounding areas throughout Tahoe over the years and short-term visitors have inundated the parks, beaches, roads, etc. Here are my observations:

Short term rentals cause overcrowding. Most 3 bedroom units are advertised as 'able to sleep 9 or 10 occupants'. Tenants often bring more than the advertised maximum. Many more than a typical long term renter or owner would occupy.

Short term rentals are essentially operating hotels in residential neighborhoods which were by their nature intended as residences not commercial hotels. This increases the parking problems, trash problems with high occupancy and constant turnover, and lack of respect for the surrounding nature and environment and wildlife due to constant turnover with tourists who don't live in the area but are just passing through for a day or two.

Short term rental owners are not prioritizing community desirability or livability. The purpose of operating short term rentals is maximizing cash flow.

NOBODY wants to live next door to a short term rental. There is no neighborhood environment while you have a hotel next door.

Affordability of housing has significantly declined due the fact that many owners specifically purchase property around Lake Tahoe for the sole purpose of turning the property into a hotel (short term rental). Buyers are snapping up properties like business inventory without regard for community improvement or enhancement. There is less and less ability for a family to purchase or rent a fairly priced residence to live in, raise a family in, send their children to school, etc.

Most towns around the lake have several hotels already. The Lake area was not designed and CAN NOT handle the extraordinary overcrowding that short term rentals bring on top of the hotels. The result of exponential overcapacity of short-term visitors is obvious. Just check out all the trash on the beaches and left unsecured at short term rentals which exacerbates the problem of bears getting acclimated to trash, traffic jams, loud noise, overcrowded beaches, and illegal parking.

Many other communities limit rentals to 30-days minimum this would help tremendously. Please let me know how this problem is allowed to continue and worsen year after year? Soon there won't be many locals left who care about community they'll be driven out by reduced quality of life and lack

of affordability and pollution of our great natural wonders.

Let's make community decisions with community in mind over and above cash flow.

Thank you,

**Cynthia Ferrell, Incline Village homeowner and community member.**

[Cindy.ferrell@wfa.com](mailto:Cindy.ferrell@wfa.com)

**775-690-3772**

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**From:** [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**To:** ["Patrick Schmitz"](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** 936 Lakeshore - more county resources consumed.  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 11, 2020 7:38:06 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Kelly and Marsha,

Below is the letter I will be sending the property owners today. Understand they have never provided us their phone or email and don't respond in any way. I'm asking this to go on record with my other written complaints to forbid them from receiving a permit when the County Ordinance goes into effect.

August 11, 2020

John and Cynthia Hunter  
4740 Opal Cliff Dr.  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hunter,

On the night of August 10, the Sheriff's deputies had to visit your short term rental due to the renters disturbing the peace. The loud shouting and talking continued after midnight. The renters don't seem to understand or care that this is a residential neighborhood, with neighbors. They leave windows open and carry on. Unfortunately, once again the Sheriff had to send resources at the County Taxpayer's expense to 'educate' them.

On the night of August 11, the behavior was continuing. I 'told' them to close the windows. They must have realized they were on the brink of receiving another visit by a deputy, but this time not with a warning, but a citation. Thank goodness because I had a peaceful nights rest.

Your unmanaged short term rental is consuming taxpayer resources, is disturbing the peace of the neighborhood and is a nuisance. Nevada State statutes has language about homes that are a nuisance and disrupting the peaceful use of neighboring homes. This is NRS 40.140.

If this behavior continues and you continue to ignore our documented complaints, the surrounding neighbors will have no choice by to start legal proceedings. We'd prefer to work together as 'neighbors', however you have yet to show your interest or willingness to do so.

Please call us to discuss the situation with your short term rental.

Thank you!

Sara and Patrick Schmitz  
932 Lakeshore Blvd.  
Incline Village, NV  
925-858-4384      Email: schmitz61@gmail.com

**Sara Schmitz**  
**(925) 858-4384**

**From:** [Catherine J. Amargos](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Vacation Rental  
**Date:** Monday, August 10, 2020 12:45:23 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Board:

I am writing in regards to the proposed vacation rental ordinance. As a long time, full time resident of Incline Village, I find the proposed ordinance over the top. The time frame is unreasonable. There is no way that homeowners, especially those of us who are elderly, are going to be able to do all that is listed in that unrealistic short time frame. Several of my friends have moved away due to health reasons or to be closer to family. They rely on that income their home brings in. This is Tahoe, nothing happens quickly. In my experience, people are going to need at least a year to comply with the rules.

In my four decades of living here, there have always been vacation rentals. Those old rundown Tahoe Cabins were charming to city folk. In recent years, I've watched as most of them have been improved. In my neighborhood, I've only had to ask vacation renters once politely to turn down their music and they did. We've had more problems with long term renters. More recently an anti STR neighbor around the corner has been harassing renters and homeowners who weren't even making noise. These anti-vacation rental neighbors are going to create a bigger nuisance in my opinion. They are going to create more work for all. What do you have in place for those folks who are just unhappy and going to file false complaints? There has to be fines for these folks, also, because once this ordinance is in place, there are going to be so many trivial complaints. The only fair way to enforce is for complaints to require proof, evidence of wrong doing.

Please consider all aspects before passing any ordinance.

Thank you.

Catherine J.

**From:** [Dene Bourne](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short Termed Rentals  
**Date:** Monday, August 10, 2020 8:17:04 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good day, Every type of rental has its issues for the owner and landlord. Short termed rentals are just the same but with a different set of issues. I believe they are a good idea and we enjoy being guests. I own several properties which are in part short termed rentals. I have good neighbors who I want to keep. I have had zero problems that effected the neighbors. I am responsible to my neighbors and to my community.

It appears that Incline has trouble with parking, trash, noise and other rude people who either live there, work there or are visitors. The FaceBook pages are full of terrible and irresponsible behavior. I would like to see that stopped also. I would like more dumpsters at beaches in the summer to stop beach goers from just leaving it next to a filled dumpster. I would like signs showing the high fines that will be charged to people who park where there is no parking and then I would like the police to follow through with fines. I would like the Short Termed Rentals to be for people over 25 yr old. Toronto Canada did that to cut down on the young party goers and the software can do that. My STR say one guest has to be 25 yr old or older and that may be why I have fewer problems. I can ask for a photo ID after booking.

PLEASE DON'T PUNISH THE GOOD AND RESPONSIBLE OWNERS AND LANDLORDS. But rather really hit the wrong doers. People as tourist can enjoy the area and be responsible. Incline and the Tahoe area are not the exclusive property of the locals but I can understand completely their angst with the irresponsible owners or property managers who let visitors run wild in these lovely homes. Please find a way to discriminate between responsible property owners and the irresponsible ones.  
Deanne Bourne

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [NICOLE GULLIXSON](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** COVID 24hr Between Tenant Cleaning Violation 8/9  
**Date:** Sunday, August 09, 2020 4:54:23 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

Airbnb rental 547 Lantern Court had a large group of guests leave today, 8/9 and another group of renters is entering the airbnb rental right now, same day, 8/9. There was definitely less than 24 hours in between tenants. I would say even less than 12 hours!

This is NOT safe for us, the neighborhood NOR the community.

Please come up with regulations for STRs in the Incline Village community!

--

Cheers,

Nicole Gullixson  
805.452.0503  
Classic Wines of California, Lake Tahoe Region

Eric Brown County Manager  
Marsha Berkbigler Commissioner  
Bob Lucy Commissioner  
Jeanne Herman Commissioner  
Vaughn Hartung Commissioner  
Kitty Jung Commissioner  
Kelly Mullin County Planner  
Kathy Emerson

STR: 725 Lynda Court  
APN: 124-043-40  
2343 SF with 5 bedrooms.  
Land Capability 4 and 6 No coverage left to use .  
Owner: Victor Barkhordarian  
Tiburon ,CA.  
STR sense 2016

Not a Neighbor :

STR Ownership is not being a neighbor. : It means you are not a neighbor . You are a business owner that operates like it is a franchise . In the best cases you have a management team that may or may not care about the people who live near, what you are selling. In the worst case you have a clean-up team that only communicates with you who are many miles away.

What are you selling: Rooms and in most cases a place to come and party and have access to entertainment in the area of Lake Tahoe

A Neighbor :

What does it mean to be a neighbor: You live full time even if it is seasonal in the area. You get to know your neighbors for in many cases they can be support to you and the property you own. Most neighbors invest in the property by taking care of it for they live there. You get to know your neighbors for when you have a party or event everyone shares and helps out. You prefer to be a friend for you may need the same consideration if you have a event. Neighbors in the winter work together in the bad winters to help each other out. I can go on for we all know the difference between someone who is a neighbor and someone who runs a home as a business.

---

Home rental history and impacts

775 Lynda Court: Bought by Mr. Barkhordarian in 9/16/16

History: Did a interior remodel the first 6 to 8 months, No record of any permits being obtained.

a. Within the first year had a bear get into the home because a renter left the front door unlocked.

b. Has complained to the Roads that they need to not store snow in the right front yard , yet is a well established snow storage area. Could not rent the home. We all have snow storage on our property. Where is the County to put it?. County took snow off his property and piled it on other property , so when it melted it flooded a neighbors driveway.

c. After the first bear event he has had two more where a bear got into the home. This resulted in IVIGD violations. Violations continued with cans over filled and put out after pick up times.

One event tied up 4 sheriffs for 2 hours to get the bear out of the home.

d. Renters brought 8 cars , a boat and jet skis to the home and blocked driveways, and left out trash for bears to get into.

Just recently renters brought 8 cars and there were at least 18 people with kids.

- e. Renters brought a 50 foot RV and blocked driveways ,
- f. Renters have had the sheriff called because of noise at 1;00 pm
- g. Renters have parked on the dirt in the front yard that now has caused coverage to be created due to compaction of the dirt and that has resulted in erosion and run-off uncontrolled. Water Quality
- h. Renters had filled my front yard, with cigaret smoke that caused my daughter to become ill. They then smoked up and down the street throwing some 18 to 20 butts into the dirt, on the road and into pine needles. They also did that on the property and left food ( chicken) thrown in the yard and street.
  - I. Driving in the street where we have kids playing they do not slow down and have to be told do so . They drive on the wrong side of the road coming into the street and going out of it.
- j. Back yard is a trash zone with bottles, wrappers, and even a safety light from NDOT taken off the highway one night. Thrown in the bushes.
- k. Defenseable space is not observed with the property filled with pine needles and trees that need to be brought into compliance.

I have documented all these issues and send photos and letters . This has taken many hours to do and yet I do not share in any of the profit from that home. I only have had to try and protect my property. The owner last letter to me; New rules ( he said)

No smoking inside or outside the house . How is he going to enforce that from Tiburon CA?  
Maximum four cars parked on the driveway. Do not park on the street cars will be towed.  
That does not take place, who will tow them?  
If trash is left in the home the will be charged. Does not take care of trash outside ,left in the front yard and in the street ( cooked chicken).

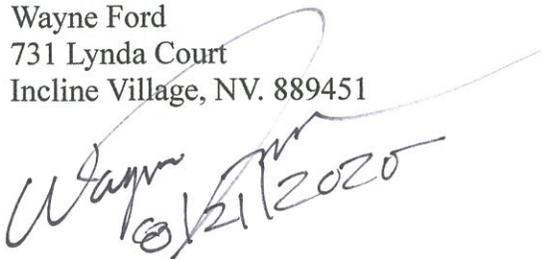
Note on the sheet: "Dear Wayne Hope this will do the job, thank for your letter Victor".

All this took place from 2018 to today. The home had last winter very few renters due to Covid. Now it is rented every week and most of these events are on the increase. When it comes to my other neighbors, two that are long term renters are fed up with the use of the home. I hate to see them move. Another owner after many years of remodel work just put her home on the market . She is right next to the STR.

---

The STR Use of a home is not Compatible with the Character of a Neighborhood.  
This use is a violation of the Zoning: TRPA need to enforce what they said in 2004. Stop the use.  
I will be moving this to the State Legislature for TRPA has passed on their environmental responsibility to the County. The County has gone along with the use that is detrimental to the Lake and my right of being a property owner who bought a home some 40 years ago as a single family residence . My Zoning has not been changed , yet the County and TRPA has allow for a violation of that Zoning in the attempt to approve STR use in a home two parcels away. Not right and not legal.

Wayne Ford  
731 Lynda Court  
Incline Village, NV. 889451



Wayne Ford  
10/21/2020

**From:** [Wayne Ford](#)  
**To:** [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Cc:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Marsha Berkbigler](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Scan  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 11:54:39 AM  
**Attachments:** [Scans2\\_010.pdf](#)

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Please read this email and have it part of the public record for the Washoe County First Reading of the STR Ordinance.  
Meeting Washoe County Commissioners Aug. 25, 2020

**Wayne Ford**  
**731 Lynda Court**  
**Incline Village, NV. 89451**

**From:** [Catherine J. Amargos](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Vacation Rental  
**Date:** Monday, August 10, 2020 12:45:23 PM

---

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Board:

I am writing in regards to the proposed vacation rental ordinance. As a long time, full time resident of Incline Village, I find the proposed ordinance over the top. The time frame is unreasonable. There is no way that homeowners, especially those of us who are elderly, are going to be able to do all that is listed in that unrealistic short time frame. Several of my friends have moved away due to health reasons or to be closer to family. They rely on that income their home brings in. This is Tahoe, nothing happens quickly. In my experience, people are going to need at least a year to comply with the rules.

In my four decades of living here, there have always been vacation rentals. Those old rundown Tahoe Cabins were charming to city folk. In recent years, I've watched as most of them have been improved. In my neighborhood, I've only had to ask vacation renters once politely to turn down their music and they did. We've had more problems with long term renters. More recently an anti STR neighbor around the corner has been harassing renters and homeowners who weren't even making noise. These anti-vacation rental neighbors are going to create a bigger nuisance in my opinion. They are going to create more work for all. What do you have in place for those folks who are just unhappy and going to file false complaints? There has to be fines for these folks, also, because once this ordinance is in place, there are going to be so many trivial complaints. The only fair way to enforce is for complaints to require proof, evidence of wrong doing.

Please consider all aspects before passing any ordinance.

Thank you.

Catherine J.

**From:** [csamende@gmail.com](mailto:csamende@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Short term rentals: for commissioners  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:09:48 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

We purchased our home, in the Ponderosa subdivision of Incline Village, in 2007. This subdivision is a residential-only area of single-family homes.

Beginning about 6 or 7 years ago, one of our neighbors, a Realtor who lives in Los Angeles, began renting out his large house, which is advertised on VRBO as sleeping 14 people. We began seeing (and hearing) large groups of young people hanging out on the property, drinking, smoking, yelling, laughing, and playing loud music, often starting in late afternoon and continuing into the middle of the night, sometimes into the morning. This often happens for days at a time, occasionally a week or more. There is a back deck on this property that overlooks a ravine and creek, along which our and many other houses sit, and that topography acts as an echo chamber that amplifies the noise. I have spoken via phone and text numerous times to the owner of the property, but he continues to rent to large groups of young people with no adult supervision. He does try to get them to quiet down, which sometimes works, but he also continues to rent to them.

The behavior we have witnessed includes:

- Yelling and laughing loudly into the wee hours of the morning
- Drinking and drug-taking
- Driving repeatedly up and down the street (at least a dozen times) with 6 or 7 people standing in the bed of a pickup truck, yelling at the top of their lungs
- Some kind of skateboard contest where about 15 people stood out in the street, yelling and laughing at full volume, for 6 or 7 hours (until I finally stopped them)
- Trash all over our property and adjacent parcels (bottles, cans, condoms, etc.)
- Trash left in open bags on the street, which the bears got into
- The kids of the cleaning service employees using the property every single night as a party house and crash pad (this is no longer happening, but did for several months)

I have no problem with someone renting out their property from time to time to CONSIDERATE renters, but because there is no recourse when there are too many people in a house or too much noise/partying/trash, I am in favor of a STRONG set of laws that govern these rentals. The property owner, whose residence is out of town and who doesn't have to live with this, and the county both profit from these transactions, while the permanent residents are just supposed to grin and bear it. This is unacceptable in quiet residential neighborhoods and we strongly urge you to consider regulations that provide some recourse for the full-time residents, ideally limiting these short-term and vacation rentals to city centers and high-density areas and prohibiting them in neighborhoods that have no businesses.

Please enter this e-mail into the public record for the Washoe County Commissioners meeting. Thank you.

Coral Amende  
334 2<sup>nd</sup> Creek Dr.  
Incline Village, NV 89451  
775-832-5423

---

**From:** rondatycer@aol.com <rondatycer@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** csamende@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Group 1 - STR Input to Commissioners

Dear Coral,

You let us know that you have a STR in your neighborhood. Would you be willing to write an email describing your concerns to the Washoe County Commissioners?

We're sending them a description of our problems with STRs in a last-ditch effort to influence the STR Ordinance before we go to Plan B. If at all possible, please each send an email on 8/19/20.

You may want to mention the current STR Ordinance does not protect you from future problems because the Ordinance does not limit STRs in IVCB by number, location, or density; and does not require IV residency to get a permit.

Please add a request that your email be made part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting 8/25/20.

Address to:

Eric P Brown            [epricebrown@washoecounty.us](mailto:epricebrown@washoecounty.us)  
Marsha Berkbigler      [mberkbigler@washoecounty.us](mailto:mberkbigler@washoecounty.us),  
Bob Lucey                [blucey@washoecounty.us](mailto:blucey@washoecounty.us),  
Jeanne Herman          [jherman@washoecounty.us](mailto:jherman@washoecounty.us),  
Vaughn Hartung        [vhartung@washoecounty.us](mailto:vhartung@washoecounty.us),  
Kitty Jung                [kjung@washoecounty.us](mailto:kjung@washoecounty.us),  
Kelly Mullin             [KMullin@washoecounty.us](mailto:KMullin@washoecounty.us),  
Kathy Emerson          [kemerson@washoecounty.us](mailto:kemerson@washoecounty.us)

BCC:                      [iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com](mailto:iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com)

Thanks again.

All the best,

Ronda

PS: If you happen to have emails for your neighbors who might also be bothered by the neighborhood STR, could you please forward this request to them and ask if they could also weigh in to the commissioners?

**From:** [Hauenstein, Mojra](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: STR Ordinance addendum  
**Date:** Monday, August 10, 2020 9:58:37 AM  
**Attachments:** [Addendum with references re STR Ordinance concerns.pdf](#)  
[Outlook-nllc4kkg.png](#)  
[Outlook-hzmuqqj4.png](#)  
[Outlook-0dqhpfpj.png](#)  
[Outlook-nn5jzh2p.png](#)  
[Outlook-oevrrnmr.png](#)

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**Mojra Hauenstein, Architect, AICP Planner, LEED AP  
Neighborhood Development  
Director of Planning & Building | Community Services  
Department**

[mhauenstein@washoecounty.us](mailto:mhauenstein@washoecounty.us) | Office: 775.328.3619

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For Planning call (775) 328-6100

Email: [Building@washoecounty.us](mailto:Building@washoecounty.us)

Email: [Planning@washoecounty.us](mailto:Planning@washoecounty.us)



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**From:** cbwillb@charter.net <cbwillb@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 7, 2020 6:52 PM  
**To:** Hauenstein, Mojra <MHauenstein@washoecounty.us>  
**Subject:** RE: STR Ordinance addendum

**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

Hi Mojra,

Many thanks for your reply and the info provided. A couple of thoughts below ... and, in addition, attached please find a more detailed addendum with rationales and code references. I prepared this to provide background for Eric Brown and have forwarded to him. I also sent copies to Kelly, Trevor Lloyd who responded to me in her absence and Commissioner Berkbigler.

Re your comments below:

1) I have clarified that I am requesting a review of the prior thinking re Public Accommodation in view of more recent developments and have included extensive rationale and code references.

2) I am not sure I understand your comments re occupancy - however, my intent was to focus on the Tiers for permitting - I believe that the threshold between Tier 1 and 2 is inflated and needs to be decreased. Again I hope I have clarified in the attached.

That said, I'd vote for a simple basic occupancy calculation - perhaps 2/bedroom, maybe plus 2 as is commonly used. Bedroom would need to be clarified/defined though perhaps use the assessor files which presumably would document permitted bedrooms???

3) Glad to hear re parking. Might consider specifying that renters need to identify spots for off road parking of any additional vehicles brought to the area. Not sure how to say it > Concept is: 4 people/1 off street parking spot. But they bring 2 cars or 1 car, 1 truck plus a boat - what then?

Thanks as always, Carole Black  
-----

From: "Hauenstein, Mojra"  
To: "cbwillb@charter.net"  
Cc: David", Kelly", Marsha"  
Sent: Wednesday August 5 2020 3:30:26PM  
Subject: STR Ordinance

Hello Mrs. Black, thank you for your email. Kelly is out for at least a week.

We plan to issue the draft staff report with the proposed ordinance 2 weeks prior to the August 25th BCC meeting for the introduction and 1st reading. This allows for a longer than standard public review period.

We have addressed your concerns with the Health District who has jurisdiction over the Public Health, Sanitation and Safety Requirements. At this time they will not be imposing such requirements which are applicable to *public accommodations*, which we have discussed in the past. Our legal counsel has determined that STRs are not considered *public accommodations* as defined per NRS 447 .

However, we hope you support the newly proposed language that addresses specific restrictions needed during a declared emergency:

**Section 110.319.50 Restrictions During a Declared Emergency.** STRs are subject to all lawful orders of the Governor of Nevada during a declared emergency and to all powers granted by law to the local governmental entities. For example, this may include but is not limited to additional operating restrictions or the requirement to cease operations until such time as the order is lifted.

Regarding the Occupancy limits, we are using the currently adopted I-codes and implementing methods of calculation that we currently use for issuing permits in accordance with existing life-safety Fire and Building codes.

Regarding Parking, we have taken the direction given to use by the Board of County Commissioners and will propose requiring 1 on-site (on the STR parcel, not n the right-of-way) parking space for every 4 occupants (another reason for occupancy limits).

We appreciate your input and hope that you can wait until we issue the draft ordinance as mentioned above. This will provide you with the full context of the

changes proposed.

I hope this helps. Please feel free to reach out to me. Thank you.



**Mojra Hauenstein, Architect, AICP Planner, LEED AP  
Neighborhood Development  
Director of Planning & Building | Community Services  
Department**

[mhauenstein@washoecounty.us](mailto:mhauenstein@washoecounty.us) | Office: 775.328.3619

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For Planning call (775) 328-6100

Email: [Building@washoecounty.us](mailto:Building@washoecounty.us)

Email: [Planning@washoecounty.us](mailto:Planning@washoecounty.us)



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## STR ORDINANCE RECOMMENDATION ADDENDUM AND REFERENCES:

This document is an addendum to the email from Carole Black dated 8/5/2020 to Washoe County Planning staff and copied to the County Manager and District 1 Commissioner. It includes additional detail and supporting references in Nevada (NRS) and Washoe County (WCC) documents.

### I. Public Health, Safety and Sanitation Requirements

**PREMISE:** STRs/Vacation Rentals are a form of Transient Lodging. This use poses similar and in some ways added risk as other forms of Transient Lodging and should therefore be regulated as such including Public Health and Safety elements required under Nevada statute as a Public Accommodation and any other relevant Washoe County and/or Nevada requirements for Transient Lodging uses.

### REFERENCES AND RATIONALE:

1) Nevada NRS defines “Transient Commercial Use” of units in certain planned communities (*note: this applies to the majority of Incline Village’s geography which was developed as a planned community with C, C & R’s governing area uses*):

NRS 116.340 Transient commercial use of units within certain planned communities. ...

4. As used in this section: ... (b) "**Transient commercial use**" means the use of a unit, for remuneration, as a hostel, hotel, inn, motel, resort, vacation rental or other form of transient lodging if the term of the occupancy, possession or use of the unit is for less than 30 consecutive calendar days.

**DISCUSSION:** Though C, C & R’s differ in the various planned community areas within Incline Village re STRs/Vacation Rental regulations, **this definition applies throughout the majority of Incline Village’s geography as a planned community with various governing C, C & R’s: STRs are thus classified as a “Transient Commercial Use” and “Transient Lodging”**

2) Washoe County Chapter 25 also defines Transient Lodging for “HOTELS, MOTELS AND LIKE ESTABLISHMENTS” as follows:

25.150 - "Transient guest" defined. "Transient guest" means any individual occupant who has or shall have the right of occupancy to any room for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes in a transient lodging facility for less than 28 consecutive days.

25.1501 - "Transient lodging" defined. "**Transient lodging**" means any facility, structure, or portion thereof occupied or intended or designed for occupancy by transient guests who pay rent or other consideration for dwelling, lodging, or sleeping purposes, and includes, without limitation, any hotel, resort hotel, motel, motor court, motor lodge, bed and breakfast, lodging house, rooming house, resident hotel and motel, guest house, tourist camp, resort and "dude" ranch, cabin, **condominium, timeshare properties, vacation home, apartment house**, recreational vehicle park/campground, guest ranch, or other similar structure or facility, or portion thereof. ... The term "**transient lodging**" does not include any of the following: ... any room within a private dwelling house or other single-family dwelling unit if the permanent or principal owner also resides in and occupies the

**dwelling** ... The burden of establishing that the housing or facility is not transient lodging as defined herein shall be on the owner thereof ...

**DISCUSSION: Per both Nevada NRS and existing Washoe County Code, STRs/Vacation Rentals are only referenced as classified with Transient Lodging and in NRS also labeled as a Transient Commercial Use.** The only applicable exception appears to be the rental of a room in a private dwelling or other single family dwelling unit if the owner resident occupies the unit. **This concept should therefore be captured in the STR Ordinance.**

I am aware that there are references to Transient Lodging in zoning/development sections of WCC where vacation rentals/STRs have not been explicitly listed because this use has not been previously considered anywhere in WC zoning/development code. As noted above, in these sections STRs should be clustered by description and actual use pattern with other forms of Transient Lodging. In addition, Washoe County's on-going parallel effort to de facto implement a zoning and development classification for STRs/Vacation Rentals without comprehensively processing as the massive code change is therefore not applicable at this time. This is flagged re the to date limited Area Plan public discussion where officials have appeared to misrepresented the proposed approach as containing "no" or "only minimal, unrelated" zoning changes.

**3) NRS Chapter 447 Public Accommodation is defined as applicable to "Hotels"** with this term defined as follows:

**NRS 447.010 "Hotel" defined. "Hotel" means every building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public, whether with or without meals, including, without limitation, a lodging house or rooming house where transient trade is solicited.**

**DISCUSSION: STR's/Vacation Rentals specifically meet the NRS Public Accommodation "Hotel" definition in all of its elements:**

- **building or structure held out to the public** > *STR's are units in buildings or entire buildings advertised to the public broadly on internet sites and by contracted realtors/property managers*

- **a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public** > *advertisements and reservations offer sleeping accommodations; STRs offer transient lodging as defined above and for lengths of stay often as short as 1-2 days which surely meets the description of "transient public"*

**NRS 447 is enforceable by the Heath District and defines public health and safety elements** (see list in Attachment A below) **which are just as applicable to STR's as to traditional hotels, motels, etc. Its requirements have been applied to other listed forms of Transient Lodging in WC Development code.** Though the list of NRS Public Accommodation elements was written some time ago, the elements seem applicable though amendments can certainly occur related to changes in medical science. In addition, if there are elements which need to be modified specifically to address the STR use or which are fully covered/duplicated in other sections of the STR Ordinance or related code, a list of modifications and cross references could be appended by Washoe County with rationale. Additional pertinent Public Health/Safety and/or OSHA safety requirements currently recommended by

Washoe County which have not apparently been promulgated in STRs should also be applied, e.g.,

- sharps/needle precautions and disposal at all times (“*routine*” directives)
- employees to wear a face covering in any space visited by the general public, even if no-one else is present currently (*current Emergency response*)

As Ms Hauenstein has recently mentioned, **it is correct that the Public Accommodation discussion has been raised previously and discarded by Washoe County re STRs though the rationale given the definitions above is unclear and the decision appears to me to be incorrect.** I do understand that there are apparently some controversial elements - I have, for example, heard concerns about requiring screens. However, West Nile Virus is found in this area and screens are an appropriate preventive measure. If screens are required for motels and hotels, why not in STRs – same situation (open windows and doors, perhaps more often in STRs with less frequent air conditioning), same clinical issue, same intervention!?!?!?

**SUMMARY: I am therefore requesting that the prior conclusions re Public Health/Safety regulations in STRs be explicitly reviewed at this time and prior to issuance of the revised STR Ordinance draft, particularly in the context of additional parameters which have changed in recent months and reinforce the potential error of the prior conclusion based on not viewing STRs formally as Transient Lodging/Businesses including:**

- **Designation of STRs/Vacation Rentals as an Essential Business by the Governor’s Declarations** reinforcing this as a lodging and business/commercial use
- **Designation of applicability of NV OSHA requirements as applicable to all Essential Businesses** which would therefore include STRs and again reinforcing as a business/commercial use
- **Urgency of implementing enhanced Public Health interventions currently, and the likely need to maintain some of these interventions as standards once Emergency Directives expire** so that limiting interventions to Emergency situations will be insufficient

**Specifically STRs/Vacation Rentals are a form of Transient Lodging. This use poses similar and in some ways added risk as other forms of Transient Lodging and should therefore be regulated as such including NRS 447 Public Health and Safety elements and any other relevant Washoe County and/or Nevada requirements/recommendations for Transient Lodging uses.**

**Alternatively, since Public Health and Safety requirements are needed and though the public health, safety or legal rationale for not taking the path recommended above escapes me, if approved on re-review by applicable legal and administrative opinion and regulation, Washoe County could consider developing its own list of comprehensive Public Health/Safety requirements related to the STR use as Transient Lodging.** In this case, the list should I believe provide appropriate public health/safety protections at all times with escalation as indicated during emergency situations. I understand and support that the necessary capability to escalate in unusual or emergency situations is apparently included in the current draft.

## II. Occupancy Limits and STR Tiers

**I have attached below documents submitted in earlier STR discussions to better illustrate two critical points on this topic:**

**i. STRs function is most comparable to other types of Transient Lodging in that stays are typically very transient and guests are unknown, often minimally vetted, poorly supervised and typically unfamiliar with the lodging facility or the environmental risks in the area. The latter item is of course of particular risk concern in our area. See Attachment E.**

In contrast other uses which I believe have been incorrectly used as comparators in the STR Ordinance's Tier proposal such as group homes, etc typically include clients or guests who stay longer, are better vetted and supervised and/or quickly become more familiar with the facility/environment. In addition, these uses are not referenced within "Transient Lodging" listings in WC or Nevada state regulations.

**ii. The proposed STR Tier structure links complexity of use with added regulatory requirements for enhanced permit review. Tier 1 was listed as most closely resembling actual residential use with minimal requirements for permit review. However, as noted above likely incorrect comparators were used in setting occupancy threshold for the Tier 1 > Tier 2 transition. As the attached graph (Attachment F) clearly shows, the average actual residential use (and average actual historic STR occupancy) is less than 30% of the proposed threshold between Tier 1 and 2. Thus the Tier 1 > 2 threshold is artificially inflated and should be reduced substantially to better mirror actual residential use to allow for implementation of enhanced permit review at appropriate levels to more likely address adversely impacted adjacent residential property owners. Alternatively the Tier 1 permit process could be enhanced (AR) to allow for adjacent neighbor input.**

## ATTACHMENTS

### Attachment A. NRS Chapter 447 Public Accommodation Section Titles:

447.007 – 447.010 *Definitions; “Health authority” defined; “Hotel” defined.* > See content discussed above

447.020 Cleanliness of bedding; worn out and unfit bedding

447.030 Extermination of vermin.

447.040 Cleanliness of rooms used for sleeping

447.045 Hotel required to be kept in sanitary condition.

447.050 Certain areas of hotel prohibited from use as quarters for living or sleeping.

447.060 Ventilation of rooms.

447.070 Windows and outside doors to be equipped with screens

447.080 Air space, floor area and ceiling height of rooms.

447.090 Amount of bedding required; furnishing clean sheets and pillow slips; size of sheets.

447.100 Fumigation of room after occupation by person having contagious or infectious disease.

447.110 Facilities for bathing.

447.120 Towels to be furnished.

447.130 Toilets required in hotels or other establishments for transient lodging: Number; facilities for washing hands.

447.135 Entrance to corridor leading to toilet facility to be marked with sign that conforms to requirements of Americans with Disabilities Act and includes features for use by visually impaired persons; reporting of violations; duties of Attorney General; enforcement.

447.140 Ventilation of room containing water closet, bathtub or shower.

447.145 Systems for heating and ventilating hotels or other establishments for transient lodging.

447.150 Exemption from requirement for number of water closets, bathtubs or showers in certain hotels.

447.160 Disposal of sewage; disinfection of toilets.

447.170 Supply of water; plumbing.

447.180 Disposal of garbage and rubbish.

447.185 Regulation of construction or reconstruction of hotel or other establishment for transient lodging.

447.190 Enforcement of chapter by health authority; records.

447.200 Access for inspection of hotel.

447.210 Criminal penalty; each day of violation constitutes separate offense.

## **Attachment B. Definition of NV Essential Businesses includes Lodging and specifically STRs/Vacation Rentals**

- **NV Guidance: Directives re Essential Businesses specifically lists “Lodging” as an essential business category** ([http://gov.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/govnewnv.gov/Content/News/Emergency\\_Orders/2020\\_attachments/All-Guidance-Issued-on-Directives-003-and-013-Essential-Non-Essential-4-16-20.pdf](http://gov.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/govnewnv.gov/Content/News/Emergency_Orders/2020_attachments/All-Guidance-Issued-on-Directives-003-and-013-Essential-Non-Essential-4-16-20.pdf))

- **March 20, 2020 Emergency Regulation of the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management listed an Amendment to Chapter 414 of NAC which includes:**

**1. “Essential Licensed Business” means a business operating in the state of Nevada that provides: ... (aa) Hotels, motels or short-term rentals, ...**

**DISCUSSION: Though issued as part of emergency declarations, the clear intent is to list STR’s as lodging businesses.** The use and thus this categorization are unchanged in non-emergent situations.

**Attachment C. NV OSHA regulations are applied to all Essential and Non-essential Businesses operating in Phase 2.** The document describing this requirement was attached to my email dated 8/5/2020.

**Attachment D. NV OSHA regulation: NRS Chapter 618 defines NV OSHA as applicable to businesses and their employees.**

**NRS Chapter 618 NV OSHA indicates:**

**NRS 618.015 Purpose of chapter. 1. It is the purpose of this chapter to provide safe and healthful working conditions for every employee**

NRS 618.085 “Employee” defined. “Employee” means every person who is required, permitted or directed by any employer to engage in any employment, or to go to work or be at any time in any place of employment, under any appointment or contract of hire or apprenticeship, express or implied, oral or written, whether lawfully or unlawfully employed. ...

NRS 618.315 Authority of Division over working conditions; limitations; safety orders.

1. The Division has authority over working conditions in all places of employment except as limited by subsection 2.
2. The authority of the Division does not extend to working conditions which: (a) Exist in household domestic service; ...

**DISCUSSION: By declaring NV OSHA as applicable to all Essential Businesses and thus to STRs/Vacation Rentals, this use is thus clearly again classified as a business.** As a corollary, as a business and not a household, the exclusion for “household domestic service” does not apply re STRs.

Attachment E:

**Use Comparison Table: STRs DO NOT MIMIC RESIDENTIAL USE**

| Lodging Type                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | ZONING / USE        |                     |                       | SUPERVISION / KNOWN?      |                        |                                  |                            | SERVICES & REGULATION EXAMPLES                  |                                    |                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Com vs Res Use      | Zoning Status       | Daily Rent Fee; TOT   | On-site Owner or Manager  | Visitor known to Owner | LOS; Offered to                  | Visitor knows area/culture | Occupancy/Parking Actively Regulated/ Monitored | Food Utensils Available/ Regulated | Public Health/ Safety Regs Apply |
| <i>Categorized as Transient Lodging by <u>WCC 25.1501</u> and <u>NRS 447.010</u> (w or w/out meals); <u>NRS 116.340</u></i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                     |                     |                       |                           |                        |                                  |                            |                                                 |                                    |                                  |
| Hotel/ Motel                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | C                   | Varies              | yes                   | yes: manager              | no                     | short/ public                    | no                         | yes                                             | yes/yes                            | yes                              |
| Time-share                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | C                   | Varies              | yes                   | yes: manager              | no                     | short/ public                    | no                         | yes                                             | yes/yes                            | yes                              |
| B & B                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | C                   | Varies              | yes                   | yes: mngr or owner        | no                     | short/ public                    | no                         | yes                                             | yes/yes                            | yes                              |
| <b>STR's now</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>C per WCC 25</b> | <b>Not allowed</b>  | yes                   | <b>no</b>                 | no                     | short/ public                    | no                         | <b>no</b>                                       | <b>yes/no**</b>                    | <b>no**</b>                      |
| <i>Residential - Not Categorized as Transient Lodging in <u>WCC</u> or <u>NRS</u></i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                     |                     |                       |                           |                        |                                  |                            |                                                 |                                    |                                  |
| Group Home                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | R                   | Parallel to res use | charge/ stay; no TOT  | manager                   | yes, mngr              | longer; must meet eligibility    | yes                        | yes                                             | yes/yes                            | yes                              |
| LT or Seasonal Rental                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | R                   | Parallel to res use | charge/ month; no TOT | owner in touch            | yes                    | long                             | yes                        | yes, by in touch owner                          | n/a: renter is resident            | n/a: renter is resident          |
| Owner's Family/ Friends                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | R                   | Parallel to res use | none                  | owner on-site or in touch | yes                    | varies; limit to friends/ family | yes, close owner contact   | yes, by in touch owner                          | n/a: not rented                    |                                  |
| <p><b>Legend:</b> "Varies" notation indicates variability among regulatory zones, typically allowed or allowed with restrictions in tourist and/or commercial areas and not allowed or allowed with restrictions elsewhere;<br/> * indicates proposed in <u>STR</u> Ordinance while **Recommend add Public Accommodations or equivalent</p> |                     |                     |                       |                           |                        |                                  |                            |                                                 |                                    |                                  |

Attachment F:

**ZONING COLLATERAL DAMAGE: STRs DO NOT Mimic Residential Use & Programs Must Consider this Variance**

- Proposed STR Tier 1 level fails to meet design objective
  - As currently described will inappropriately subject adjacent residents particularly in denser residential areas to significant adverse Neighborhood Compatibility impacts
- Proposed STR Tier 1 remedies:
  - Reduce the Tier 1 upper occupancy limit to ≤ 4 to more closely mirror actual residential use
  - Require Tier 1 Discretionary Permit (AR) in residential areas to allow neighbor noticing and input

|                  |                                  |                        |            |                                             |                                |
|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Occupants</b> | <b>10</b>                        |                        |            |                                             |                                |
|                  |                                  | <b>2.4</b>             | <b>2.8</b> | <b>~4.5</b>                                 | <b>4</b>                       |
|                  | <b>Tier 1 WC Draft Ordinance</b> | <b>Census Data</b>     |            | <b>Avg Short Term Rentals (VGID survey)</b> | <b>Tier 1 Proposed Maximum</b> |
|                  | <b>Avg Residence</b>             | <b>Avg Family Size</b> |            |                                             |                                |

**From:** [Dene Bourne](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short Termed Rentals  
**Date:** Monday, August 10, 2020 8:17:04 AM

---

[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good day, Every type of rental has its issues for the owner and landlord. Short termed rentals are just the same but with a different set of issues. I believe they are a good idea and we enjoy being guests. I own several properties which are in part short termed rentals. I have good neighbors who I want to keep. I have had zero problems that effected the neighbors. I am responsible to my neighbors and to my community.

It appears that Incline has trouble with parking, trash, noise and other rude people who either live there, work there or are visitors. The FaceBook pages are full of terrible and irresponsible behavior. I would like to see that stopped also. I would like more dumpsters at beaches in the summer to stop beach goers from just leaving it next to a filled dumpster. I would like signs showing the high fines that will be charged to people who park where there is no parking and then I would like the police to follow through with fines. I would like the Short Termed Rentals to be for people over 25 yr old. Toronto Canada did that to cut down on the young party goers and the software can do that. My STR say one guest has to be 25 yr old or older and that may be why I have fewer problems. I can ask for a photo ID after booking.

PLEASE DON'T PUNISH THE GOOD AND RESPONSIBLE OWNERS AND LANDLORDS. But rather really hit the wrong doers. People as tourist can enjoy the area and be responsible. Incline and the Tahoe area are not the exclusive property of the locals but I can understand completely their angst with the irresponsible owners or property managers who let visitors run wild in these lovely homes. Please find a way to discriminate between responsible property owners and the irresponsible ones.  
Deanne Bourne

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Ellie](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Cc:** [Erin Casey Placer County](#); [Todd Leopold Placer CEO](#); [William Penzel](#); [lwalsh@douglasnv.us](#); [wrice@douglasnv.us](#); [David "Dave Nelson](#); [John Engels](#); [John Marshall TRPA Legal](#); [Joanne Marchetta TRPA](#); [Sue Novasel TRPA GB](#); [Bill Yeates TRPA GB](#)  
**Subject:** Washoe County Vacation Home Rental/STR PROBLEM MUST be addressed immediately Comments for the Record August 25, 2020 meeting  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 9:12:56 PM

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Washoe County Commissioners,  
Washoe County Vacation Home Rental/STR PROBLEM MUST be addressed immediately Comments for the Record August 25, 2020 meeting

Much like Lake Tahoe in Douglas County Nevada, the Vacation Home Rental PROBLEM has escalated beyond anyone's perceptions. South Lake Tahoe is ridden with not your regular type vacationers but large groups of younger people that respect nothing in the way of private property rights, quiet neighborhoods and just plain courtesy to fellow human beings.

Several comments have been submitted and verbally (public comment during Douglas County Board of County Commissioners 8-18-2020, 8-12-2020, etc.) expressed in the past several weeks about the nuisance level issues of trash, rudeness, parking on streets, etc.

Enforcement is difficult to keep up with and Douglas County has recently released the following information. A new third party contractor has been hired to address the overwhelming enforcement issues.

[Douglas County Public Information Officer Melissa Blosser • 1 day ago](#)

[Douglas County Advises the Public About Process for Reporting VHR Issues.](#) Stateline NV- Douglas County would like to advise the public the process for reporting issues with Vacation Home Rental (VHR) properties in the Tahoe Township in Douglas County has changed. Effective immediately, a new third part administer, HdL, will handle VHR complaints.

The Douglas County Sheriff's Office will continue to handle noise and parking violations. As a reminder, a VHR is defined as one or more dwelling units, including either a single-family, detached or multiple-

family attached unit, rented for the purpose of overnight lodging for a period of not more than 28 days.

“It is important to the County that we provide a way for our residents and visitors to effectively report issues and concerns involving VHR’s,” said Patrick Cates, Douglas County Manager. “Moving forward we will work in collaboration with the Sheriff’s Office and HdL to resolve and respond to complaints in a timely manner.”

Noise and Parking Complaints For non-emergency issues the Douglas County Sheriff’s Office will respond in person to any complaints related to noise and/or parking. In these cases, please contact Douglas County Sheriff’s Office non-emergency line at 775-782-5126.

If you feel there is a true emergency, please call 911.

All Other Complaints Non noise or parking complaints should be directed to HdL.

HdL work diligently to investigate and resolve complaints received. Please contact HdL at: Email address: [DouglasCounty@hdlgov.com](mailto:DouglasCounty@hdlgov.com)

Phone: (775) 238-4135 HdL is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If a complaint is made after hours, HdL will initiate an investigation and take necessary action the following business day.

**You as County Commissioners MUST take an active roll in fixing this problem NOW.**

**Maybe it's time for TRPA to also take an active roll in this systemic problem as this is a REGIONAL LAKE TAHOE ISSUE.**

Respectfully, Ellie Waller Douglas County Resident, Lake Tahoe is my Backyard

**From:** [Penny Dupin](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Kathy Emerson](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** SHORT TERM RENTALS IN INCLINE VILLAGE  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 4:21:30 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I have been a resident of Incline Village for the past 24 years, living on Cole Circle which has remained very peaceful until this summer. The reason: new home buyers have turned their house into a STR. Without going into detail, renters must pay \$1550.00 per night for the privilege of tormenting all neighbors with loud music, foul language, intoxicating behavior, exposed garbage and multiple automobiles. Evidently we are not alone! Residents living on 2 streets above mine are encountering similar situations as well as multiple locations in Incline Village. My question to you is: While the revenue is quite attractive to Washoe County, what is the solution to this problem and what are you going to do about it? And please.... not another roundtable discussion to discuss the issues. Actions speak louder than words.

Penny Dupin  
545 Cole Circle  
Incline Village  
775 750-4745  
[penny.dupin@yahoo.com](mailto:penny.dupin@yahoo.com)

**From:** [JOSEPH FARRELL](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#)  
**Cc:** [Edie Farrell](#); [Sara Schmitz](#); [Nick Maiocco](#); [Nick Maiocco](#); [Ronda Tycer](#); [Todoroff, Pete](#); [Diane Heirsberg](#); [Judy Miller](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** STR Additional Suggestions  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 10:46:24 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hi Marsha:

Thanks for going to bat for Incline Village in terms of STR's and also a belated thank you for all the work you have done over the years to bring the Tax Revolt against the county to a hopeful end!

**Additional STR Suggestions that could be instituted sooner than later (Short of Banning STR's):**

1. Mandate a rental license with a high fee for those wishing to rent as a STR.
2. Cleaning requirements: Mandate certification by Washoe County Health department that the STR meets CDC cleaning requirements AND that the home be vacant 72 hours post cleaning prior to new renters coming into the STR. As I mentioned today on the ZOOM call, Marriott Corporation has a stringent cleaning requirement due to COVID and does not rent a hotel room or timeshare until 72 hours has passed post cleaning.
3. Mandate NLTFPD defensible space certification for all STR's.
4. Mandate bear boxes. HOWEVER, some STR's house up to 12 people who generate a lot of garbage. Over the 4th of July Weekend our neighbors STR's left a number of garbage bags in an open garage since the Bear Box had reached capacity. A gift to bears. How can we police this?
5. Mandate significant "fines" for multiple infractions of the STR regulations. After 3 infractions, the STR owner is BANNED from renting forever.
6. **Define STR as a property owner renting their home for a MINIMUM of 28 days. This has worked in Hawaii and I believe an outdated Washoe Co. ordinance also had a 28 day minimal rental timeframe??**
7. Another Key issue is how the regulations will be enforced? E.g. is it up to neighbors of STR to be the enforcers????
8. Bottom line: if we can not achieve a ban on STR. let's attempt to make the regulations so stringent that home owners will not want the hassle or expense of becoming a STR property.

Should I go on the [washoe311@washoecounty.us](mailto:washoe311@washoecounty.us) and post the above or will this email to use suffice.  
Thanks again.

Kind Regards,

Joe

Joe Farrell  
546 Cole Circle  
IV, NV  
Cell #: 925-980-4888

**From:** [Joe Farrell](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Kathy Emerson](#)  
**Cc:** [edith farrell](#); [Joe Farrell](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rentals (STR) Incline Village/Washoe Co.  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 12:37:12 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners:

**I would like this email read and be included as part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioners Meeting on 8.25/2020.**

In the recent past I have articulated my significant concerns relating to the STR issues in Incline Village. I would like to preface my comments and suggestions; which until you have experienced out of control STR's, you really can not appreciate the nuisance and aggravation a STR can be to a quiet neighborhood and community. My hope is that you as commissioners understand the seriousness of the STR problem to residents of Incline Village where 90% of all Washoe County STR properties are in Incline Village. Unfortunately many investors have bought homes in Incline Village to rent out for significant profit. They are operating a Business in a residential area which is suspect; essentially running a hotel in residential neighborhoods.

Our community is NOT a tourist resort to the residents since many of us moved to Incline Village to retire peacefully and to enjoy the amenities of N. Lake Tahoe. Incline Village should also not be viewed as a "cash cow" for Washoe County for collection of "rental taxes"!

**A brief summary of my experiences with STR:**

- Over the past 5-6 years we have experienced excessive noise (all day) and numerous times late into the night from drunk and obnoxious renters on streets above our home (Len Way and Spencer) which have resulted in numerous calls to the Sheriff's department. Additionally, a house burnt down 3-4 years ago (on Spencer) when STR renters built a fire on the deck, which if the Fire Department did not arrive rapidly, we could have had a major forest fire burn down our town. A similar incident with fire occurred on 7/9/2020 on Len Way.
- Recently, for nearly 10 days our neighbors rented to two large families over the 4th of July Holiday. This house is a set up for a huge party with a hot tub in the backyard and sleeping capacity of 12; charging \$1550.00/night. Meaning multiple families required to pay the nightly rate which in reality spells TROUBLE for the neighbors.
- We experienced constant noise (e.g. loud rap music, yelling drunk and dope smoking parties) from 10 AM to 10 PM. The noise was so intense our 1.5 year old grandson could not take a nap at 2 PM and had difficulty going to sleep at 7 PM. In the mountains, hopefully you are aware that sound travels a long way (our master bedroom is 150" from the hot tub; thus we hear everything).
- One of the above renters left garage doors open with bags of garbage in an open sight for bears to feast on. Yes, we have bears roaming our neighborhood!

- There was also not enough "onsite" parking for one group of renters who had friends come for their 4 day party!

From my summary above, you likely will understand **why I favor a ban on STR's**. It is evident the current STR Ordinance does not protect me from future problems since the Ordinance does not limit STR's in IV/CB by number, location or density; and it does not require Incline Village residents who rent out their homes to have a permit.

**Furthermore, I am concerned that the "proposed" Washoe County STR guidelines are not rigorous enough to control and enforce the Short Term Renter violations and nuisance complaints.** Besides excessive noise, I am also concerned about safety (fire issues), excessive drunkenness which could lead to violence, garbage left outside of homes which attract bears, lack of parking on site of STR's and the obvious fact that the County is allowing residents to rent homes out to the public as if the home is a hotel in a residential zone.

In sum, I am not happy about the Washoe County STR proposed regulations and ordinance. The regulations need to be more stringent, enforceable and yield significant financial consequences if the county decides not to ban STR's (our County should BAN SRT's). My concerns and story is only one of many from concerned residents in Incline Village.

Thanks for addressing my concerns.

Sincerely,

Joe Farrell  
Resident: Incline Village

**From:** [Eddie Farrell](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** STR  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 11:24:09 AM

---

[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioner Mullin,

I have owned my home at [546 Cole Circle](#), Incline Village for 17 years and never in my life have my husband and I experienced such disruptive, loud aggressive behavior from renters at the STR next door or in the neighboring area. We had a terrible 10 day experience from 2 different renters in the STR next to us. The music and voices were extremely loud all day long, there were way more than the allowed 10 people in the house and the cars were all over the street. I happened to have my 18 month grandson one weekend and he was unable to nap or get to sleep at night due to the noise. When we complained to the owner of the STR she only said sorry but that she bought the house to “rent as much as possible”.

The proposed ordinances do not limit the number of STR in residential areas, has no teeth in enforcing any rules and doesn't have a minimal number of days that must be rented at a time. These houses are run like hotels and not vacation homes. I think a minimal of 2 weeks rental would limit the rowdy visitors that come for the weekend and party as hard as possible. One renter next door said “when I go on vacation I party as hard as I can and never go back to the same place again”. His was the worst behavior of all the others.

I beg you commissioners to listen to those of us who live, work, protect our town and the surrounding area. We have invested our money and time here to keep the area healthy and clean.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Eddie Farrell

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [JOSEPH FARRELL](#)  
**To:** [Ronda Tycer](#); [Diane Heirshberg](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Cc:** [Judy Miller](#); [Sara Schmitz](#); [Edie Farrell](#); [Nick Maiocco](#); [Nick Maiocco](#); [Todoroff, Pete](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: South Lake Tahoe bans vacation rentals  
**Date:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:43:32 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

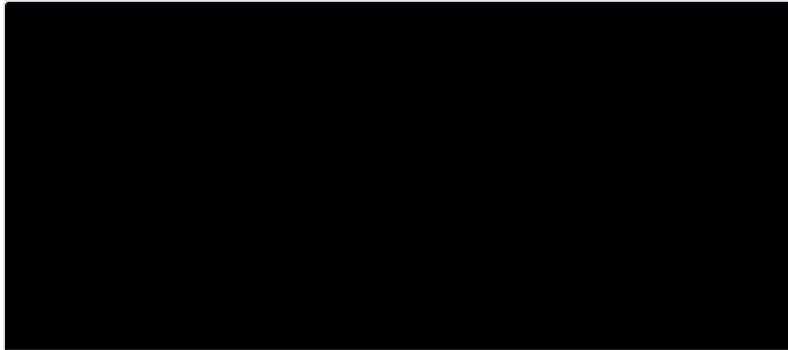
Hi Ronda, Diane and Kelly:

I apologize for not copying you on this email I sent to a number of my neighbors, Sara Schmitz and Marsha Berkgigler. It relates to an article that appeared in the paper last week concerning STR in South Lake Tahoe (See Forward below) and my experience with "noise" awakening me on Thursday night. S. South has some tough regulations that we likely should adapt if we cannot get a full BAN on STR.

Please also follow the email stream from Marsha and Sara. I believe we have the attention of Marsha and I know Sara's on side in a big way since she is dealing with STR's issues with a neighbor.

Check the new law on STR in Oahu!!!!!!!!!!

[3 Months After New Law, Oahu Vacation Rental Numbers Drop on Oahu](#)



### 3 Months After New Law, Oahu Vacation Rental Numbers Drop on Oahu

Ryan Finnerty

The number of vacation rentals on Oahu declined more than 5 percent from the same time last year. Honolulu's rec...

I trust this topic will be discussed at length on Peter's Friday Zoom call. Please call me as needed.

Kind Regards,

Joe

Joe Farrell

Cell #: 925-980-4888

---

**From:** Joe Farrell [mailto:jpfarrell@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 15, 2020 9:26 AM  
**To:** Sara Schmitz; Nick Maiocco; Marsha Berkbigler; Edie Farrell; kate pearce; Stephen Pearce; ketzz@aol.com; Cliff Dobler; Barry Nudelman; Doug Willinger  
**Subject:** Fwd: South Lake Tahoe bans vacation rentals

Hi All:

Just received this from one of our neighbors.

My hope is that Washoe Co. follows suit to make STR a difficult and expensive business (STR is a business in our own neighborhoods) endeavor or truly ban STR in Incline Village.

I am really feed up with the STR situation in Incline Village. Last night I was awakened at 1:00 AM by honking car horns and obviously drunk people yelling & screaming. The noise was likely 2-3 blocks away, however, sound travels in the mountains. Needless to say, very alarming since STR are a breeding ground for visitors to party without respect of our neighborhoods and our citizens!!

The Washoe Co. proposed STR regulations are not strong at all. I plan to write to all commissioners of the county with my suggestions of which I hope are taken seriously.

Please take time to write the County commissioners this week so our voices are heard strongly at the Washoe Co. commissioners meeting on 8/25. I know I am preaching to the choir with this email. Thanks neighbors!

Kind Regards,

Joe

Joe Farrell

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "fdelfer@att.net" <fdelfer@att.net>  
**Date:** August 14, 2020 at 3:15:53 PM PDT  
**To:** Joe Farrell <jpfarrell@sbcglobal.net>  
**Subject:** South Lake Tahoe bans vacation rentals

# Joe, FYI. Frank

## South Lake Tahoe bans vacation rentals: What you need to know

Measure T effectively banned vacation home rentals, such as those on Airbnb and VRBO, from residential neighborhoods in South Lake Tahoe. In the November 2018 election, Measure T passed in South Lake Tahoe, meaning that short-term rentals, such as Airbnb and VRBO, will be partially banned.

[The measure allows for unlimited rentals in commercial zones](#), but outside the tourist core, rental homes will be limited for tourists. While permanent residents would still be able to rent out their homes for up to 30 days per year, the measure will gut the vacation home rental business in South Lake Tahoe.



Volume 90%

Author: Samantha Solomon

Published: 5:44 PM PST December 4, 2018

Updated: 12:17 PM PST December 5, 2018



*If you are viewing on the ABC10 app, [tap here for multimedia.](#)*

In the November election, Measure T passed in South Lake Tahoe by only 58 votes, meaning that short-term rentals, such as Airbnb and VRBO, will be partially banned.

[The measure allows for unlimited rentals in commercial zones](#), but outside the tourist core, rental homes will be limited for tourists. While permanent residents would still be able to rent out their homes for up to 30 days per year, the measure will gut the vacation home rental business in South Lake Tahoe.

After the votes were all counted 50.42 voted "yes" on the measure, while 49.58 percent of voters chose "no."

South Lake Tahoe is the lake's only incorporated city and is a large tourist area during ski season, which is just beginning in Northern California. The public now has five days to request a recount. That must be done in writing to the local election official.

For those in the area trying to make a profit from seasonal rentals, short-term rentals are like businesses. Measure T will severely limit homeowners' ability to run this business effectively, even if they are permanent residents. The measure could also somewhat stifle the tourist economy in Lake Tahoe, where the demand for short-term rentals is high during peak times.

Before the vote, a vacation home rental (VHR) permit was required for any person interested in operating a VHR outside of the tourist core. Residents of South Lake Tahoe could then drive up tourist interest by posting their homes on Airbnb and other rental property websites.

Now, Measure T will eliminate most VHRs by 2021, except for

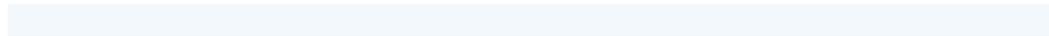
certain “qualified” VHRs. Based on a [VHR Map](#) provided by the city of South Lake Tahoe, there are up to 1,400 active VHRs in residential neighborhoods, the owners of which could lose their permits with the passage of Measure T. In the community of Al Tahoe alone, there are more than 100 active VHRs, and this is just one of several South Lake Tahoe residential neighborhoods.

According to the "No on Measure T" group, “vacation home renters infuse over \$100 million annually” into the local economy, which will likely be reduced with the loss of VHRs in residential areas. Visitors to Lake Tahoe can still stay in traditional lodging properties, such as hotels, motels, condominiums, and timeshares. Measure T also still allows VHRs to operate within the tourist core and all commercial areas.

For those in the South Lake Tahoe area who are unsure if their property is in a commercial area or a residential zone, the city of South Lake Tahoe's [Neighborhood Zoning Map](#) can help.

---

**Want to know how small business owners in South Lake Tahoe are dealing with lack of snow? Check out the video below:**



**From:** [cindy.ferrell@wellsfargoadvisors.com](mailto:cindy.ferrell@wellsfargoadvisors.com)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rentals  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 11, 2020 9:29:06 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello, I'm unable to attend the board meeting addressing short term rentals but I would like to voice my input as a 36-year resident. I own a single family home in Incline Village and have observed significant and steady deterioration of the community in Incline Village and surrounding areas throughout Tahoe over the years and short-term visitors have inundated the parks, beaches, roads, etc. Here are my observations:

Short term rentals cause overcrowding. Most 3 bedroom units are advertised as 'able to sleep 9 or 10 occupants'. Tenants often bring more than the advertised maximum. Many more than a typical long term renter or owner would occupy.

Short term rentals are essentially operating hotels in residential neighborhoods which were by their nature intended as residences not commercial hotels. This increases the parking problems, trash problems with high occupancy and constant turnover, and lack of respect for the surrounding nature and environment and wildlife due to constant turnover with tourists who don't live in the area but are just passing through for a day or two.

Short term rental owners are not prioritizing community desirability or livability. The purpose of operating short term rentals is maximizing cash flow.

NOBODY wants to live next door to a short term rental. There is no neighborhood environment while you have a hotel next door.

Affordability of housing has significantly declined due the fact that many owners specifically purchase property around Lake Tahoe for the sole purpose of turning the property into a hotel (short term rental). Buyers are snapping up properties like business inventory without regard for community improvement or enhancement. There is less and less ability for a family to purchase or rent a fairly priced residence to live in, raise a family in, send their children to school, etc.

Most towns around the lake have several hotels already. The Lake area was not designed and CAN NOT handle the extraordinary overcrowding that short term rentals bring on top of the hotels. The result of exponential overcapacity of short-term visitors is obvious. Just check out all the trash on the beaches and left unsecured at short term rentals which exacerbates the problem of bears getting acclimated to trash, traffic jams, loud noise, overcrowded beaches, and illegal parking.

Many other communities limit rentals to 30-days minimum this would help tremendously. Please let me know how this problem is allowed to continue and worsen year after year? Soon there won't be many locals left who care about community they'll be driven out by reduced quality of life and lack

of affordability and pollution of our great natural wonders.

Let's make community decisions with community in mind over and above cash flow.

Thank you,

**Cynthia Ferrell, Incline Village homeowner and community member.**  
[Cindy.ferrell@wfa.com](mailto:Cindy.ferrell@wfa.com)  
**775-690-3772**

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**From:** [Wayne Ford](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Marsha Berkbigler](#)  
**Subject:** Residential Use/ STR"s bedrooms, sleeping areas  
**Date:** Saturday, August 15, 2020 10:48:01 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

## BEDROOM USE OF A HOME GENERAL AREAS FOR SLEEPING:

Adding a smoke or carbon monoxide detector does not make a area safe for bedroom use.

A. If a living room has a gas appliance in it that has been added to a fire-place , if that was in a bedroom it would need a sealed combustion rating, so no carbon monoxide could escape from the unit. These are rated units for bedroom use and may not have been looked at for a living room.

B. If a living room has a door that opens to the garage, that would not be allowed for a bedroom.

C. There is a section in the code that deals with light and ventilation for all rooms. Bedrooms are most important for meeting this code. Many times in plan review the light and ventilation is not well reviewed for living rooms. Most meet light, yet may not meet venting.

There is also the section in the code where based on the relationship of one room to the other the opening distance between each room will make the assessment for the area as two different rooms as one big room. This can change the light, and ventilation numbers for the area.

D. Add required egress for bedrooms that is not required for living room areas you have a real challenge in saying it is alright to use a living room as a "legal" bedroom. Living rooms may have awing casement or slider windows, that do not allow for exit clearances.

There is a difference between a "legal" room being defined for sleeping, or a home owner just having the grand-kids sleep in the living room, when they came to visit. Ask your attorney's about this.

So it would be best to not have this in the STR Code and allow for areas of a home to be deemed to allowed for sleeping, that were not approved as bedroom, when the home was built. The Code should refer to the 2018 IBC, 2018 IRC and the 2017 NEC, for current approved sleeping areas approved for the home's building permits, when constructed.

When you go into just adding smoke and carbon monoxide detection someone will turn a garage into bedroom space. You know it has been done and a garage does not meet egress, light and ventilation or electrical codes in most cases.

Then there is the electrical code for Bedrooms. ARC and Ground Fault needed for these rooms. Where living rooms do not have the same requirement. This is to protect the use of electrical blankets and other heating systems that have transformers in them. On a electrical system that does not have a ARC Fault the transformer can over-heat and cause a fire when one is sleeping.

The breaker does not shut off if not ARC, so the person can die from smoke and fumes.

I speak from experience for if my son had been in his water bed when this took place ( day time) he would have died of the fumes from the plastic. Living rooms under the code as many other rooms do not have the proper protection for being a sleeping area.

The blanket ( pun intended) approval for other rooms to be used as sleeping areas is dangerous to people who rent home as a STR and may become a big liability for the County.

Wayne Ford

**From:** [Wayne Ford](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Marsha Berkbigler](#); [Thomsen, Richard](#)  
**Subject:** Follow up to email August 13 2020/ 8:59 PM  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 5:19:27 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

## Kelly: Washoe County Snow Removal Regulations:

Chapter 70. 425/ 70.437 See that section.

Needs to be part of the STR Code and needs to be part of the packet sent or available to all renters in Incline Village/. Crystal Bay , Washoe County. Effective from Nov 1 - May 1 of any year to allow for snow removal on the streets. It is a safety issue for all who live here.

It is also a cost issue to the County: In the past heavy snow years Rich Thomsen in one of the years has at least 7 plus cars, that were hit by the plows. That will in many cases disable the plow and cause costs to the County to repair. ( delay in the removal on the streets and paths).

That is why I have included his email in this area for your to contact him on the need to have STR renters know about the rules for winter snow removal on the roads for our area.

## Washoe County Snow Storage Areas.

Snow storage areas are a little more difficult to deal with, yet in may cases the snow storage can be between homes , like on Lynda Court. Many of these areas

are not marked , yet needed to have a place to store he snow. I believe if such a location has been used over the years that a sign need to be place ( or signs) by the STR owner so the plow is not stopped from putting the snow on the area because of guest parking. Just having all the parking on the site does not take care of this kind of conflict.

In living here I will tell people not to park at the corner of my property for it is a snow storage area.

Over time as the snow gets piled up then it is apparent that it is being used for that purpose.

Wayne Ford

From: [Wayne Ford](#)  
To: [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
Cc: [Marsha Berkgigler](#)  
Subject: STR"s/ Parking  
Date: Thursday, August 13, 2020 8:59:20 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Ms. Mullin: A few observations: When a occupancy is over 10 to me the number of cars is at least three and in some cases 4. Had 8 cars for a 4 bdrm home last week near me.

Garages must be left open for renters to use for parking. In many cases they are the two off street parking spaces which resulted for the approval of the home. Driveways that lead to some of these garages can have space to park, yet if that becomes the only place for 4 cars to park, is becomes a tandem parking and is a problem . That is one car in back of another. That in the end leads to frustration and in a case of a home near me, parking in the dirt in the front yard. To control that, barriers must be installed to prevent parking on dirt, that leads to compaction of the soil and thus water quality issues. So the type of barrier that TRPA has imposed are large boulders that cannot be easily moved. A wood rail fence would also work. This mainly will apply to property on flatter lots. These barriers must be in place for a permit. Yet the one area that is missing, is that the law allows for off property parking. Winter regulations need to be mentioned for STR parking . These can be added as a reference to the code. That code outlines the "red" and "green" day off site parking for snow removal. So when the on site rule

is not followed in the winter who will enforce? In the winter taking a hour to get to a residence will lead to the snow removal being hindered and that will impact neighbors. That should be a clear violation that goes against the owner. If you have the code that has a phone number for what has been determined for that day's parking by roads ,then at least they will know to check to see if parking is allowed. To answer the question: It is "roads" that enforce and have a car moved or towed.

In addition you need to mention that the owner of a STR must contract snow removal for keeping the parking open in the winter on site. I have seen people show up to a home and cannot get in the driveway for it has 4 feet of snow in it. That has ended up with people parking in the street and thus the obstruction of snow removal. It can take many ours for a person to shovel out a place to park and be able to get the car onto the site.

The STR owner must provide snow removal of all walks that are primary exits for the use of the home. That is a safety issue for sheriff, fire and medical. It is also a issue with egress for a event in the home.

If a home is permitted in the winter they have a set time period to get certified in the summer for defensible space compliance or the permit is revoked. The current STR near me has done no summer work at all, for defensible space is a yearly requirements after each winter and is a big

safety issue for the use of the home. ( ie: found in pine needles cigarette butts found in piles of pine needles on the property). No outdoor fires pits allowed in STR's . One metal unit was used this summer on a deck and was left to burn with no one there to make sure it was under control.

Violation: If a home is found to be left open and bears enter due to negligence that is a violation.

The STR on my street has had three events where one was the renter left the door unlocked and the door knob was a lever. Bear went in. The cleaning lady left garbage in the garage and the garage side door open, the bear went in. ( Took the Sheriff two hours to clear the home, 4 officers )

Garbage was left in the front yard and was left in a trash can. Bear raided the can. A violation.

So this is a start. Will be back to you with more. I will get the winter road code for the next set of comments.

Wayne Ford

**From:** [Wayne Ford](#)  
**To:** [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Cc:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Marsha Berkbigler](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Scan  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 11:54:39 AM  
**Attachments:** [Scans2\\_010.pdf](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Please read this email and have it part of the public record for the Washoe County First Reading of the STR Ordinance.  
Meeting Washoe County Commissioners Aug. 25, 2020

**Wayne Ford**  
**731 Lynda Court**  
**Incline Village, NV. 89451**

Eric Brown County Manager  
Marsha Berkbigler Commissioner  
Bob Lucy Commissioner  
Jeanne Herman Commissioner  
Vaughn Hartung Commissioner  
Kitty Jung Commissioner  
Kelly Mullin County Planner  
Kathy Emerson

STR: 725 Lynda Court  
APN: 124-043-40  
2343 SF with 5 bedrooms.  
Land Capability 4 and 6 No coverage left to use .  
Owner: Victor Barkhordarian  
Tiburon ,CA.  
STR sense 2016

#### Not a Neighbor :

STR Ownership is not being a neighbor. : It means you are not a neighbor . You are a business owner that operates like it is a franchise . In the best cases you have a management team that may or may not care about the people who live near, what you are selling. In the worst case you have a clean-up team that only communicates with you who are many miles away.

What are you selling: Rooms and in most cases a place to come and party and have access to entertainment in the area of Lake Tahoe

#### A Neighbor :

What does it mean to be a neighbor: You live full time even if it is seasonal in the area. You get to know your neighbors for in many cases they can be support to you and the property you own. Most neighbors invest in the property by taking care of it for they live there. You get to know your neighbors for when you have a party or event everyone shares and helps out. You prefer to be a friend for you may need the same consideration if you have a event. Neighbors in the winter work together in the bad winters to help each other out. I can go on for we all know the difference between someone who is a neighbor and someone who runs a home as a business.

---

#### Home rental history and impacts

775 Lynda Court: Bought by Mr. Barkhordarian in 9/16/16

History: Did a interior remodel the first 6 to 8 months, No record of any permits being obtained.

a. Within the first year had a bear get into the home because a renter left the front door unlocked.

b. Has complained to the Roads that they need to not store snow in the right front yard , yet is a well established snow storage area. Could not rent the home. We all have snow storage on our property. Where is the County to put it?. County took snow off his property and piled it on other property , so when it melted it flooded a neighbors driveway.

c. After the first bear event he has had two more where a bear got into the home. This resulted in IVIGD violations. Violations continued with cans over filled and put out after pick up times.

One event tied up 4 sheriffs for 2 hours to get the bear out of the home.

d. Renters brought 8 cars , a boat and jet skis to the home and blocked driveways, and left out trash for bears to get into.

Just recently renters brought 8 cars and there were at least 18 people with kids.

- e. Renters brought a 50 foot RV and blocked driveways ,
- f. Renters have had the sheriff called because of noise at 1;00 pm
- g. Renters have parked on the dirt in the front yard that now has caused coverage to be created due to compaction of the dirt and that has resulted in erosion and run-off uncontrolled. Water Quality
- h. Renters had filled my front yard, with cigaret smoke that caused my daughter to become ill. They then smoked up and down the street throwing some 18 to 20 butts into the dirt, on the road and into pine needles. They also did that on the property and left food ( chicken) thrown in the yard and street.
  - I. Driving in the street where we have kids playing they do not slow down and have to be told do so . They drive on the wrong side of the road coming into the street and going out of it.
- j. Back yard is a trash zone with bottles, wrappers, and even a safety light from NDOT taken off the highway one night. Thrown in the bushes.
- k. Defenseable space is not observed with the property filled with pine needles and trees that need to be brought into compliance.

I have documented all these issues and send photos and letters . This has taken many hours to do and yet I do not share in any of the profit from that home. I only have had to try and protect my property. The owner last letter to me; New rules ( he said)

No smoking inside or outside the house . How is he going to enforce that from Tiburon CA?  
Maximum four cars parked on the driveway. Do not park on the street cars will be towed.  
That does not take place, who will tow them?  
If trash is left in the home the will be charged. Does not take care of trash outside ,left in the front yard and in the street ( cooked chicken).

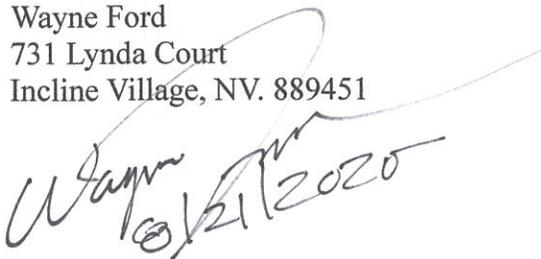
Note on the sheet: "Dear Wayne Hope this will do the job, thank for your letter Victor".

All this took place from 2018 to today. The home had last winter very few renters due to Covid. Now it is rented every week and most of these events are on the increase. When it comes to my other neighbors, two that are long term renters are fed up with the use of the home. I hate to see them move. Another owner after many years of remodel work just put her home on the market . She is right next to the STR.

---

The STR Use of a home is not Compatible with the Character of a Neighborhood.  
This use is a violation of the Zoning: TRPA need to enforce what they said in 2004. Stop the use.  
I will be moving this to the State Legislature for TRPA has passed on their environmental responsibility to the County. The County has gone along with the use that is detrimental to the Lake and my right of being a property owner who bought a home some 40 years ago as a single family residence . My Zoning has not been changed , yet the County and TRPA has allow for a violation of that Zoning in the attempt to approve STR use in a home two parcels away. Not right and not legal.

Wayne Ford  
731 Lynda Court  
Incline Village, NV. 889451



Wayne Ford  
10/21/2020

**From:** [NICOLE GULLIXSON](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Re: COVID 24hr Between Tenant Cleaning Violation 8/14  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 5:53:02 PM

---

[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

Airbnb rental 547 Lantern Court had a large group of guests leave today, 8/14 and another group of renters is entering the airbnb rental right now, same day, 8/14. There was definitely less than 24 hours in between tenants.

Please make these complaints as an official record.

Thank you,

Nicole Gullixson

On Sun, Aug 9, 2020 at 4:54 PM NICOLE GULLIXSON <[nicole.gullixson@gmail.com](mailto:nicole.gullixson@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hello,

Airbnb rental 547 Lantern Court had a large group of guests leave today, 8/9 and another group of renters is entering the airbnb rental right now, same day, 8/9. There was definitely less than 24 hours in between tenants. I would say even less than 12 hours!

This is NOT safe for us, the neighborhood NOR the community.

Please come up with regulations for STRs in the Incline Village community!

--

Cheers,

Nicole Gullixson  
805.452.0503  
Classic Wines of California, Lake Tahoe Region

--

Cheers,

Nicole Gullixson  
805.452.0503

**From:** [NICOLE GULLIXSON](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** COVID 24hr Between Tenant Cleaning Violation 8/9  
**Date:** Sunday, August 09, 2020 4:54:23 PM

---

[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

Airbnb rental 547 Lantern Court had a large group of guests leave today, 8/9 and another group of renters is entering the airbnb rental right now, same day, 8/9. There was definitely less than 24 hours in between tenants. I would say even less than 12 hours!

This is NOT safe for us, the neighborhood NOR the community.

Please come up with regulations for STRs in the Incline Village community!

--

Cheers,

Nicole Gullixson  
805.452.0503  
Classic Wines of California, Lake Tahoe Region

**From:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Comments for your consideration Prior to the Upcoming August 25, 2020 Hearing on Draft Short Term Rental Ordinance  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:32:34 PM

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**From:** Diane Heirshberg <[dbheirshberg@gmail.com](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** Brown, Eric P. <[EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us](mailto:EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us)>  
**Cc:** Berkbigler, Marsha <[MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us](mailto:MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us)>  
**Subject:** Comments for your consideration Prior to the Upcoming August 25, 2020 Hearing on Draft Short Term Rental Ordinance

**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

Diane L. Becker

(805) 290-2779

[dbheirshberg@gmail.com](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com)

April 19, 2020

Re: Short Term Rental Ordinance Set for Hearing August 25, 2020

Dear County Manager Mr. Eric P. Brown,

I am writing this letter to follow-up on our conversation last week. As I expressed to you, the Short-Term Rental Ordinance is the single most important concern to Incline Village at this time because of the very difficult experiences which so many local residents are having with what can only be described as "bad" STR visitors in their neighborhoods.

I respectfully submit that the current draft STR Ordinance is contrary to the direction almost all other local government entities at the Lake and in Southern Nevada are taking with respect to STRs, and some of the provisions are based on what Staff perceives are directions from the Commissioners, not necessarily what Staff as prudent planners would have drafted as in the best interests of Incline and others.

Other local governmental entities in Southern Nevada, around the Lake, and across the United States have been endeavoring to protect local residents and residential neighborhoods from the harmful effects of STRs, while still allowing STRs to operate in residential neighborhoods. I believe that a Washoe County STR Ordinance could be drafted that is both protective of the character of residential neighborhoods and at the same time would not unfairly interfere with the ability for Incline property owners to offer their residences for rentals as STRs, as I will discuss below.

I will also review below several problems with the current draft Ordinance, as well as deficiencies in the process leading to the final draft of the Ordinance. I urge you to thoughtfully consider the lack of fair and equitable process in developing the Ordinance, and also the risks to the County, STR visitors, and IVCB residents and neighborhoods, if these deficiencies in the current draft of the STR Ordinance are not corrected, or if a process is not put in place to correct them via a public

comment and amendment process.

**1. A Discussion of Select Significant Problems with the Current Draft Ordinance That Will Likely Lead to Further Nuisance, Noise, Parking, Trash and Other Potential Problems in Local Neighborhoods; These Problems Could Be Injurious to STR Visitors and IVCB Neighborhoods and the County.**

While at pages 4-5 the Staff Memorandum states that “Most jurisdictions in southern Nevada and around Lake Tahoe have already established or are working to establish standards...due to the relative newness of standards for this type of use, there is limited consensus in how STRs are regulated...” I disagree with the conclusion that “there is limited consensus”, because there is great consensus/consistency in str ordinance provisions addressing many of the key issues to protect neighborhoods, in the STR Ordinances around the Lake and in Southern Nevada.

**A. Occupancy Limits of the draft Washoe County STR Ordinance Are Not Consistent with STR Ordinances of Other Local Jurisdictions; The Washoe County Ordinance Maximizes Occupancy in a Way That Will Lead to Excess Noise, Nuisance and Parking Problems in Incline Village/Crystal Bay Residential Neighborhoods (“IVCB”), and Adds Increased Risk of Liability for Injury and Damages to STR Visitors and IVCB Neighborhoods.**

At page 3 of Staff’s July 24, 2020 Memorandum (“Staff Memorandum”) the method for calculating occupancy is set at “one occupant per 200 sq. ft. of habitable space”, rather than being based on persons times the number of permitted bedrooms, which is the basis in all of the other local jurisdictions at the Lake and in Southern Nevada. Use of the standard of occupants per permitted bedroom would have resulted in fewer potential individuals in each STR rental. Page 3 of the Staff Memorandum states that this “standard” is from the International Building Code (“IBC”) which was adopted by Washoe County.

Local residents urged that to reduce noise, parking, trash, crime and public nuisance problems, the County adopt protective provisions from the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Short-Term Rental Neighborhood Compatibility Guidelines for Local Jurisdictions, a copy of which I sent to you attached to my last email (“TRPA Guidelines”). The TRPA Guidelines recommended 2 persons per bedroom. Local residents urged the County to adopt the standard of 2 persons per bedroom + 2 persons, which is the current standard around the Lake and in Southern Nevada. To give you examples of occupancy limits from other STR Ordinances:

Placer County: 2 people per permitted bedroom +2 persons

El Dorado: 2 people per permitted bedroom + 2 persons

Douglas County: 2 people per permitted bedroom + 2 persons

City of Henderson: 4 people in first permitted bedroom + 2 for each other bedroom

City of Las Vegas: 2 people per permitted bedroom

(Some ordinances allow for the addition for children under specified age limits, i.e. 5 yrs.)

The standard based on permitted bedrooms is easy to apply and requires far

less inspection for the other IBC requirements discussed below, than the IBC standard of one occupant per 200 sq. ft. of habitable space.

If believe that if you ask Moira Hauenstein, who I understand is an architect, she will hopefully confirm to you that there are risks to the public health and safety in selecting one small provision out of the IBC, without requiring the many other provisions of the IBC which contain many other life safety protections and limitations that are ignored in the current draft Ordinance. The additional IBC requirements which support the one occupant per 200 sq. foot calculation cannot be met in the bulk of the homes in IVCB which are older homes and pre-date the IBC, such as:

- a) Gas appliance fireplaces are required in most IVCB homes, as wood burning fireplaces are not generally allowed due to TRPA's Chapter 91.3B (unless the fireplace was grandfathered in, or with strict limitations). The IBC requires that a gas fireplace in a sleeping room must have a sealed combustion chamber rating so that no carbon monoxide can escape from the unit. This is not required in living rooms and other non-sleeping rooms where gas fireplace installations are not required to have sealed combustion chambers. Therefore, the County is unintentionally putting STR visitors at risk by causing them to sleep in rooms which may have fireplaces with unsealed combustion chambers, potentially subjecting sleepers to carbon monoxide poisoning.
- b) The IBC does not allow a door to lead directly from a garage to a sleeping room, again to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning from a garage. In older IVCB homes and condominiums. I am told that it is common to find doors between living rooms and garages, rendering the non-bedroom sleeping areas dangerous.
- c) The IBC has code provisions for required light and ventilation for different rooms, and this is very important for bedrooms. Many living room/den/office rooms will not have adequate ventilation to meet sleeping room requirements. Some living rooms/dens/offices that are built into hillsides, etc. will not meet light requirements for sleeping rooms.
- d) The IBC has required egress from bedrooms that is not required for other rooms, again for safety if escape is required. For example, many condominium projects in Incline have lofts which have no windows at all for emergency egress, and others have windows that do not meet IBC size standards to allow for egress. An example of how dangerous this can be is the case a year or so ago where a young man was visiting alone in a home, and slept in a loft that had no windows for egress; he died in a fire because there was no window egress from the loft available to him.
- e) Separate from the IBC, electrical codes for bedrooms require ARC and Ground fault interrupters, whereas living rooms, etc. do not. This is to protect sleepers using electric blankets and other heating systems which contain transformers in them. If an electrical system does not have an ARC, the transformer can over-heat and cause a fire when a person is sleeping, because the breaker does not shut off. A person sleeping can then die from smoke and fumes when the breaker does not shut off. In the winter, electric blankets are common in the mountains.

In short, living rooms, dens, offices, media rooms, etc., do not meet other code and other IBC safety requirements for sleeping rooms. STR visitors are strangers to a home who have no knowledge of the home and who need to be protected from unknown dangers. Although page 8 of the Staff Memorandum states that areas proposed for sleeping purposes have specific safety feature requirements based in existing, adopted codes, if the inspections really do a thorough list of requirements, including those above, and all the other related IBC requirements, and there are actually inspections of all of the IBC, IRC and NEC requirements, these requirements cannot be met by many of the homes in IVCB which are STRs, and the burden on the inspectors/inspections will be huge. So much easier to count permitted bedrooms!

At a minimum, if the County does continue to utilize the one person per 200 feet limitation, at least to protect the STR visitors (and neighbors from fire), the Ordinance should require that any approved sleeping area other than a permitted bedroom must meet the standards of the 2018 IBC, 2018 IRC and the 2017 NEC for sleeping areas. But then you still would need to specify a standard for the majority of the homes in IVCB which will not meet those standards in non-bedroom areas.

**B. It is Crucial that Parking for STR Visitors be Limited to Actual Available Parking Spaces on Site, and that the STR Visitors be Advised as to the Number of Cars and Vehicles (Boats, etc.) They Can Bring**

The Commissioners expressed at the public hearing on the last draft of the Orders that they did not want to impose difficult parking requirements for STR visitors, I think because they believe that IVCB has streets and street parking similar to Reno. This assumption incorrect as IVCB has different topography and has very different requirements for snow, snow removal and snow storage from November to May.

The requirement of one parking space for every four proposed occupants does not limit the number of cars and additional vehicles (boats, trailers, etc.) that visitors can bring to the home to actual available onsite parking spaces. There needs to be a limitation on the total number of cars that can be brought to an STR home based on available on-site parking, based on a parking map. This is common in other STR Ordinances around the Lake, and was recommended in the TRPA Guidelines, due to the particular issues which impact IVCB and other Lake communities. STR Visitors bring RVs and boats and boat trailers with no place to park them and then park illegally around IVCB.

There is a tremendous shortage of parking spaces in IVCB, due to the many narrow streets with insufficient room for any street parking at all, the lack of onsite parking provided for in the older developments, and the fact that public streets in IVCB are used for snow storage during the winter. Effective November 1 – May 1 of each year, to allow for snow storage and removal of snow from the roads, street parking is prohibited under Washoe County Snow Removal Regulations, Chapter 70.425 and 70.437.

Please consider speaking with Rich Thomsen about the problems encountered by the County when the snow plows hit cars illegally parked on public streets. When cars are illegally parked on public streets during snow plowing, this can and has caused the plows to be disabled, and I assume could lead to potential claims against the County for damage to individual's cars as there are no signs posted with this requirement.

Further, because most areas do not have no parking signs in the winter, it is also critical that visitors are advised that there is no street parking during the winter due to the need for snow removal on streets in IVCB.

Additionally, the County has snow storage areas all over IVCB at the sides of all streets, as there is more snow in most years than can be accommodated just by

building the snow up at the sides of the streets. If a location has been used for years by the County for snow storage, and if the County and an STR owner assume that the area in the street will be available for over-flow parking by STR visitors during permitting, that is an error that will lead to future problems for all.

Finally, local residents have requested that the STR Ordinance require that garages be made available for parking of STR visitor cars, if the garages are counted as available in the on-site parking requirement. In IVCB, many homes that are STRs do not allow parking in their garages, because the garages are locked with the personal belongings and a car of a local owner left for their own use. A garage retained for the owner's private use should not be counted towards on-site parking.

### **C. Annual (At Each Permit Renewal) and Unscheduled Health and Safety Inspections of STRs are Needed**

One of the few protections that local residents and neighborhoods had in the prior draft of the STR Ordinance was inspections, both annually at re-permitting and unannounced for certain purposes. If you review Ordinances from other areas and the TRPA Guidelines, annual inspections at permit renewal and unscheduled inspections are included for life safety issues.

The unannounced inspection provision has been removed per Board direction at the February, 2020 Board of Commissioners hearing because some property managers urged that this could be abused by the county or our local Sheriffs or Fire Officials. The annual pre-permit renewal inspection was changed to after three years at re-permitting.

Removing unscheduled inspections is dangerous both to future STR visitors and to neighborhoods. One example of how important such inspections are, is a recent red-tagging of a home on Lakeshore, where an STR owner, in order to maximize revenues, had illegally and without permits converted the garage into a large, dormitory style sleeping room to maximize revenues, and had illegally run a gas line and put a unpermitted, illegal heater in the garage, which could have led to carbon monoxide poisoning of STR visitors sleeping in the garage. The Fire District did an inspection and this was discovered, and the home was red tagged as not inhabitable. The red tagging by the Fire District potentially saved lives of visitors and neighbors!

The Douglas County Fire Chief spoke at one of the TRPA meetings and urged that all jurisdictions at the Lake include strong mandatory pre-permit and annual fire safety inspection provisions in their STR Ordinances because Douglas County Fire Department had found serious fire threats in 90% of its STR inspections, many requiring substantial remedial action before STR permits could be issued. Douglas County and IVCB both have a large number of older homes that pose fire dangers that need to be mitigated before being operated as an STR.

Self-certifications for almost a three-year period, with no monitoring are unfair to STR visitors and to neighborhoods, and are equivalent to no monitoring or inspections. It is urged that there should be inspections at each permit re-issuance annually.

Additionally, inspections for all fire issues should be done by qualified North Lake Tahoe Fire District personnel and Washoe County Code Enforcement personnel, and not by unqualified individual owners and their property personnel who have the incentive to save money and avoid making needed repairs.

### **D. Sanitary Provisions to Protect the STR Visitors and IVCB Residents Should be Added.**

I have seen more detailed discussions by other IVCB residents requesting cleaning/sanitation/safety procedures, which is an issue that was rejected out of hand by the County. I will not repeat their arguments here, with the exception of one. I

believe that Commissioner Berkbigler is currently attempting to get some cleanliness requirements included in the STR Ordinance, but I do not know if she will be able to do so. In any event, I think that this is another area where you as County Manager should double check on the legal analysis and get a written opinion as to why NRS Chapter 447 does not cover STRs, and as to why the County cannot include any health/sanitary/cleanliness provisions.

County Legal Staff has stated that Nevada Revised Statutes, Chapter 447, "Public Accommodations" does not apply to STRs because the STRs are residential and not hotels. Chapter 447 applies to "Hotels" and then defines Hotels at NRS 447.010 as "Hotel" means every building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public, whether with or without meals, including without limitation, a lodging house or rooming house where transient trade is solicited."

I urge you to consider why STR visitors do not deserve to come to clean facilities with proper ventilation and screens on windows. How is an STR not a "building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public." Please recall that when the request was made to close down STRs in IVCB when we had the highest incidence of COVID 19 infection in April, 2020 of any community at the Lake, and even though all other Lake communities had closed down STRs, you were told by Legal that the STRs could not be shut down because Governor Sisolak had included STRs as "Essential Businesses" along with hotels, motels, etc. in his March, 2020 Emergency Orders. It seems contradictory to treat STRs as Essential Businesses on the one hand, and then to say that cleanliness standards required of all "buildings .....held out to the public to be a place where sleeping... accommodations are furnished to the transient public..." are not applicable because an STR is not a business. Also, there are sanitary regulations in Washoe County for Bed and Breakfasts, which have more supervision because the B & B operator is present, which sanitary standards should at a minimum be imposed on STRs.

Additionally, consider that the State has considered health and safety and draft these sanitary and protective provisions after a great deal of thought. Don't the STR visitors coming here deserve the same minimum sanitary protections that they would receive at a local motel? Even the TRPA Guidelines recommend that "state law public accommodation requirements in state law be met" at page 3 under Example of Public Health and Safety Best Practices #5.

Further, please consider the ease of the spread of disease in tiny IVCB, with its one supermarket, Raley's, where almost everyone in the community shops, and its one small post office with insufficient room to social distance, where most people must go to the post office to get their mail as the post office does not deliver mail to many IVCB addresses; think of the potential injury to STR visitors, neighbors, neighborhoods and all of IVCB due to a lack of cleanliness and the spread of disease.

**E. Under the Current Draft Ordinance, STR Permits Could be Issued to Condominium and PUDs which have Express Provisions Disallowing STRs, in Violation of Nevada law NRS 116.340.**

I had discussed the subject of HOA CC&Rs prohibiting short term rentals with Commissioner Berkbigler and Kelly Mullin early in the STR discussions, and suggested to Kelly including language similar to that in Section 3(e)(I) and (ii) of the Henderson str ordinance, along the lines of the following:

"The applicant is required to: (a) certify that operation of the short-term rental would not violate any homeowners' association agreement, bylaws or covenants, conditions and restrictions, limiting the use of the house as a

short-term vacation rental, and (b) acknowledge that registration will not supersede any such private agreements."

Similar language was originally included by Ms. Mullin in the first draft that she circulated to the public, and it put no burden on the County, and allowed the County to comply with NRS 116.340, to avoid its permit being the cause of a breach of the CC&Rs by an STR owner who violated a CC&R covenant against short term renting. This was deleted by the Commissioners or Legal at the first reading of the first draft, even though it was in the draft circulated to the public.

For your information, the City of Henderson requires the confirmation by an applicant described above and the City of Las Vegas requires that an applicant provide the City with a document signed by the HOA approving the short-term rental. Other local jurisdictions at the Lake are allowing HOAs to send letters to the County's str permitting staff, including copies of their CC&Rs saying that no short-term rentals are allowed, and then the jurisdiction does not issue an STR permit under NRS 116.340. Washoe County has taken the position that the County is not bound by NRS 116.340, and further that it will not recognize letters from HOA enclosing CC&Rs with restrictions on short term renting, stating that HOAs and neighbors will have to sue the owner who breach the CC&Rs in Court. This will lead to a multiplicity of actions (an unnecessary burden on the Courts) and an unfair financial burden on the HOAs and non-breaching owners.

NRS 116.340 states, in pertinent part:

"1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a person who owns or directly or indirectly has an interest in, one or more units within a planned community that are restricted to residential use by the declaration may use that unit or one of those units for a transient commercial use only if:

(a) The governing documents of the association and any master association do not prohibit such use;

(b) The executive board of the association and any master association approve the transient commercial use of the unit...; and

(c) The unit is properly zoned for the transient commercial use and any license required by the local government for the transient commercial use is obtained.

...

4. As used in this section:

...

(b) Transient commercial use means the use of a unit, for remuneration, as a hostel, hotel, inn, motel, resort, vacation rental or other form of transient lodging if the term of the occupancy, possession or use of the unit is for less than 30 consecutive calendar days."

Including the language originally drafted by Ms. Mullin on this issue puts no burden on the County, allows the County to comply with NRS 116.340 and does not allow owners to breach the CC&Rs on this subject.

I am hoping that you will consider asking for further research on this subject to

confirm that such protection is appropriate under Nevada Revised Statute 116.340. The rest of the Lake and Southern Nevada believe that this provision applies.

I should add that it is possible that NRS 116.340 concerned someone at the County who mistakenly feared that such a clause in the application would allow owners outside of HOAs to assert that under their Declarations and Covenants restricting business activities would bar all STRs in Incline. NRS 116.340 only applies to planned communities as defined in the NRS, and that is a community that has an HOA that is a condominium or PUD, which has CC&Rs that prohibit short term renting.

**F. There are No Limitations on the Total Number of STRs in a Neighborhood, or on Density or Concentration, No Requirement that the Owner be a Resident rather than a Business Owned STR, No Protections for the Nuisance That Occurs When There is Too Much Concentration of STRs in a Small Area**

While several types of limitation are recommended in the TRPA Guidelines (limiting distance between STRs; limiting the number of days per month or times per month or per year that a rental is allowed, requiring that the home be a primary resident and not a business), etc.), the County has repeatedly stated that such limitations are illegal in Nevada, and that is the reason that they were never considered by the County. Also, the County has stated that there are no such limitations in any str ordinance anywhere in Nevada. Both of those premises are not correct, and I ask that these protections be considered now or at least in the future, if the Ordinance that is adopted does not get rid of the party houses and their noise, the trash problems, the parking problems, etc., because the premises were incorrect.

The City of Las Vegas Ordinance, for example, provides that an STR must be at least "660 feet from any other short-term residential rental." I recently called Steve Swaton, of the Las Vegas Planning Department (702-229-4714) who is the person who wrote most of the latest City of Las Vegas STR Ordinance. I asked him why he felt that the provision requiring STRs to be 660 feet apart in the Las Vegas Ordinance was legal in Nevada, and he said that it was clearly legal, and that the purpose of this provision is to discourage conglomeration of STR uses in one area, in order to lessen the adverse impacts to the neighborhoods, which is necessary to further public health and safety and avoid nuisances of noise, traffic and crime problems from STRs. Mr. Swanton explained that the City of Las Vegas had realized that short term renters do not own the places they rent, and they come to party and do whatever they want to do, as they feel that they are not being watched. He said that this provision is lawful under the zoning regulation power and the power to promote health and safety. Mr. Swaton said that he is willing to talk with anyone in Washoe County Planning, about the limitation to 660 feet, the Las Vegas Ordinance, the detrimental impacts of party-house STRs on a neighborhood, etc.

The City of Las Vegas' attorney approved the STR Ordinance including this provision; yet limitations were never even discussed in Washoe County because someone at the County said that such limitations on STRs were illegal in Nevada, which is apparently not correct.

The TRPA Guidelines included at Residential Compatibility Best Practices #2: “allow STR use in residential areas only if the home is occupied by a primary resident the majority of the year (i.e. make STRS an accessory use).” The rationale for this is to protect the neighbors, because an owner who is also a primary resident will be less likely to allow renters to disturb neighbors in the owner’s absence. Also, the entire basis for approval of STRs around Lake Tahoe by TRPA in or about 2007, was that the STRs would only be an accessory use by an owner who owned and lived in a home, and that such use would not be a burden on residential neighborhoods, and that is why each local jurisdiction, including Washoe County, are even allowed to have STRs. Washoe County even signed a Memorandum of Understanding with TRPA that its noise, parking, trash, nuisance and other local ordinances would be enforced to protect the quality of the neighborhoods. If you would like a copy of that MOU or a history of the basis for TRPA’s decision to allow STRs around Lake Tahoe, I can provide these.

One thought for Staff is that perhaps, STRs that are an “accessory use” by a resident could be treated differently than an STR that is owned by people who do not ever or rarely live in the STR house or by LLCs formed solely to own and rent STRs. One way to consider these limitations to protect communities, is to apply the limitations as to density, etc. to STRs that are not owned and operated by people who primarily reside in their home in IVCB. I have not researched this issue, but TRPA’s inhouse attorney who is a Nevada attorney approved the TRPA Guidelines on these subjects.

## **G. Summary**

While I have other concerns with specific provisions of the draft, I will not burden you further by going through point by point, as this letter is already too long. It would be greatly appreciated if some issues could be corrected now, before the first reading, and some issues specified and tabled for further real dialogue between the County and its effected citizens for future amendment if the current draft is passed.

### **2. The Deficiencies in the Process Leading to the Current Draft Ordinance Have Resulted in a Loss of Public Confidence in the Integrity of the Process; The Discussion in the Staff Memorandum at Pages 5-6 Sounds Good, but it Does Not Tell the Full Story from the Standpoint of IVCB and its Residents and Neighborhoods**

The draft STR Ordinance and its history is unfortunately a study in how a rift develops between government and the public due to a lack of effective communication, a lack of public participation in decision making, and a perceived bias on the part of the County leading to a lack of public trust.

I believe that Staff, if asked individually, would tell you that the Ordinance was drafted with direction as to what was and was not acceptable to the Commissioners, and that it was not drafted by Staff and presented to the Commissioners based on Staff’s opinion as to what constitutes best practices and is in the IVCB best interests in all particulars. This Ordinance was drafted in a way that greatly damaged public trust, and which ignored the needs of the local residents who are the most affected and

most adversely impacted by STRs.

For example, the one “resident” input session in July discussed under Stakeholder input had 3 invited attendees from IVCB (5 were invited but only 3 could attend due to schedule conflicts and the shortness of the notice of the meeting), although the attendees have reported that they diligently and vigorously articulated the great difficulties in IVCB caused by STRs.

Another example is the “Structured Public Input” meetings discussed at page 5. What does “Structured Public Input” really mean? These meetings did not develop public confidence in the integrity of the process of drafting this Ordinance, and failed to take public input on many important issues. Incline Village with only 6000 total residential units (houses, condominiums, apartment units) produces over 90% of the transient occupancy tax collected by Washoe County. Therefore, Incline Village residents should have had a great deal of input into the problems that should be addressed in the STR Ordinance that is so crucial to their daily lives. At these 2 public meetings in Incline, the County representative stated a list of items that could not be considered in the Ordinance, and among the items we could not discuss were limits on density and concentration, and use of TOT for any purpose in Incline (such as additional sheriff or fire services, etc.). We were put into groups of 8-10 people to discuss our concerns by topics such as occupancy, noise, parking, safety, enforcement, each lead by a County representative who made notes on little yellow sticky tabs. The County representative from each table orally stated a summary of what was discussed at the group meetings. The meeting room was not full in Reno, but the first meeting in IVCB was so booked by reservations, a second meeting date was set and that was also full. Attendees asked to speak publicly and that was not allowed. Attendees asked to discuss the “forbidden topics” and that was not allowed. The oral summaries presented by County employees did not include all of the comments by IVCB residents because public comments on concerns related to forbidden topics were not mentioned. Ms. Mullin handled the meeting well and was sympathetic and articulate, but she was clearly given directions by others on both the meeting structure and the refusal to discuss the “forbidden topics”.

Following the 2 public meetings in Incline, while a group of IVCB residents attended BOC meetings and made many public comments about the great difficulties that STRs were causing in the IVCB neighborhoods, we did not feel that the other Commissioners were truly listening to what we said or crediting it as the sentiment of the majority of the community. The perspective of IVCB residents was that the other Commissioners did not want us to come to the Commission meetings and take up their time speaking during public comment, and that the Commissioners had already made their minds to have a weak Ordinance.

An STR Ordinance was drafted and presented at the February Board of Commissioners Meeting, that had minimal protections for residents after we had numerous conversations with Ms. Mullin. At the February meeting, a large number of realtors came, not having attended past Board meetings, and we lost even more of the minimal protections for residential neighborhoods which Ms. Mullin had included.

I describe what has occurred and the sentiment of much of the IVCB community with the hope that in the future, meetings can be used for two-way communication and expression of concern, to increase the public trust and confidence.

### **3. Conclusion**

All of the other local governments at the Lake and the local governments in Southern Nevada have passed protective Ordinances because they decided that they wanted to protect their residential neighborhoods. The other local governments at the Lake used the TRPA Guidelines and came up with consistent STR Ordinances, and after adoption, when their Ordinances were not working sufficiently to curb the party

houses and other deleterious impacts of str's on communities, the local jurisdictions amended their ordinances further to increase protections for residential communities. When I called Las Vegas and spoke with the drafter of their Ordinance he said that the Las Vegas City Council felt sorry for the residents and wanted to protect them. When I spoke with the person responsible for the drafting of the Henderson Ordinance the same thing was said, that the City wanted to protect its residents from party houses. The Clark County representative said that they had banned str's in the County as neighborhood protections weren't working.

We do not understand how the decision can be made that neighborhood interests are subservient to all other interests, which is what has happened in the current draft Ordinance. The current draft Ordinance is not standard and it is not protective. Other Washoe County Ordinances have been drafted by Staff, with Staff's expertise, without such strict initial direction from the Commissioners and the protections and care and concern for the local citizenry is evident (i.e. see for example, the neighborhood protections in the Home Office regulations).

Most problems raised by residents are not addressed or "helped" in the current draft of the STR Ordinance. While the Ordinance serves to require STR owners to get permits and to pay fees to the County, it does little to address the concerns expressed by residents as to the impacts on them. We need real rules, real enforcement and real inspections. I am writing in the hope that it is possible to add to/change the draft Ordinance before or at the upcoming public hearings? I hope you can consider if there is a way to help our community. I believe that if a different direction had been given to Staff, we would have seen a very different and better final product for our community. I have a lot of confidence in your Staff, including Ms. Mullin, if your Staff is left to using their credentials and expertise to get true public comment and to get input from other jurisdictions at the Lake and in Southern Nevada, and to then use this in their draft Ordinance as appropriate, without a pre-conceived outcome.

I know that there is a great deal of information here and if I had more time, I would have written a better shorter email. But I wanted to provide you with some of the concerns about the Ordinance as drafted, as soon as possible.

I thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of my comments. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Very truly yours,

Diane L. Becker

Full-time resident of Incline Village

805-290-2779

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**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); "[Kathy Emerson](#)"  
**Subject:** STRs  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 5:21:55 PM

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**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

I would like this email read and be included as part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioners Meeting on 8/25/2020.

We have used VRBO and AirB&B many times for our vacations. However, we are responsible and respectful renters. What is happening in Incline Village is ruining our town and is a danger to our environment!

- Permitting Process: (ex. fees, fines, review times, etc.)

If there is not a permit, there needs to be one (in addition to the taxes Washoe County is receiving). There need to be stiff and enforceable fines to the owners if any of their tenants violate any of the rules (see below).

There should be an owner or someone who can respond to go to the property within 30 minutes. This is required in many vacation communities and keeps the owners responsible for any mayhem.

- Fire and Guest Safety: (ex. defensible space, smoke detectors, structures meeting code standards, etc.)

This is a huge concern! I have seen fires started in back yards and on decks. We do not want our town burned down due to ignorant and irresponsible renters.

- Occupancy Limits: (ex. number of guests allowed per room, home, etc.)

There should be a minimum of 10 night stay, preferable 14 days. This would at least weed out the weekend parties that are causing most of the issues. Homes should be limited to 2 people per room, no more than 8 in a home. If they want a party venue, then they need to go to a hotel that accommodates that, not our neighborhoods. A hotel can at least kick them out. Many owners that rent do not care, as long as they are making money and will do nothing. Therefore, we are required to call the sheriff, which is a careless use of our sheriff's time and resources.

- Parking: (ex. adequate off-street parking spaces, designated parking areas, etc.)

Limit parking to 2 cars per property. When they come with more than 2 cars, it's always a problem. They had the nerve to park in our driveway and then cuss us out when we told them they could not park there.

In the winter, we cannot have cars on the road inhibiting the snow plows and causing danger.

- Trash: (ex. placement or volume of trash, bear-proofing, etc.)

Each property should be required to have a bear box and if that bear box is not used or there is excess trash, a fine of \$1000/day should be assessed. We do not need any more bears roaming around and breaking into garages.

- Noise: (ex. excessive noise, late-night/early morning noise, etc.)

We had a huge VRBO group drinking and partying in our street and they actually drove a car off the cliff! Other than the obnoxious noise, my concern was the car starting a fire in the brush. This is NOT acceptable!

We **live** in our neighborhoods. The weekend renters are partiers with no care about anyone who actually lives here. When they are loud all day and their dog barks incessantly, they don't care, because they are leaving the next day. I realize this is extra income for Washoe County, however, WE, the local residents of Washoe County are paying the price.

Many other resort towns have had to put into place some enforceable restrictions, fines and limits in place, in order to maintain the integrity and origin of their town. The time has come for Washoe County to please honor and respect OUR real estate purchase and taxes, and do the same.

Thank you,  
Diane Higgins  
Incline Village Resident



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** [Adam Hirsh](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** IV STR Input  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:35:54 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners:

My name is Adam Hirsh, and I'm the owner of 1021 Saturn Ct. in the Apollo neighborhood of Incline Village. There is a year-round STR on the same street, which is listed in the property record as a 3100 SF, 3 bed house. The owner bills it as a 5 bedroom accommodating 14 people. No sprinkler system.

Issues:

A house fire started by guests.

Up to 14 cars parked on street/increased traffic. Recently had 5 cars and a bus.

Animals in trash (which we clean up).

Party with strippers and a drug overdose/ambulance and fire called.

Lighted cigarettes tossed in bushes.

Much late night noise. A regular and continual problem.

Lots of strangers in previously residential neighborhood. Serious safety concerns.

Cars parked illegally on the street in winter.

Elderly neighbor was charged by STR "guest's" dogs.

Bottom line is that the STR has changed everything for the worse. There are countless numbers of strangers in our cul-de-sac, many cars driving up and down, parking on the street, lots of noise which didn't exist before.

The owner, who does not reside on the property at all, has at times attempted to cooperate, but it's basically an unsupervised motel. Some "guests" might not disturb, while others present major problems. We never know who or what is coming tomorrow, so we live on edge.

I hope that you will consider passing the regulations proposed before Covid in order to help address some of the issues.

Thanks for your attention.

Best regards,

Adam Hirsh.

**From:** [Helene Larson](#)  
**To:** [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Submission for 8/25/20 Commissioner""s meeting  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 2:17:55 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To the attention of the Washoe County Commissioners:

Please have this read and made part of the public record at the Washoe County Commissioners' Meeting on 8/25/20; thank you for serving our communities and representing all of us.

This letter represents my concerns regarding the proliferation of STRs in Incline Village, without any limits imposed, and with very little, if any, enforceable regulation proposed. This invites, and then tolerates, inappropriate, and indeed sometimes illegal and dangerous use of housing here. Instances of untended garbage, parking violations, open fires, violations of the peace and quiet of the community with loud partying and music have resulted from unregulated short-term rental use. Self-regulation is obviously a failure. We need our representatives at Washoe County to speak on Incline's behalf as well.

In addition to that, it reduces the number of rentals available to the community of non-homeowners. Subsequently, due to the law of supply and demand, the rents that are available tend to have inflated rental costs. Personally, my rent has increased 42% in less than two years. You can well correctly imagine that my income has not increased to meet that need. I have lived in my current apartment here for 11 years come this October. Even the non-accountants among you know, this spells disaster! If it continues, I will have to move off the hill and re-establish myself as I begin my 70<sup>th</sup> year, over half of which I have lived here, contributing to the North Shore community.

I have lived at Tahoe since 1983, my kids went through school here; my son graduated from Sierra Nevada College. I have grandkids here who are fourth generation Incliners. For eight years I helped publish *North Tahoe Week Magazine*. I certainly understand the value of tourism. I am fond of saying that, without tourists, we could probably not keep quite a number of businesses going at all on on the north shore. Some of them barely even weather the off-season with only locals as customers. STRs reduce the number of residences available to locals, increasing the possibility of our local small businesses having to close doors here.

When you reduce the availability of rental housing, there is a cascade of challenges. Two-bedroom apartments or condos mostly allow one, or if you are VERY lucky two, parking places. Most households of this kind need two incomes to get by. Because the workforce is trying desperately to stay here to be available to provide needed services, and because their rents have increased so much, and wages hardly at all, many of those two-bedroom units are now occupied by 3-4 people each. Just drive down Southwood Boulevard or Oriole when people are not at work, and look at the cars piled up on the side of the road. It is downright dangerous for all of us!

I understand that Incline is physically, and by population, a very small part of Washoe County. I also know that the property taxes here, and other County fees, are well-shored-up by our participation. It is time to recognize that if the STR rentals continue to flourish here, that there is a possibility of a lessening of value of Incline properties. The Realtors seem to perhaps be looking only at the short-term increases; eventually, the nature of Incline Village will change dramatically, and, instead of the town it was chartered to be, it will become a mecca for STRs, and quite unlivable by locals.

Kindly take these comments into consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Helene Larson

822 Northwood Blvd., #1, Incline Village, NV (for now!)

**From:** [Chrystie O Lowden](#)  
**To:** [diane morrison](#)  
**Cc:** [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [robb morrison](#); [Heidi Allstead](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Short term rentals  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 3:52:04 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners:

17 people in a residential house every couple of days is not acceptable. What a joke!

Commissioners, please help those of us who now have mini motels operating next to us. We are trying to raise our families just like you. We need aggressive regulations and restrictions for safety and sanity. The realtors and short term rental/motel owners are making a fortune at our expense. Please imagine for a moment that you had a house like the one in these pictures next to your own. It is not ok!

Please help!

Chrystie Lowden

> On Aug 18, 2020, at 3:28 PM, diane morrison <diane\_m\_morrison@yahoo.com> wrote:

>

>

**From:** [Keli Maiocco](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#)  
**Cc:** [nmaiocco@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nmaiocco@sbcglobal.net)  
**Subject:** Letter of complaint regarding STRs to be read and made part of public record for WC Commissioners meeting Aug 25, 2020  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:10:59 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Commissioners and Board Members,

I have been a resident in the same neighborhood in Incline Village since 1995. When you call Tahoe your home, you desperately want it to remain “The Gem” that it has always been known. I do not want to restrict others from enjoying Lake Tahoe, but with the Covid Pandemic driving everyone out of cities and hot spots, it is impossible to accommodate everyone who wants to be here all at once without ruining our environment, over using our infrastructures, and endangering others by neglecting fire codes, wildlife, and traffic/parking rules.

While acknowledging the many hours multiple staff has spent on the proposed STR ordinances, they do not protect our residents since the number, location, and density is not limited. Building codes and definitions of “transient housing” and “business” are not clear. Plus the ordinance does not require any sort of residency to obtain a permit.

The suggested “hotline” does nothing to help the level of frustration that is felt by residents when they are watching illegal wood burning fire throw sparks in the air, are woken in the middle of the night by noise and bright flashing Christmas lights, or are trying to pay for a new garage door after a bear break-in when STR garbage and coolers are outside. All of these events (and more) are cause for anxiety and stress with EVERY tenant change which could happen anywhere from 4-8 times per month (possibly more). As I write, a new group has checked in next door and I am already “on alert” as I see the open wood burning stove on the deck and hear the voices of several young men with 4 cars in the drive. That is only on one side of my home. The other side I can see the cleaning crew getting ready for yet another check-in which fills me with dread.

The STR ordinance cannot guarantee compliance, discipline, or removal of the STR, only fines. Fines do not benefit the residents. This raises the question of where the manpower will come from and be paid for inspections, permits, patrolling, and disciplinary action. Most importantly to the residents, how long will we have to suffer as the ordinances due process plays out?

Other communities have banned STRs successfully and continue to host visitors in a safe and enjoyable environment. South Lake Tahoe and Hawaii just to name a few popular tourist areas. Longer term rentals can still bring in revenue while keeping our environment, residents AND visitors SAFE. Please consider the above issues. The Pandemic continues to grow, so will the complaints and problems.

Thank you for the chance to be heard.

Respectfully,

Keli Maiocco

553 Len Way

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Margaret Martini](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed STRS in Incline Village and the discussion at the August 25th Commission meeting.  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 6:26:35 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello all,

Please read this email at the commission meeting of August 25, 2020 and make it part of the public record for same meeting...thank you !

We all appreciate your efforts to bring forth an ordinance to deal with the issues of short term rentals in Incline Village.

Incline Village is located in one of the most susceptible areas for fire! We are in a basin surrounded by uphill slopes. A perfect fire storm. Even worse than the Paradise aka Camp fire as far as spread of fire is concerned. Your proposed STR regs will pack our Village with perhaps thousands (that is NOT an exaggeration based on the number of homes and condos here) during PEAK FIRE SEASON. The road capacity just will not handle the exodus if a fire starts. STR's bring multiple cars adding to the residents cars all vying for the same 3 inadequate escape routes. There is gridlock on all roads with no fire !Local residents will be blocked by a plethora of confused visitors not knowing escape routes. We do not have the numbers of police/fire personnel to handle the mass exodus trying to escape fire.

Your inadequate and ill planned STR proposal is a safety disaster for our community residents. The number of STR's must be limited at a reasonable number like perhaps 200-300 with a maximum time period of years to be then going at the bottom of the list for permits in a rotation manner. This is a reasonable solution for safety.

After reading the proposed ordinance and comparing it to the effective ordinance that Las Vegas has there are the following deficiencies in your proposed ordinance that are very apparent in the Las Vegas ordinance:

- Considered a commercial use, requiring a business license
- STR can have no more than 3 bedrooms (this cuts down on parking issues also)
- Occupancy is limited to 2 people over 12 years of age per bedroom +2
- Maximum daytime occupancy is limited to 1 1/2 times night time occupancy
- STR's in HOA's must show a letter from the HOA documenting approved use as an STR
- Must list on permit all hosting platforms on which the STR is advertised on line
- Evacuation map and emergency numbers permanently listed in all bedrooms
- Vehicles must be parked on site-not in adjacent right of ways. This is a must in snow country where street parking is illegal during plowing
- Prohibit sound producing devices at the exterior of the property.
- No weddings, parties or similar events allowed. Homes are not public venues
- Business license required
- Suspension of license upon 2<sup>nd</sup> violation over a 2 year period. Permit denied if violating any provision in Ordinance

- No STR closer than 600 feet to any other STSR residence
- Dwelling must be occupied by owner during rental period.
- Floor plan identifying bedrooms and living spaces including bedroom occupied by owner during rentals.

In Incline due to our rural area it would be mandatory that tenants were informed by a form stating trash disposal, parking regulations, exiting the area in an emergency, protecting our bears and wildlife and our noise ordinance. The form must be signed by all who intend to occupy.

This IS POSSIBLE because it is already being done and in place in the second largest tourist area in our state. Doesn't Incline village deserve the same protections and safety that Las Vegas has ?

If they can protect their neighborhoods then so should you protect ours. We have much more risk of a catastrophic fire and for sure STR renters have not shown much respect for fire hazards and evacuation.

Thank you for presenting this correspondence to those who will be making the decisions that will impact our community and residents.

*Margaret Martini*

**From:** [Elie Massabki](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Input on Proposed Standards for STRs  
**Date:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 8:13:23 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

I am an Incline Village homeowner with primary residence in California and my family uses the property several times a year. I rent my condo to vacationers to help with the mortgage expenses. I have registered my property and pay Washoe County taxes on my rental income. I have been self-managing the property for several issues and I have strict House Rules in my rental agreement that all my guests sign and they cover all of the concerns that residents and stakeholders have expressed regarding noise, parking, occupancy limits and trash.

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that requires that a property manager or representative be located locally. As the owner of the property and unlike most property managers, I am available 24/7 to respond to complaints and I have the greatest interest in my property and well-being of my neighbors. I don't see the need for a property manager to be located locally. I have successfully managed my property remotely for several years. Imposing a requirement for a local representative or property manager will force me to incur unnecessary additional costs without clear benefits to the community that cannot be achieved with my remote management of the property.

I would like to request that the following clause be modified in such a way that **local** representation or **onsite** response within 1 hour are stricken from the requirement.

*Every STR must have a designated local responsible party available 24/7 through a single phone number who shall respond to complaints within 30 minutes of contact (via text/phone acceptable). If an on-site response is necessary, it should occur within the following hour.*

I look forward to receiving your acknowledgement of this email and any suggestions you may have to further pursue this issue to a satisfactory resolution.

Thank you.

Elie Massabki  
(650) 867-1072  
400 Fairview Blvd, #80

**From:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** FW: CAB's and STR's.  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:32:15 PM

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Judith Miller** <[pupfarm1@gmail.com](mailto:pupfarm1@gmail.com)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 11:20 AM  
Subject: CAB's and STR's.  
To: Berkbigler, Marsha <[mberkbigler@washoecounty.us](mailto:mberkbigler@washoecounty.us)>, Robert (Bob) L <[blucey@washoecounty.us](mailto:blucey@washoecounty.us)>, <[vhartung@washoecounty.us](mailto:vhartung@washoecounty.us)>, Jeanne <[jherman@washoecounty.us](mailto:jherman@washoecounty.us)>, Kitty <[kjung@washoecounty.us](mailto:kjung@washoecounty.us)>  
Cc: <[ebrown@washoecounty.us](mailto:ebrown@washoecounty.us)>

Good morning, Commissioners,

I watched the video of the BOCC meeting yesterday and appreciate your efforts to restore the role of the CAB in bringing the voice of our remote communities to County boards. I agree one solution may not fit every district, and am confident our County Manager will design a program that will fit each of your needs.

In retrospect, perhaps that same approach could have been taken with STR's. Regarding the proposed short term rental regulations, from the perspective of my community (based on years of community input at CAB meetings), there are still 2 major problems: 1) There are no limits and 2) The enforcement provisions are weak.

It appears the negative effects of too much tourism ("overtourism") have finally gained national attention. This is not news to the residents of Incline Village. As some of you know, in 2014 I asked why the County had no regulations to back up its ordinance that declared occupancy in residential use types should be "wholly or primarily non-transient". Now you're going to throw out that concept. And unless limits are enacted, transient occupancy equates to too many tourists. Transient occupancy under the proposed regulations will continue to result in a much higher than normal household occupancy, and in many cases the disturbing and dangerous over-occupancy that contributes to so many problems.

And as to our County counsel's opinion that STR's are not businesses, please ask why the City of Las Vegas requires a business license. Why do they require a special use permit and restrict STR's to owner hosted operations?

If the regulations are passed as presented, it will look to the community that you commissioners have caved to the real estate interests.

Almost every request that the proponents of short term rentals made was accommodated:

1) No signs - so neighbors will not know if an STR is permitted, how many occupants are allowed and who to call when there is a problem.

- 2) No unscheduled inspections - so how will any violation ever be confirmed. A neighbor will have to present evidence, however it was suggested that evidence may not be sufficient because meta data can be changed. Occupancy limits will be ignored since confirmation will not be possible. Kitchens (stoves) in illegal secondary dwelling units will appear in ads and magically disappear before an inspection.
- 3) Parking requirements have been decreased.

And one of the most objectionable added provisions is that permit fees for STR's managed by licensed property managers will be discounted. This is a clear and unwarranted gift to the real estate community.

I strongly believe that the best managed STR's are those that are either owner hosted or have a manager within "shouting distance". My daughter lives on the other side of the lake and operates 2 such vacation rentals there .With an owner onsite or close by, there are rarely any problems. No self-respecting owner would allow guests to disturb neighbors, destroy property or ignore community rules. And no onsite or nearby owner/manager is going to allow over-occupancy to occur. A licensed property manager who lives elsewhere is less qualified and less able to oversee an STR than a local resident. Proximity of a manager and knowledge of the community is more important than a license. I looked at the educational requirements for a Nevada licensed property manager. Most of these have no relation to avoiding the problems associated with short term rentals advertised on a site like Airbnb.

Discounts, if any, should be given to owner hosted rentals or those managed by someone who actually resides in close proximity, therefore much more likely to be familiar with local problems like trash, bears and parking.

There may be fewer STR's this year, (perhaps more 30 day plus rentals by those allowed to work remotely), but once the pandemic is under control, we expect a resurgence. Unless some type of limit is included in the regulations, your legacy will be to make Incline Village unsuitable as a place to live, raise families or retire. Is that what you want?

I hope you will reconsider the proposed STR regulations and allow staff to come back with suggestions on how to better protect Lake Tahoe, our residents and our visitors.

Thank you for dedicating your time and energy to public service.

Judith Miller

Member of the Incline Village, Crystal Bay CAB, speaking as an individual because the CAB was not allowed to vote on these issues.

**From:** [Beth Minick](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Problems and complaints about STRs in Incline Village  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 4:04:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [BethMinick8-17-20.docx](#)  
[BethMinickSTRComplaint11-6-19.docx](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners and Manager Brown,

We understand you are taking up consideration of an STR ordinance again, and wanted to draw your attention to some important issues to consider. The number one issue is that we understand the draft regulation does not include effective enforcement mechanisms to stop the problems our community encounters regarding STRs particularly during this life threatening covid pandemic. Without enforcement, we believe any regulations will be ineffective. Tahoe City is an example of where a single enforcement officer has been highly effective.

In addition, I would like to draw your attention to the attachmentEd two letters that further describe issues we have had in our neighborhood regarding STRs that negatively impact our health and safety.

## STR complaint

Next door to me there was an STR problem. One day I drove home to find a man trespassing my property. I asked him if he was renting the home next door. He said yes. I asked him to get off my property immediately. He said “ I just took my glove off on your property” in a threatening way. I was alone and did not want to provoke him so I asked very nicely if he could get off my property. I took a photo of him and checked my bear box and sure enough, he was on my property dumping his trash in my bear box. The next day he left trash in the street. Then it snowed and covered the trash, including a shovel. Someone could have gotten hurt by running over the shovel that was covered with snow. I called the management company to report the incident. It was VERY disturbing in our clean quiet neighborhood to have trespassing, using our garbage and leaving dangerous trash on our roads. Not to mention being threatened by this man. This is a health and safety issue. This impacts the enjoyment of my home and the health and safety of our neighborhood and must stop.

Beth Minick

Beth

Beth Minick  
Incline Village, NV  
brminick@gmail.com

Dear Washoe County Commissioners,

>

> We appreciate that you are undertaking to address the major issue in our community regarding short term rentals. As long-time residents in Incline Village, we recently purchased and moved into a new home here in Incline. We have hired an architect, engineer, designer and contractor to update this house. However, we just learned that a house in our neighborhood is going into short term rental and we have immediately ceased our construction project until Washoe County institutes regulations substantially restricting short term rentals. In talking to our neighbors, many feel the same way and are putting plans on hold. Clearly this is having major impact on local businesses.

>

> When we purchased our single family home in a quiet residential neighborhood, there were specific binding declarations of restrictions included with our deed about how homes here can be used that were an important part of our decision to buy here. These included that the house had to be owner occupied, that it could not be used for business, etc. It was clear that the homes in our residential community were highly restricted and could not be used as a short term rental tantamount to a hotel. We would never have purchased a home in a neighborhood that didn't prohibit short term rentals and neither would our neighbors.

>

> In looking at the draft staff recommendations, it appears that you are considering taking away those existing restrictions and that would substantially diminish the value and take away the use of our property as well as increase the environmental burden in the area with more traffic, people, noise and waste. In addition, that will drive away the people who contribute to our community and are major supporters of local charitable institutions such as the Tahoe Fund, Tahoe Safe Alliance, Sierra Nevada College and many others. What would be the gain from such an action? Perhaps some additional taxes/fees to the county and some additional income to the property owner who is violating the restrictions contract under which they purchased the property.

>

> We and our neighbors strongly object to taking away our property rights in order to enrich short term rental property owners who are violating the terms under which they purchased their property. We and our neighbors are prepared to fight any such action in court, which will only increase costs for the county to defend itself from such an ill-considered action. The citizens of Incline Village recently won a major lawsuit against Washoe County and we believe that it is not in the county's best interest to engage in another expensive lawsuit against its residents that may well result in another legal loss to the county.

>

> We urge you to put the people who live here first before greedy property owners who only want to make money and damage our community.

>

> Thank you for your consideration,

**From:** [diane morrison](#)  
**To:** [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#)  
**Cc:** [Chrystie Lowden](#); [robb morrison](#); [Heidi Allstead](#)  
**Subject:** Short term rentals  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 3:28:44 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good Afternoon Washoe County Commissioners:

I understand there is an ongoing conversation regarding the Short Term Rental policies and wanted to pass along an email I sent last summer. Throughout the year we have experienced STR challenges with renting to too many people, excess cars, noise pollution, careless fire practices, and trash, trash, trash; however with the pandemic and many choosing to "Shelter in Paradise" (as I have seen advertised), the situation has become out of hand. It's no longer a nuisance with parking, irresponsible behavior resulting in threatened wild life, but has become a danger to our region.

This 4th of July, I personally asked 3 groups of VRBO renters to cease their firework igniting. While my request were met with a barrage of name calling and threats, what many, not familiar with the area, don't realize is one errant spark, could set the basin ablaze. They don't understand the dryness of the climate, nor that there is essentially one road in and out of town. The number of people, animals and homes which would perish is unimaginable.

I understand the current STR Ordinance does not protect us from any future problems because the Ordinance does not limit STR's in Incline Village/Crystal Bay by number, location, or density; and does not require Incline Village homeowners to get a permit.

I would like to request that my original and subsequent emails be made part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting on 8/25/20.

I can be reached at 775.250.4549 or via email to answer any questions which might arise.

Thank you for your commitment to keeping Tahoe the paradise it is, and for your service.

Diane Morrison  
825 Geraldine Drive  
Incline Village, NV 89451

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** diane morrison <diane\_m\_morrison@yahoo.com>  
**To:** aventetuolo@washoecounty.us <aventetuolo@washoecounty.us>; Heidi Allstead <heidiallstead@gmail.com>; Chrystie Lowden <chrystieq@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 28, 2019, 03:40:11 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Short term rentals

Hi Amy:

As I mentioned in my earlier email, I will be unable to attend tonight's meeting due to a scheduling conflict, however wanted some photos and comments logged in your discussion.

I live at 825 Geraldine Drive in Incline Village. I am not opposed to RESPONSIBLE short term rentals in our village. I do however, strongly oppose short term rentals with no regulation.

There is a house directly next door to my home which is a repeat offender in the short term rental game. I have included a few photos to show an example of the renters total disregard for the locals, laws which need to be followed or our region's general safety guidelines.

The owners of this home will provide you with empathetic lip service however continue to market their home to large parties. A quick visit to their VRBO and AirB&B site shows they offer the home to large parties, sleeps 18 and can perfect for weddings, events and corporate retreats. This is a 4 bedroom/3 bath home with a total of 4 parking spots.

A quick bullet point list of some of their questionable and unsafe practices:

- \* booking to large parties 18+
- \* providing means (a fire pit) to have outside/open flame/uncovered fire (just last weekend a group of 17 men had an outside fire, uncovered, on their deck during HIGH fire season.)
- \* Loud and boisterous renters; drinking and screaming until early morning hours.
- \* Upwards of 15 cars parked on street. In winter, although we are on a school bus route, the plows often could not plow because of parked cars
- \* Trash - LOADS of it. You can imagine the amount of trash 20 people can accumulate.
- \* Unsafe, unwelcome behavior. Drinking, smoking and all night partying. We are a child rich neighborhood. There are 5 young (13) and pre-teen girls within a 4 house radius of this house. We parents no longer feel safe letting our children walk our dogs, ride their bikes, or generally play unsupervised while these large groups are present.

Solution? HEAVILY regulate and HEAVILY fine the home owners. A number of substantial fines will encourage home owners to stop marketing their property inappropriately.

Fine the owner when a plow can't plow a street.

Fine the owner when the trash is overflowing and wildlife gets into it

Fine the owner when cars are parked on the street.

Fine the owner when the police are called due to noise.

Fine the owner when illegal, unsafe activities are done (fires.)

Fine the owner when the number of people renting a house exceeds the allotted amount.

I understand an owner can not control the actions of their renters, however fines will go a long way toward self regulation. People should be able to rent

homes in our beautiful area. They should however be expected to be respectful, safe and responsible.

Finally, the tax dollars generated from short term rentals should directly benefit the community in which the taxes were earned.

Thank you for your time, I am available for any questions or comments.

Appreciate you opening the conversation and affording several opportunities for community members to express their concerns.

Regards,  
Diane Morrison  
775.250.4549

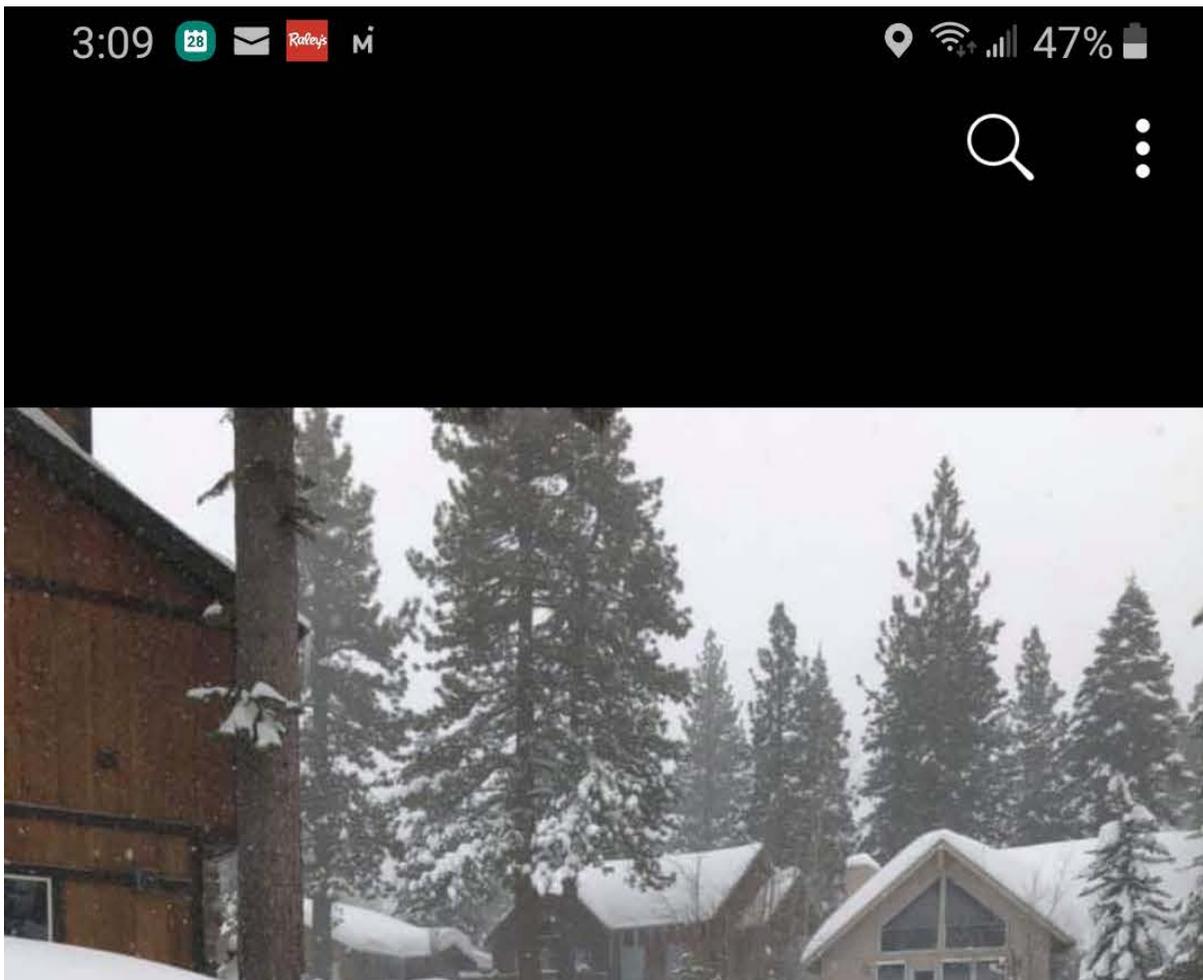
----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** diane morrison <diane\_m\_morrison@yahoo.com>

**To:** diane morrison <diane\_m\_morrison@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 28, 2019, 03:08:55 PM PDT

**Subject:** Short term rentals





**Chrystie Quilici Lowden**

FEB 9 AT 2:30 PM



3:09



47%





**Diane Fatovic Morrison**

FEB 10 AT 11:35 AM



3:10



47%





**Diane Fatovic Morrison**

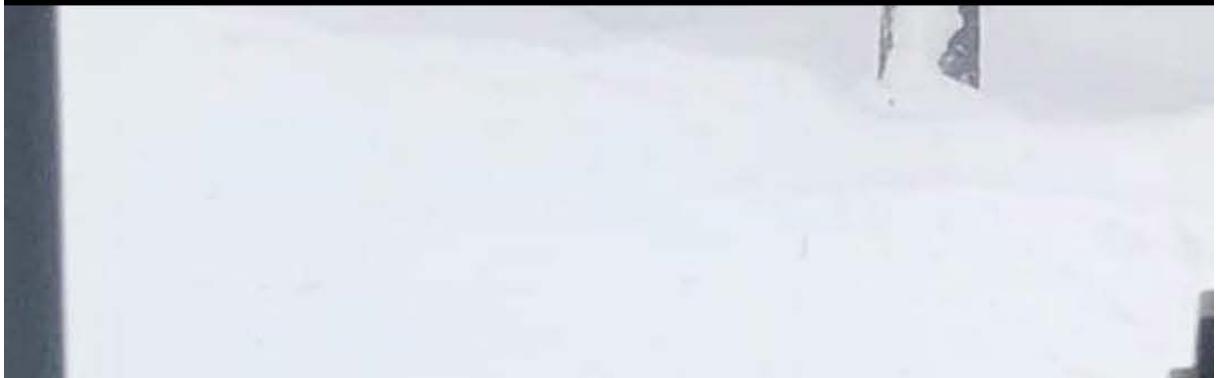
FEB 10 AT 12:38 PM



3:09



47%





**Diane Fatovic Morrison**

FEB 10 AT 11:35 AM





**Diane Fatovic Morrison**

FEB 10 AT 11:37 AM



1:24 70%

## Reviews



table, TVs, decks, just everything about this house was very nice.

I would highly recommend this house and would most definitely stay here again.

Published Feb 22, 2019

### Cozy Winter Retreat

5/5 ★★★★★ Stayed Jan 2019

Angela C.

Great home for our weekend ski trip! The home was

nicely appointed, clean, and very comfortable for our group of 12. Kids loved the bunk room and the adults loved the awesome kitchen and pool table downstairs. Robin was a great host and very responsive to questions. Overall a great stay!

Published Feb 16, 2019

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1:24 [notification icons] [battery 70%]

## Reviews ×

Alexandra

Published Jun 5, 2019

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## Great house for our large group! Even a small group would be great!

5/5 ★★★★★ Stayed Feb 2019

Anders H.

What a great stay 17 of us had here!

Robin was pleasant to work with and responded quickly to my questions.

17 of fit very comfortably and all had beds to sleep in. It's also a really nice house from the hardwood floors, marble countertops, appliances, beds, furniture, pool table, TVs, decks, just everything about this house was very nice.

I would highly recommend this house and would most definitely stay here again.

Published Feb 22, 2019

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## Reviews



### Family Fun in a Beautiful Modern Setting

5/5 ★★★★★ Stayed Aug 2019

We had the best vacation here! The home was so spacious, gorgeously redone and very accessible to all the beaches and nearby fun. We had 11 family members and there was plenty of room. We barbecued on the large deck, enjoyed the views of the trees and the stars, it was so peaceful. The older kids enjoyed playing pool and boardgames while the adults hung out in the beautifully renovated kitchen. The bedrooms were nice, the master was huge and stocked with comfortable blankets and sheets, so soft I plan to purchase some for home! Robin was very informative, responsive and provided all we needed for a great and memorable stay. I will definitely stay here again.

Published Aug 19, 2019

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## Beautiful summer getaway

5/5 ★★★★★ Stayed Jul 2019

Caryn N.

Our large family really enjoyed this property. The house was beautiful and very roomy. We especially enjoyed evenings out on the large patio having dinner. The views and smell of the pine trees was amazing



1:02 73%

[Overview](#) · [Reviews](#) · [The Host](#) · [Location](#)

Value



Adam

August 2019

Robin was a wonderful host who made everything about this trip absolutely seamless. She was very responsive and went out of her way to help me with anything I needed before I arrived. She has great suggestions for local activities too. This house is PERFECT for golfers as it is minutes

HOUSE IS PERFECT FOR golfers as it is minutes from the Incline Village Mountain and Championship courses, which are both immaculate. We also rented boats one day and the private beaches were a great way to finish the day and only minutes from the house. The house itself was updated with a beautiful kitchen and plenty of gathering space for a group. The charcoal grill on the large deck made group dinners easy, cheap, and fun. The beds and couches were comfortable, and the pool table is a great way to spend some down time inside. I would recommend this home to anyone or group looking to stay in the Tahoe area.

**\$650** per night  
★★★★★ 8

Reserve



1:06



73%



[Overview](#) · [Reviews](#) · [The Host](#) · [Location](#)

looking to stay in the Tahoe area.



**Bobby**

July 2019

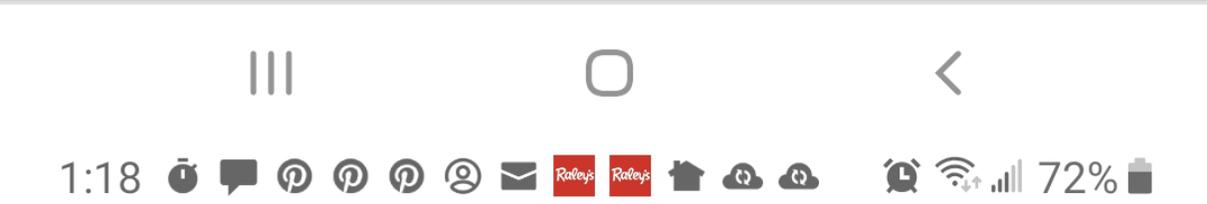
Place was beautiful and in a great location near beaches. Host was pretty quick with responses and had great communication. Only thing to take in consideration would be noise volume. This is something out of the hosts hands but there is a neighbor across the street who has an extremely low noise tolerance. The only reason I write this on the review is because he came and aggressively knocked and screamed at us because we were playing a game of beanbags(cornhole) out on the patio at 10am on a Saturday morning and he stated the bean bags were too loud. He was very aggressive when he came to the door and it made the rest of our stay a bit uncomfortable. Again this is something to take into consideration but other then that the house is beautiful and the host had amazing communication.

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**\$650** per night  
★★★★★ 8

**Reserve**



[Overview](#) · [Reviews](#) · [The Host](#) · [Location](#)

Great property. Family had a great time.  
Owner very helpful and accommodating.  
Highly recommend.



**Ryan**  
March 2019

What a wonderful stay at this beautiful home!



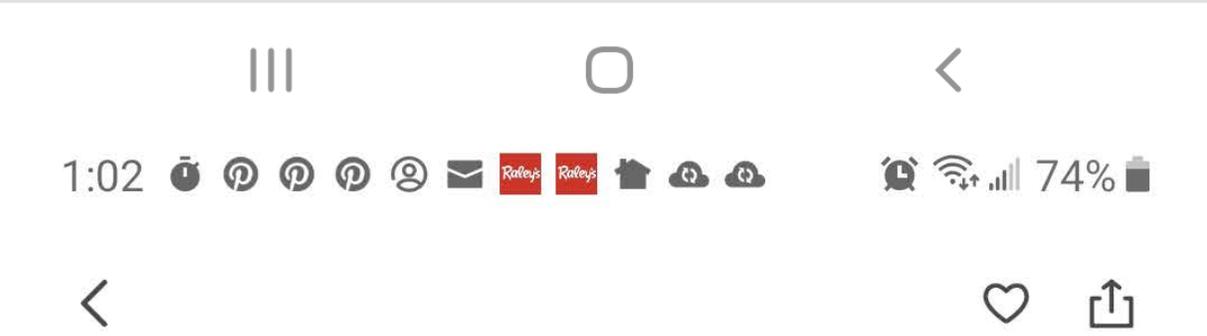
**Nikolas Gabriel**  
February 2019

Robin was an amazing host, the first day we were there the heater was broken and within an hour or so Robin had someone out there to fix it. The home it self was very spacious and the kitchen was a great communal space to hang out in after a long day of

to hang out in after a long day of snowboarding. Everything was clean, the beds were comfortable and after the heater was repaired the house was nice and toasty. If I ever have a large group again this will be at the top of my list. More than enough sleeping space for my group of 17

**\$650** per night  
★★★★★ 8

**Reserve**





# Incline Chateau at Lake Tahoe

Incline Village



 **Entire house**

16+ guests · 4 bedrooms · 12 beds · 3 baths

 **Great location**

100% of recent guests gave the location a 5-star rating.

 **Great check-in experience**

100% of recent guests gave the check-in process a 5-star rating.

**\$650** per night

★★★★★ 8

**Reserve**







[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Suzie Parks](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Lake Tahoe Environment  
**Date:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 10:28:00 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I'm tired of being overrun by tourists, their rudeness and rubbish. Our '2 lane' road around the Lake is bumper to bumper. Garbage is everywhere ~ plastic bottles float by me when I kayak. Dog feces is on every trail I hike.

While I appreciate people wanting to make money there needs to be some control. The owner in the condo next to mine insists everyone who arrives, all different, every week are relatives ~ to avoid paying taxes that might help to keep our beautiful area free of trash, help our sheriffs dept, etc.

I've lived here 30 years and I've NEVER seen so many people ~ something must be done

--

Suzie Parks

**From:** [kate pearce](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Kathy Emerson](#)  
**Cc:** [Stephen Pearce](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rentals Incline Village  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 12:43:46 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners,

**I would like this email to be read and included as part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioners Meeting on 8/25/2020.**

We bought our home in Incline Village to enjoy the beauty and tranquility of living on the shores of Lake Tahoe, with its wonderful amenities and community spirit. We love to take our 7 year old son to the beaches, hiking on the many trails and skiing at diamond peak resort. All that changed recently, when the house next door to us was sold to a couple living in downtown San Francisco who styled the home as a party venue with accommodation for 10-15 people, a hot tub and indoor and outdoor games and now rent it out via Airbnb for \$1550 per night. This implication of this is that multiple families are sharing the property to afford the high price tag and a huge party ensues. This is a 3200 sq ft structure, a mere 20ft from our home structure. The main issues are noise, aggression, parking and trash. July 4th week was particularly tough as we were subjected to 9 days of drunken partying with constant loud music and yelling from early morning until late evening. It's tough to explain to a 7 year old why he's having rap music blasted into his bedroom, where every other word is "MF". When I asked the renters to quieten down a bit because after many late nights, my son really needed to get to bed on time, I was told told by an obnoxious, loud mouthed drunk that I was an old fart and that they had every right to make as much noise as they like until 10pm. They then proceeded to make even more noise and yell abuse at me in front of my son for 2 hours until 10pm sharp, when they killed the noise completely.

Since then, I've become very much aware of how big a problem short term rentals are in the area, sure I'd seen them in the town causing problems and heard stories of revellers starting fires and driving their cars off the cliffs, putting the entire neighborhood at risk, but am only just beginning to understand the misery they are subjecting the residents of our lovely neighborhood to.

I used to be a fan of Airbnb as a way to access family centric accommodation in the home of a caring host. However Airbnb has evolved into a money making commercial machine, attracting greedy owners and inconsiderate party goers who should be staying in resorts. Hotels in private residential homes should be treated as the commercial enterprises they are and subject to the same planning restrictions and regulations as setting up a nightclub in the middle of a peaceful, residential area. For these reasons I am against STRs, and while I can see the proposed STR ordinance will be cash generator for Washoe County, I don't see how it will improve the lives of the many resident in our town who are the victims of this uncontrolled greed.

I would like to respectfully request you, the commissioners of Washoe County to re-evaluate your proposed ordinance on STR to take into consideration the residents of Incline Village and ensure you address the points I've outline above. I would advocate for the following alternatives, in order of priority:

1. A ban on STRs of less than 30 days
2. Managing STRs as a commercial rather than residential operation
3. Limiting the number of days a property can be rented each year to less than 90, making this a less attractive option for greedy investors
4. Hefty and enforceable repercussions for noise, aggression, parking and trash - the current 10pm-7am quiet hours proposal doesn't go far enough and seems to act as permission to make as much noise as possible during the day

Sincerely,  
Kate Pearce,  
Incline Village

**From:** [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Cc:** ["Diane Heirshberg"; rondatycer@aol.com](#)  
**Subject:** The citations begin  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 7:14:52 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Marsha,

Today I am sending, via certified mail, the complete compilation of all letters previously sent to the property owner and the letter below. The Sheriff's Deputies were kind and considerate when taking the information for the citation. They told me they know of the issues with the property, witness the excessive cars, people and partying. This is a nuisance property for which legal action will be taken. I have been writing the property owners almost daily with the issues since the beginning of July. We have had no response from them which is why I am sending copies by certified mail.

Here is today's letter.

August 14, 2020

John and Cynthia Hunter  
4740 Opal Cliff Dr.  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hunter,

On the night of August 13, the Sheriff's deputies issued your renters, a large group of young men, a citation for disturbing the peace. As the photos show, on August 12<sup>th</sup>, they were partying hard all day in the back yard. Lots of drinking, smoking, shouting, yelling, cheering for hours. I was hopeful they would just pass out at some point, but they continued into the evening. The renters don't seem to understand or care that this is a residential neighborhood, with neighbors. Unfortunately, once again the Sheriff had to send resources at the County Taxpayer's expense to 'educate' them.

When speaking with the Deputies issuing the citation, they knew of all of the issues at your property. They know it well. People around Incline Village know it well, they all comment to me about the number of cars, people and observed misbehavior. When speaking with new neighbors, they were in disbelief and horrified to also observe and understand your home is a short term rental party house.

As I've written you before, your unmanaged short term rental is consuming taxpayer resources, is disturbing the peace of the neighborhood and is a nuisance. Nevada State statutes (NRS 40.140) has language about homes that are a nuisance and disrupting the peaceful use of neighboring homes.

If this behavior continues and you continue to ignore our documented complaints, the surrounding neighbors will have no choice but to start legal proceedings. We'd prefer to work together as 'neighbors', however you have yet to show your interest or willingness to do so.

Please call us to discuss the situation with your short term rental.

Thank you!

Sara and Patrick Schmitz  
932 Lakeshore Blvd.  
Incline Village, NV  
925-858-4384      Email: [schmitz61@gmail.com](mailto:schmitz61@gmail.com)  
Enclosure: all emails and photos sent to date

**Sara Schmitz**  
**(925) 858-4384**

**From:** [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**To:** ["Patrick Schmitz"](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** 936 Lakeshore - more county resources consumed.  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 11, 2020 7:38:06 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Kelly and Marsha,

Below is the letter I will be sending the property owners today. Understand they have never provided us their phone or email and don't respond in any way. I'm asking this to go on record with my other written complaints to forbid them from receiving a permit when the County Ordinance goes into effect.

August 11, 2020

John and Cynthia Hunter  
4740 Opal Cliff Dr.  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hunter,

On the night of August 10, the Sheriff's deputies had to visit your short term rental due to the renters disturbing the peace. The loud shouting and talking continued after midnight. The renters don't seem to understand or care that this is a residential neighborhood, with neighbors. They leave windows open and carry on. Unfortunately, once again the Sheriff had to send resources at the County Taxpayer's expense to 'educate' them.

On the night of August 11, the behavior was continuing. I 'told' them to close the windows. They must have realized they were on the brink of receiving another visit by a deputy, but this time not with a warning, but a citation. Thank goodness because I had a peaceful nights rest.

Your unmanaged short term rental is consuming taxpayer resources, is disturbing the peace of the neighborhood and is a nuisance. Nevada State statutes has language about homes that are a nuisance and disrupting the peaceful use of neighboring homes. This is NRS 40.140.

If this behavior continues and you continue to ignore our documented complaints, the surrounding neighbors will have no choice by to start legal proceedings. We'd prefer to work together as 'neighbors', however you have yet to show your interest or willingness to do so.

Please call us to discuss the situation with your short term rental.

Thank you!

Sara and Patrick Schmitz  
932 Lakeshore Blvd.  
Incline Village, NV  
925-858-4384      Email: schmitz61@gmail.com

**Sara Schmitz**  
**(925) 858-4384**

**From:** [Joe Shaefer](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#)  
**Subject:** Life and death in Washoe West  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 10:46:42 PM

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Washoe County Commissioners Lucey, Berkbigler, Brown, Herman, Emerson, Mullin, Hartung and Jung,

You are killing us. Literally. In order to ensure maximum revenue from short-term rentals at least one of you has succumbed to two false narratives:

The first false narrative is that those protesting the depredations of short-term renters in residential neighborhoods (STRs) are just a few whiny rich folks up the hill. This falsehood disparages the thousands of hard-working service workers in home health care, hotel and home housekeeping, teaching, landscaping, and running small businesses, all of whom pay either primarily or secondarily into Washoe County and State of Nevada coffers. It disparages those of us still working, or who have started second careers. Just because Zephyr Cove and Incline Village/Crystal Bay residents do not come to your meetings en masse in the time of COVID-19 does not mean that the thousands of us Washoe County residents in the western suburbs are not deeply harmed by your intransigence in this matter.

The second false narrative is that there are bigger fish to fry. If a few old people die from COVID-19 as a result of the assault from weekend or one-week renters, well, the western suburbs are, after all, lightly populated.

Not all short-term renters are bad people. But the trash they spew in every location is bad. Without intelligent regulation, 14-20 people in 6 or 8 cars can stay in a family home designed for 4-6. Of course their garbage overflows! And of course the bears and other wildlife that help make Lake Tahoe Washoe County's biggest tourism draw will be slaughtered as "dangerous." The danger comes from failure to act. Now.

Their vehicles are not inherently evil. But parking so many cars in so small a space, overflowing into the middle of both sides of many residential avenues, means paramedics, police and fire personnel are unable to traverse many streets. Is a life-and-death situation to the few outweighed by the greater distribution to the many?

I have yet to see any of these invaders, so relieved to be beyond their own states' restrictions, wear a mask as they walk our trails. The redeeming fact is that they are outdoors – but so were the people on the beaches in Miami. Every trail for miles around is packed with people inches apart, passing each other in both directions.

No one from the Nevada side of Stateline in the south to Crystal Bay in the north is asking for a ban on STRs. We Washoe County residents merely ask that intelligent regulation be instituted for the protection of Washoe County citizens, Washoe County property, and the beautiful lake that defines Washoe County's western boundary.

Not being willing to consider a dialogue about how STRs should be regulated is a breach of legal, fiduciary and community trust. Please advise how you plan to address the dangerous issues being promulgated on one of the most vulnerable neighborhoods in Washoe County. I look forward to your response.

In the spirit of discussion,

Joseph L. Shaefer  
Brigadier General, USAF, Ret.  
775 832-5440

**From:** [Julia Simens](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Incline Village  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 9:42:53 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Having bought in Incline in 1998, we love it here.

We do not like the impact that short term rentals have had in our neighborhood. In the past we have had to call the sheriff a few times for loud parties and way too many people in one unit. This was when we only had one STR in our 24 units.

This summer alone we have had seven+ units converted to STR, this has resulted in watermelons being tossed off second floors, trash being left in hallways. Trash being left outside the bear trash bins. Loud parties and unbelievable parking issues. Many of the renters did not know about the CC&R's and rules. Our CC&R's clearly outline where you can park and how recreation vehicles, trailers, RV are not allowed to park. Renters have even parked in the fire lane.

When we call the sheriff department, they are wonderful to try and help with these situations. The fire department even came out to help us get a huge RV out of the fire lane.

We have taken it upon ourselves to remove the trash or store the trash as any responsible person would do in order to help 1000 Lakeshore Blvd. association.

As a full time owner in Incline Village, I would like to see the STR's have a much better way to deal with these irresponsible renters.

Julia Simens  
1000 Lakeshore Blvd. #5  
Incline Village, NV. 89451  
925-357-5542

**From:** [Judith Simon](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Cc:** [Judith Michaels Simon](#); [David Simon](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rental  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 3:06:59 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To: Washoe County Commissioners

From: Judith Simon, Incline Village

I request that this e-mail be read and made a part of the public record.

I understand that on August 25, 2020 you will be reviewing the latest iteration of the Short Term Rental Ordinance. I object to several provisions in the Ordinance; briefly, the ordinance does not limit the number of STRs in Incline Village nor outline their locations. Additionally the Ordinance does not require that STR property owners actually reside in Incline, nor to be present when the rentals occur.

Unlimited STRs lead long-term, far-reaching problems, both in public safety and in the quality of life in our neighborhoods. I urge you to

- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Limit the size and number of bedrooms, defining dwellings having more than 3 bedrooms as commercial use, requiring a business license.
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Limit occupancy to 1 person per 200 square feet
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Require STRs to list hosting platforms
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Require emergency/evacuation maps, with emergency telephone numbers affixed in each bedroom
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Limit vehicle parking to on-site, not in adjacent public right of way.
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Prohibit sound-producing devices outdoors as well as prohibiting large parties, receptions, and similar events.
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Verify that applicants owning dwellings that are part of a HOA document that the HOA approves of the STR.

**From:** [Bill Tamblyn](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rental (STR"s)  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 4:07:57 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To Whom It Concerns:

I appreciate the desire to address problem situations, but a blanket policy, as proposed is stifling to individuals who wish to have some income from a property.

This appears to be a bureaucratic pitch for permit funding to support aspects of the county.

Example: The fact that if I stay in my property - there is no noise restriction, but if it's rented - it has quite hours from 10pm to 7am. Isn't there an overall common 'quiet hours' that is enforced? Why create a new "class" to enforce? The claim that there were 64 noise incidents - doesn't clarify that they were ALL STR candidate properties.

This looks like a grab for fees. The fees will have to increase regularly - such as fire inspections etc. to address compliance. I believe there are already overworked inspectors to address current infrastructure and housing in the county. Adding this complexity will not be favorable.

We already have an "occupancy tax" for short term rentals - what are the owners of STR's receiving for the increased revenues to the county? Has there been consideration of "what if" the current short term rental folks STOP renting out? That revenue will decrease - but you may think it will go to hotels.....hotels won't have capacity.

Bottomline - the extensive rules for STR's seem like overkill to existing laws that are in place. Respectfully, as a owner of property in Washoe County - I believe this is excessive and not of significant value.

Regards

Bill Tamblyn

**From:** [Alexander Tsigdinos](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Public input to the Short-term Rental (SRT) Policy at the Commission's 8/25 meeting  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 12:52:28 PM

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Please read my email at the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting on 8/25/20 and make it part of the public record.

Dear Washoe County Commissioners,

Re: Short-term Rental (SRT) Policy

I'm writing to urge you to adopt much more stringent regulations on STRs in Incline Village/Crystal Bay – much as Las Vegas has done -- than those currently drafted.

As an Incline Village homeowner since 2004, I've seen firsthand the dramatic increase in sustained tourism here -- over the last five years in particular. Given the persistent crowds, traffic congestion, dangerous illegal parking and what's best described as just generally uncivil behavior, it seems as if the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend now lasts all summer. This new reality is especially disheartening during this pandemic: Just as state public health guidelines in both California and Nevada advise citizens to stay home and to limit travel and group exposure, tourists continue to overwhelm the Tahoe Basin. We already feel the long-term effects and stress on our fragile environment, public health and community.

The surge in visitors is directly linked to the proliferation of STRs, enabled and commercialized on an industrial scale, by online platforms such as VRBO, Air B&B and Vacasa. Over time, the increasingly negative impact SRTs have on communities favored by tourism is universal, be it in Lisbon, Venice Berlin, Dublin, Seattle, Las Vegas, South Lake Tahoe or Incline. One only need Google terms such as "communities banning short-term rentals" for examples. The basic progression is as follows.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->First, local primary residents make additive income by occasional renting a room or their apartment/condo/house while they are out of town. This worked in Tahoe for decades.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Second, affluent individuals, real estate groups, and companies -- get into the SRT business by buying up multiple properties solely for financial return and effectively inserting commercial lodging into residential-zoned neighborhoods. (Ask yourself, would it be OK if someone effectively turned the residence next door to yours into a hotel that hosted one nightly bacchanalia after another? And if such a conversion of a residence into a commercial enterprise is acceptable in defiance of zoning laws, would then conversions residences into stores,

restaurants, dance clubs or other commercial enterprises also be acceptable?)

• Third, communities come under growing pressure as available housing units for local residents are removed from the market (directly competing with other government initiatives to increase affordable housing); first-responders, public facilities and local infrastructure become overtaxed; and the community and environment frays.

• Fourth and finally, a boiling point is reached when the community loses its identity to become a sort of “Disneyland” (e.g., DisneyVenice, DisneyTahoe) resulting in a severe political backlash in which SRTs are banned outright and/or heavily taxed – but only after real and lasting damage has already been done. Everyone loses.

Experience tells me we are already well into phase three of the above. We can avoid further digression by adopting SRT policies with real teeth, much as our fellow south Nevadans have done. If we don’t, experience elsewhere has shown we will “kill the goose that laid the golden egg.” The communities of Incline/Crystal Bay -- your constituents -- will no longer be recognizable.

In closing, I’ll add that I was nearly dissuaded from writing to you by a friend and neighbor. He told me I’ll merely be written off as a “NIMBY neighborhood crank” and would “... waste my time, as the money is behind STRs and the money always wins.”

I disagree with those cynical assertions. My hope is that the long-term interests of this beautiful area your constituents will prevail over the short-term interests of real estate investors out to make a buck. As our County Commissioners, please take another hard look at the SRT policy as drafted, take the community input of actual residents to heart, and act accordingly.

Sincerely,

Alex P. Tsigdinos  
LCDR, USN (Ret.)  
1080 Oxen Rd.  
Incline Village, NV

**From:** [agdiancin@hotmail.com](mailto:agdiancin@hotmail.com)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STR in Incline Village  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 11:12:11 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I am writing as a concern resident of Incline Village regarding short term rentals. As pandemic hits our country, more short term renters are seen in Incline Village. More problems are on the horizon now that short term rentals have taken over Lake Tahoe.

1. Traffic and parking problems: The main highways are not intended to pack in STR during these high traffic times. More accidents are occurring, especially from Incline to Sand Harbor area. Also, STR cannot restrict the amount of cars these tourists bring in, therefore overcrowding the streets and blocking garbage trucks and deliveries as well as snow plows (importance during winter time in Tahoe). Main problems are parking along hwy 28 with no regards where there is a tight street highway with no accessible parking yet they still park along the side of the highway causing major accidents.
2. Fire: There have been STRs where houses have caught on fire Bc the recklessness of the renter and or the landlord.
3. Trash and pollution: Every year residents are left to pick up trash after tourists who leave Tahoe's trails and lakes with trash they brought in. We know it's a STR problems because high littering occurs right after 4th of July and extremely high this summer because of the pandemic.
4. Bear problems: STR are not educated to know that bears can break into their garages or homes where food is present. Therefore, they automatically call the sheriff and NDOW to trap the bear(s) to be killed. Residents of Incline are opposed to this and will not stand for killing innocent animals because STR could not prevent this from happening.

There are so much more problems with STR but these are main concerns.

I propose these solutions

1. Limit STR so streets are not overcrowded with their multiple cars and their boats.
2. STR owner to pay HIGH fees for bear break ins and have STR brokers/landlords educate renters when checking in.
3. All STR should have inspections yearly so that it's in code. Inspection should be paid by STR owner.
4. STR should pay a fee for every time their place is renting out since tourists use trails that are at no cost for them but at a cost for the town since the town is the one cleaning up after the tourists. This money should be used to give back to the town, ei. Beautification or towards parks.
5. Children should be counted as to how many renters can occupy a STR since they are given beach passes in Incline Village via IVGID.
6. All STR hosts should be accessible via online directory for any neighborhoods with complaints or problems to be resolve.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Heather Williams](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Incline Village STRs  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 5:55:00 PM

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Dear Mr. Brown

The new STR policy adopted by the Washoe County Commissioners is not even “a good start”.

While it may reflect the views and interests of the Commissioners, it certainly has no bearing on the issues and problems of Incline residents. .

I have sent e-mails and pleas to the Commissioners (Only Ms Berkbigler has had the courtesy to respond – once.) I have attended Public Forums where the meeting was opened with “There will be no ban on Short Term rentals”, and then we were given a limited number of issues we could discuss – as well as issues we were not allowed to raise. That sounds more like County input, than public input.

Mr. Brown, let me give you my personal and public input. All 3 of these incidents occurred **just this weekend**, and are not atypical:

1. Outside my home, I picked up 12 – yes, 12 – piles of dog poop and dog poop bags.
2. On Sunday morning, the STR down the street had 3 bags of garbage sitting outside the Bear Box.

3. And, finally, beginning Friday afternoon, another rental in the neighborhood had 8 cars parked on the street (with 2 more in the driveway). For one rental. If there had been an emergency, a fire truck could not have gotten through. As it was, 2 cars could not pass on this active roadway.

Without being dramatic, we are under siege in Incline. It used to be just the summer. Now it is year round and only getting worse year by year. I now live on Hotel Row – not a neighborhood. We used to go for walks without fear of being mowed down. We used to watch out for each other – summer and winter. We knew our neighbors. Now, it is all professional investors and property management services. Dog poop, garbage, speeding, boats/cars on my street, in front of my house - everywhere. Mr. Brown, does this sound like somewhere you want to live? There is no respect for the residents, the wildlife or the lake. And that is my biggest concern.

By not limiting and placing restrictions on STRs, we are going to lose this beautiful lake, and Washoe County is going to kill its Golden Goose. We have already lost our community and our quality of life. .At the very least, the following restrictions should be applied:

1. NO off street parking. Our streets are too narrow, and emergency vehicles and snowplows can not get through.
2. Bear boxes should be mandatory – with instructions as to how to use them!
3. Require Incline Village residency in order to be issued an STR permit. And limit those permits by number, location or density.
4. Repeated violations – no! First violation is a hefty fine (Monroe County in Florida imposes a \$15,000 fine per violation.) Second violation results in a permanent loss of any and all STR permits.

Contrary to what the Incline residents have been told, repeatedly, by the Commissioners,

“Understand that we cannot stop AirB&B.”

“Our DA has told us we have no authority to stop people from renting their property to others for whatever reason...” , and

“We are located in NV a Dillions Rule state that does not allow municipalities to interfere with the properties rights of residents or property owners in the State.”  
(Uhhh....Las Vegas??)

many, many, many other communities have effectively shut down STR abuses. Since our “guests” are not going to respect the lake or our community, it’s time we take the initiative and preserve our lake and our quality of life. Thank you for helping us control STRs in IVCB

I also request that this email be made part of the Public Record for the Washoe County Commissioner’s meeting on 8-25-20.

Respectfully,

Heather Williams

**From:** [Catherine J. Amargos](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Vacation Rental  
**Date:** Monday, August 10, 2020 12:45:23 PM

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Dear Board:

I am writing in regards to the proposed vacation rental ordinance. As a long time, full time resident of Incline Village, I find the proposed ordinance over the top. The time frame is unreasonable. There is no way that homeowners, especially those of us who are elderly, are going to be able to do all that is listed in that unrealistic short time frame. Several of my friends have moved away due to health reasons or to be closer to family. They rely on that income their home brings in. This is Tahoe, nothing happens quickly. In my experience, people are going to need at least a year to comply with the rules.

In my four decades of living here, there have always been vacation rentals. Those old rundown Tahoe Cabins were charming to city folk. In recent years, I've watched as most of them have been improved. In my neighborhood, I've only had to ask vacation renters once politely to turn down their music and they did. We've had more problems with long term renters. More recently an anti STR neighbor around the corner has been harassing renters and homeowners who weren't even making noise. These anti-vacation rental neighbors are going to create a bigger nuisance in my opinion. They are going to create more work for all. What do you have in place for those folks who are just unhappy and going to file false complaints? There has to be fines for these folks, also, because once this ordinance is in place, there are going to be so many trivial complaints. The only fair way to enforce is for complaints to require proof, evidence of wrong doing.

Please consider all aspects before passing any ordinance.

Thank you.

Catherine J.

**From:** [csamende@gmail.com](mailto:csamende@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Short term rentals: for commissioners  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:09:48 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

We purchased our home, in the Ponderosa subdivision of Incline Village, in 2007. This subdivision is a residential-only area of single-family homes.

Beginning about 6 or 7 years ago, one of our neighbors, a Realtor who lives in Los Angeles, began renting out his large house, which is advertised on VRBO as sleeping 14 people. We began seeing (and hearing) large groups of young people hanging out on the property, drinking, smoking, yelling, laughing, and playing loud music, often starting in late afternoon and continuing into the middle of the night, sometimes into the morning. This often happens for days at a time, occasionally a week or more. There is a back deck on this property that overlooks a ravine and creek, along which our and many other houses sit, and that topography acts as an echo chamber that amplifies the noise. I have spoken via phone and text numerous times to the owner of the property, but he continues to rent to large groups of young people with no adult supervision. He does try to get them to quiet down, which sometimes works, but he also continues to rent to them.

The behavior we have witnessed includes:

- Yelling and laughing loudly into the wee hours of the morning
- Drinking and drug-taking
- Driving repeatedly up and down the street (at least a dozen times) with 6 or 7 people standing in the bed of a pickup truck, yelling at the top of their lungs
- Some kind of skateboard contest where about 15 people stood out in the street, yelling and laughing at full volume, for 6 or 7 hours (until I finally stopped them)
- Trash all over our property and adjacent parcels (bottles, cans, condoms, etc.)
- Trash left in open bags on the street, which the bears got into
- The kids of the cleaning service employees using the property every single night as a party house and crash pad (this is no longer happening, but did for several months)

I have no problem with someone renting out their property from time to time to CONSIDERATE renters, but because there is no recourse when there are too many people in a house or too much noise/partying/trash, I am in favor of a STRONG set of laws that govern these rentals. The property owner, whose residence is out of town and who doesn't have to live with this, and the county both profit from these transactions, while the permanent residents are just supposed to grin and bear it. This is unacceptable in quiet residential neighborhoods and we strongly urge you to consider regulations that provide some recourse for the full-time residents, ideally limiting these short-term and vacation rentals to city centers and high-density areas and prohibiting them in neighborhoods that have no businesses.

Please enter this e-mail into the public record for the Washoe County Commissioners meeting. Thank you.

Coral Amende  
334 2<sup>nd</sup> Creek Dr.  
Incline Village, NV 89451  
775-832-5423

---

**From:** rondatycer@aol.com <rondatycer@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** csamende@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Group 1 - STR Input to Commissioners

Dear Coral,

You let us know that you have a STR in your neighborhood. Would you be willing to write an email describing your concerns to the Washoe County Commissioners?

We're sending them a description of our problems with STRs in a last-ditch effort to influence the STR Ordinance before we go to Plan B. If at all possible, please each send an email on 8/19/20.

You may want to mention the current STR Ordinance does not protect you from future problems because the Ordinance does not limit STRs in IVCB by number, location, or density; and does not require IV residency to get a permit.

Please add a request that your email be made part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting 8/25/20.

Address to:

Eric P Brown      [epricebrown@washoecounty.us](mailto:epricebrown@washoecounty.us)  
Marsha Berkbigler      [mberkbigler@washoecounty.us](mailto:mberkbigler@washoecounty.us),  
Bob Lucey      [blucey@washoecounty.us](mailto:blucey@washoecounty.us),  
Jeanne Herman      [jherman@washoecounty.us](mailto:jherman@washoecounty.us),  
Vaughn Hartung      [vhartung@washoecounty.us](mailto:vhartung@washoecounty.us),  
Kitty Jung      [kjung@washoecounty.us](mailto:kjung@washoecounty.us),  
Kelly Mullin      [KMullin@washoecounty.us](mailto:KMullin@washoecounty.us),  
Kathy Emerson      [kemerson@washoecounty.us](mailto:kemerson@washoecounty.us)

BCC:      [iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com](mailto:iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com)

Thanks again.

All the best,

Ronda

PS: If you happen to have emails for your neighbors who might also be bothered by the neighborhood STR, could you please forward this request to them and ask if they could also weigh in to the commissioners?

**From:** [Hauenstein, Mojra](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: STR Ordinance addendum  
**Date:** Monday, August 10, 2020 9:58:37 AM  
**Attachments:** [Addendum with references re STR Ordinance concerns.pdf](#)  
[Outlook-nilc4kkg.png](#)  
[Outlook-hzmuqqj4.png](#)  
[Outlook-0dqhpfpj.png](#)  
[Outlook-nn5jzh2p.png](#)  
[Outlook-oevrrnmr.png](#)

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**Mojra Hauenstein, Architect, AICP Planner, LEED AP  
Neighborhood Development  
Director of Planning & Building | Community Services  
Department**

[mhauenstein@washoecounty.us](mailto:mhauenstein@washoecounty.us) | Office: 775.328.3619

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For Planning call (775) 328-6100

Email: [Building@washoecounty.us](mailto:Building@washoecounty.us)

Email: [Planning@washoecounty.us](mailto:Planning@washoecounty.us)



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**From:** cbwillb@charter.net <cbwillb@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 7, 2020 6:52 PM  
**To:** Hauenstein, Mojra <MHauenstein@washoecounty.us>  
**Subject:** RE: STR Ordinance addendum

**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

Hi Mojra,

Many thanks for your reply and the info provided. A couple of thoughts below ... and, in addition, attached please find a more detailed addendum with rationales and code references. I prepared this to provide background for Eric Brown and have forwarded to him. I also sent copies to Kelly, Trevor Lloyd who responded to me in her absence and Commissioner Berkbigler.

Re your comments below:

1) I have clarified that I am requesting a review of the prior thinking re Public Accommodation in view of more recent developments and have included extensive rationale and code references.

2) I am not sure I understand your comments re occupancy - however, my intent was to focus on the Tiers for permitting - I believe that the threshold between Tier 1 and 2 is inflated and needs to be decreased. Again I hope I have clarified in the attached.

That said, I'd vote for a simple basic occupancy calculation - perhaps 2/bedroom, maybe plus 2 as is commonly used. Bedroom would need to be clarified/defined though perhaps use the assessor files which presumably would document permitted bedrooms???

3) Glad to hear re parking. Might consider specifying that renters need to identify spots for off road parking of any additional vehicles brought to the area. Not sure how to say it > Concept is: 4 people/1 off street parking spot. But they bring 2 cars or 1 car, 1 truck plus a boat - what then?

Thanks as always, Carole Black  
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From: "Hauenstein, Mojra"  
To: "cbwillb@charter.net"  
Cc: David", Kelly", Marsha"  
Sent: Wednesday August 5 2020 3:30:26PM  
Subject: STR Ordinance

Hello Mrs. Black, thank you for your email. Kelly is out for at least a week.

We plan to issue the draft staff report with the proposed ordinance 2 weeks prior to the August 25th BCC meeting for the introduction and 1st reading. This allows for a longer than standard public review period.

We have addressed your concerns with the Health District who has jurisdiction over the Public Health, Sanitation and Safety Requirements. At this time they will not be imposing such requirements which are applicable to *public accommodations*, which we have discussed in the past. Our legal counsel has determined that STRs are not considered *public accommodations* as defined per NRS 447 .

However, we hope you support the newly proposed language that addresses specific restrictions needed during a declared emergency:

**Section 110.319.50 Restrictions During a Declared Emergency.** STRs are subject to all lawful orders of the Governor of Nevada during a declared emergency and to all powers granted by law to the local governmental entities. For example, this may include but is not limited to additional operating restrictions or the requirement to cease operations until such time as the order is lifted.

Regarding the Occupancy limits, we are using the currently adopted I-codes and implementing methods of calculation that we currently use for issuing permits in accordance with existing life-safety Fire and Building codes.

Regarding Parking, we have taken the direction given to use by the Board of County Commissioners and will propose requiring 1 on-site (on the STR parcel, not n the right-of-way) parking space for every 4 occupants (another reason for occupancy limits).

We appreciate your input and hope that you can wait until we issue the draft ordinance as mentioned above. This will provide you with the full context of the

changes proposed.

I hope this helps. Please feel free to reach out to me. Thank you.



**Mojra Hauenstein, Architect, AICP Planner, LEED AP  
Neighborhood Development  
Director of Planning & Building | Community Services  
Department**

[mhauenstein@washoecounty.us](mailto:mhauenstein@washoecounty.us) | Office: 775.328.3619

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## STR ORDINANCE RECOMMENDATION ADDENDUM AND REFERENCES:

This document is an addendum to the email from Carole Black dated 8/5/2020 to Washoe County Planning staff and copied to the County Manager and District 1 Commissioner. It includes additional detail and supporting references in Nevada (NRS) and Washoe County (WCC) documents.

### I. Public Health, Safety and Sanitation Requirements

**PREMISE:** STRs/Vacation Rentals are a form of Transient Lodging. This use poses similar and in some ways added risk as other forms of Transient Lodging and should therefore be regulated as such including Public Health and Safety elements required under Nevada statute as a Public Accommodation and any other relevant Washoe County and/or Nevada requirements for Transient Lodging uses.

### REFERENCES AND RATIONALE:

1) Nevada NRS defines “Transient Commercial Use” of units in certain planned communities (*note: this applies to the majority of Incline Village’s geography which was developed as a planned community with C, C & R’s governing area uses*):

NRS 116.340 Transient commercial use of units within certain planned communities. ...

4. As used in this section: ... (b) "**Transient commercial use**" means the use of a unit, for remuneration, as a hostel, hotel, inn, motel, resort, vacation rental or other form of transient lodging if the term of the occupancy, possession or use of the unit is for less than 30 consecutive calendar days.

**DISCUSSION:** Though C, C & R’s differ in the various planned community areas within Incline Village re STRs/Vacation Rental regulations, **this definition applies throughout the majority of Incline Village’s geography as a planned community with various governing C, C & R’s: STRs are thus classified as a “Transient Commercial Use” and “Transient Lodging”**

2) Washoe County Chapter 25 also defines Transient Lodging for “HOTELS, MOTELS AND LIKE ESTABLISHMENTS” as follows:

25.150 - "Transient guest" defined. "Transient guest" means any individual occupant who has or shall have the right of occupancy to any room for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes in a transient lodging facility for less than 28 consecutive days.

25.1501 - "Transient lodging" defined. "**Transient lodging**" means any facility, structure, or portion thereof occupied or intended or designed for occupancy by transient guests who pay rent or other consideration for dwelling, lodging, or sleeping purposes, and includes, without limitation, any hotel, resort hotel, motel, motor court, motor lodge, bed and breakfast, lodging house, rooming house, resident hotel and motel, guest house, tourist camp, resort and "dude" ranch, cabin, **condominium, timeshare properties, vacation home, apartment house**, recreational vehicle park/campground, guest ranch, or other similar structure or facility, or portion thereof. ... The term "**transient lodging**" does not include any of the following: ... any room within a private dwelling house or other single-family dwelling unit if the permanent or principal owner also resides in and occupies the

**dwelling** ... The burden of establishing that the housing or facility is not transient lodging as defined herein shall be on the owner thereof ...

**DISCUSSION: Per both Nevada NRS and existing Washoe County Code, STRs/Vacation Rentals are only referenced as classified with Transient Lodging and in NRS also labeled as a Transient Commercial Use.** The only applicable exception appears to be the rental of a room in a private dwelling or other single family dwelling unit if the owner resident occupies the unit. **This concept should therefore be captured in the STR Ordinance.**

I am aware that there are references to Transient Lodging in zoning/development sections of WCC where vacation rentals/STRs have not been explicitly listed because this use has not been previously considered anywhere in WC zoning/development code. As noted above, in these sections STRs should be clustered by description and actual use pattern with other forms of Transient Lodging. In addition, Washoe County's on-going parallel effort to de facto implement a zoning and development classification for STRs/Vacation Rentals without comprehensively processing as the massive code change is therefore not applicable at this time. This is flagged re the to date limited Area Plan public discussion where officials have appeared to misrepresented the proposed approach as containing "no" or "only minimal, unrelated" zoning changes.

**3) NRS Chapter 447 Public Accommodation is defined as applicable to "Hotels"** with this term defined as follows:

**NRS 447.010 "Hotel" defined. "Hotel" means every building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public, whether with or without meals, including, without limitation, a lodging house or rooming house where transient trade is solicited.**

**DISCUSSION: STR's/Vacation Rentals specifically meet the NRS Public Accommodation "Hotel" definition in all of its elements:**

- **building or structure held out to the public** > *STR's are units in buildings or entire buildings advertised to the public broadly on internet sites and by contracted realtors/property managers*

- **a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public** > *advertisements and reservations offer sleeping accommodations; STRs offer transient lodging as defined above and for lengths of stay often as short as 1-2 days which surely meets the description of "transient public"*

**NRS 447 is enforceable by the Heath District and defines public health and safety elements** (see list in Attachment A below) **which are just as applicable to STR's as to traditional hotels, motels, etc. Its requirements have been applied to other listed forms of Transient Lodging in WC Development code.** Though the list of NRS Public Accommodation elements was written some time ago, the elements seem applicable though amendments can certainly occur related to changes in medical science. In addition, if there are elements which need to be modified specifically to address the STR use or which are fully covered/duplicated in other sections of the STR Ordinance or related code, a list of modifications and cross references could be appended by Washoe County with rationale. Additional pertinent Public Health/Safety and/or OSHA safety requirements currently recommended by

Washoe County which have not apparently been promulgated in STRs should also be applied, e.g.,

- sharps/needle precautions and disposal at all times (“*routine*” directives)
- employees to wear a face covering in any space visited by the general public, even if no-one else is present currently (*current Emergency response*)

As Ms Hauenstein has recently mentioned, **it is correct that the Public Accommodation discussion has been raised previously and discarded by Washoe County re STRs though the rationale given the definitions above is unclear and the decision appears to me to be incorrect.** I do understand that there are apparently some controversial elements - I have, for example, heard concerns about requiring screens. However, West Nile Virus is found in this area and screens are an appropriate preventive measure. If screens are required for motels and hotels, why not in STRs – same situation (open windows and doors, perhaps more often in STRs with less frequent air conditioning), same clinical issue, same intervention!?!?!)

**SUMMARY: I am therefore requesting that the prior conclusions re Public Health/Safety regulations in STRs be explicitly reviewed at this time and prior to issuance of the revised STR Ordinance draft, particularly in the context of additional parameters which have changed in recent months and reinforce the potential error of the prior conclusion based on not viewing STRs formally as Transient Lodging/Businesses including:**

- **Designation of STRs/Vacation Rentals as an Essential Business by the Governor’s Declarations** reinforcing this as a lodging and business/commercial use
- **Designation of applicability of NV OSHA requirements as applicable to all Essential Businesses** which would therefore include STRs and again reinforcing as a business/commercial use
- **Urgency of implementing enhanced Public Health interventions currently, and the likely need to maintain some of these interventions as standards once Emergency Directives expire** so that limiting interventions to Emergency situations will be insufficient

**Specifically STRs/Vacation Rentals are a form of Transient Lodging. This use poses similar and in some ways added risk as other forms of Transient Lodging and should therefore be regulated as such including NRS 447 Public Health and Safety elements and any other relevant Washoe County and/or Nevada requirements/recommendations for Transient Lodging uses.**

**Alternatively, since Public Health and Safety requirements are needed and though the public health, safety or legal rationale for not taking the path recommended above escapes me, if approved on re-review by applicable legal and administrative opinion and regulation, Washoe County could consider developing its own list of comprehensive Public Health/Safety requirements related to the STR use as Transient Lodging.** In this case, the list should I believe provide appropriate public health/safety protections at all times with escalation as indicated during emergency situations. I understand and support that the necessary capability to escalate in unusual or emergency situations is apparently included in the current draft.

## II. Occupancy Limits and STR Tiers

**I have attached below documents submitted in earlier STR discussions to better illustrate two critical points on this topic:**

**i. STRs function is most comparable to other types of Transient Lodging in that stays are typically very transient and guests are unknown, often minimally vetted, poorly supervised and typically unfamiliar with the lodging facility or the environmental risks in the area. The latter item is of course of particular risk concern in our area. See Attachment E.**

In contrast other uses which I believe have been incorrectly used as comparators in the STR Ordinance's Tier proposal such as group homes, etc typically include clients or guests who stay longer, are better vetted and supervised and/or quickly become more familiar with the facility/environment. In addition, these uses are not referenced within "Transient Lodging" listings in WC or Nevada state regulations.

**ii. The proposed STR Tier structure links complexity of use with added regulatory requirements for enhanced permit review. Tier 1 was listed as most closely resembling actual residential use with minimal requirements for permit review. However, as noted above likely incorrect comparators were used in setting occupancy threshold for the Tier 1 > Tier 2 transition. As the attached graph (Attachment F) clearly shows, the average actual residential use (and average actual historic STR occupancy) is less than 30% of the proposed threshold between Tier 1 and 2. Thus the Tier 1 > 2 threshold is artificially inflated and should be reduced substantially to better mirror actual residential use to allow for implementation of enhanced permit review at appropriate levels to more likely address adversely impacted adjacent residential property owners. Alternatively the Tier 1 permit process could be enhanced (AR) to allow for adjacent neighbor input.**

## ATTACHMENTS

### Attachment A. NRS Chapter 447 Public Accommodation Section Titles:

447.007 – 447.010 *Definitions; “Health authority” defined; “Hotel” defined.* > See content discussed above

447.020 Cleanliness of bedding; worn out and unfit bedding

447.030 Extermination of vermin.

447.040 Cleanliness of rooms used for sleeping

447.045 Hotel required to be kept in sanitary condition.

447.050 Certain areas of hotel prohibited from use as quarters for living or sleeping.

447.060 Ventilation of rooms.

447.070 Windows and outside doors to be equipped with screens

447.080 Air space, floor area and ceiling height of rooms.

447.090 Amount of bedding required; furnishing clean sheets and pillow slips; size of sheets.

447.100 Fumigation of room after occupation by person having contagious or infectious disease.

447.110 Facilities for bathing.

447.120 Towels to be furnished.

447.130 Toilets required in hotels or other establishments for transient lodging: Number; facilities for washing hands.

447.135 Entrance to corridor leading to toilet facility to be marked with sign that conforms to requirements of Americans with Disabilities Act and includes features for use by visually impaired persons; reporting of violations; duties of Attorney General; enforcement.

447.140 Ventilation of room containing water closet, bathtub or shower.

447.145 Systems for heating and ventilating hotels or other establishments for transient lodging.

447.150 Exemption from requirement for number of water closets, bathtubs or showers in certain hotels.

447.160 Disposal of sewage; disinfection of toilets.

447.170 Supply of water; plumbing.

447.180 Disposal of garbage and rubbish.

447.185 Regulation of construction or reconstruction of hotel or other establishment for transient lodging.

447.190 Enforcement of chapter by health authority; records.

447.200 Access for inspection of hotel.

447.210 Criminal penalty; each day of violation constitutes separate offense.

## **Attachment B. Definition of NV Essential Businesses includes Lodging and specifically STRs/Vacation Rentals**

- **NV Guidance: Directives re Essential Businesses specifically lists “Lodging” as an essential business category** ([http://gov.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/govnewnv.gov/Content/News/Emergency\\_Orders/2020\\_attachments/All-Guidance-Issued-on-Directives-003-and-013-Essential-Non-Essential-4-16-20.pdf](http://gov.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/govnewnv.gov/Content/News/Emergency_Orders/2020_attachments/All-Guidance-Issued-on-Directives-003-and-013-Essential-Non-Essential-4-16-20.pdf))

- **March 20, 2020 Emergency Regulation of the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management listed an Amendment to Chapter 414 of NAC which includes:**

**1. “Essential Licensed Business” means a business operating in the state of Nevada that provides: ... (aa) Hotels, motels or short-term rentals, ...**

**DISCUSSION: Though issued as part of emergency declarations, the clear intent is to list STR’s as lodging businesses.** The use and thus this categorization are unchanged in non-emergent situations.

**Attachment C. NV OSHA regulations are applied to all Essential and Non-essential Businesses operating in Phase 2.** The document describing this requirement was attached to my email dated 8/5/2020.

**Attachment D. NV OSHA regulation: NRS Chapter 618 defines NV OSHA as applicable to businesses and their employees.**

**NRS Chapter 618 NV OSHA indicates:**

**NRS 618.015 Purpose of chapter. 1. It is the purpose of this chapter to provide safe and healthful working conditions for every employee**

NRS 618.085 “Employee” defined. “Employee” means every person who is required, permitted or directed by any employer to engage in any employment, or to go to work or be at any time in any place of employment, under any appointment or contract of hire or apprenticeship, express or implied, oral or written, whether lawfully or unlawfully employed. ...

NRS 618.315 Authority of Division over working conditions; limitations; safety orders.

1. The Division has authority over working conditions in all places of employment except as limited by subsection 2.
2. The authority of the Division does not extend to working conditions which: (a) Exist in household domestic service; ...

**DISCUSSION: By declaring NV OSHA as applicable to all Essential Businesses and thus to STRs/Vacation Rentals, this use is thus clearly again classified as a business.** As a corollary, as a business and not a household, the exclusion for “household domestic service” does not apply re STRs.

Attachment E:

**Use Comparison Table: STRs DO NOT MIMIC RESIDENTIAL USE**

| Lodging Type                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | ZONING / USE        |                     |                       | SUPERVISION / KNOWN?      |                        |                                  |                            | SERVICES & REGULATION EXAMPLES                  |                                    |                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Com vs Res Use      | Zoning Status       | Daily Rent Fee; TOT   | On-site Owner or Manager  | Visitor known to Owner | LOS; Offered to                  | Visitor knows area/culture | Occupancy/Parking Actively Regulated/ Monitored | Food Utensils Available/ Regulated | Public Health/ Safety Regs Apply |
| <i>Categorized as Transient Lodging by <u>WCC 25.1501</u> and <u>NRS 447.010</u> (w or w/out meals); <u>NRS 116.340</u></i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                     |                     |                       |                           |                        |                                  |                            |                                                 |                                    |                                  |
| Hotel/ Motel                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | C                   | Varies              | yes                   | yes: manager              | no                     | short/ public                    | no                         | yes                                             | yes/yes                            | yes                              |
| Time-share                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | C                   | Varies              | yes                   | yes: manager              | no                     | short/ public                    | no                         | yes                                             | yes/yes                            | yes                              |
| B & B                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | C                   | Varies              | yes                   | yes: mngr or owner        | no                     | short/ public                    | no                         | yes                                             | yes/yes                            | yes                              |
| <b>STR's now</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>C per WCC 25</b> | <b>Not allowed</b>  | yes                   | <b>no</b>                 | no                     | short/ public                    | no                         | <b>no</b>                                       | <b>yes/no**</b>                    | <b>no**</b>                      |
| <i>Residential - Not Categorized as Transient Lodging in <u>WCC</u> or <u>NRS</u></i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                     |                     |                       |                           |                        |                                  |                            |                                                 |                                    |                                  |
| Group Home                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | R                   | Parallel to res use | charge/ stay; no TOT  | manager                   | yes, mngr              | longer; must meet eligibility    | yes                        | yes                                             | yes/yes                            | yes                              |
| LT or Seasonal Rental                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | R                   | Parallel to res use | charge/ month; no TOT | owner in touch            | yes                    | long                             | yes                        | yes, by in touch owner                          | n/a: renter is resident            | n/a: renter is resident          |
| Owner's Family/ Friends                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | R                   | Parallel to res use | none                  | owner on-site or in touch | yes                    | varies; limit to friends/ family | yes, close owner contact   | yes, by in touch owner                          | n/a: not rented                    |                                  |
| <p><b>Legend:</b> "Varies" notation indicates variability among regulatory zones, typically allowed or allowed with restrictions in tourist and/or commercial areas and not allowed or allowed with restrictions elsewhere;<br/> * indicates proposed in <u>STR</u> Ordinance while **Recommend add <b>Public Accommodations or equivalent</b></p> |                     |                     |                       |                           |                        |                                  |                            |                                                 |                                    |                                  |

Attachment F:

**ZONING COLLATERAL DAMAGE: STRs DO NOT Mimic Residential Use & Programs Must Consider this Variance**

- Proposed STR Tier 1 level fails to meet design objective
  - As currently described will inappropriately subject adjacent residents particularly in denser residential areas to significant adverse Neighborhood Compatibility impacts
- Proposed STR Tier 1 remedies:
  - Reduce the Tier 1 upper occupancy limit to ≤ 4 to more closely mirror actual residential use
  - Require Tier 1 Discretionary Permit (AR) in residential areas to allow neighbor noticing and input

|                  |                                  |                        |     |                                             |                                |
|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Occupants</b> | <b>10</b>                        |                        |     |                                             |                                |
|                  |                                  | 2.4                    | 2.8 | ~4.5                                        | 4                              |
|                  | <b>Tier 1 WC Draft Ordinance</b> | <b>Census Data</b>     |     | <b>Avg Short Term Rentals (VGID survey)</b> | <b>Tier 1 Proposed Maximum</b> |
|                  | <b>Avg Residence</b>             | <b>Avg Family Size</b> |     |                                             |                                |

**From:** [Dene Bourne](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short Termed Rentals  
**Date:** Monday, August 10, 2020 8:17:04 AM

---

[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good day, Every type of rental has its issues for the owner and landlord. Short termed rentals are just the same but with a different set of issues. I believe they are a good idea and we enjoy being guests. I own several properties which are in part short termed rentals. I have good neighbors who I want to keep. I have had zero problems that effected the neighbors. I am responsible to my neighbors and to my community.

It appears that Incline has trouble with parking, trash, noise and other rude people who either live there, work there or are visitors. The FaceBook pages are full of terrible and irresponsible behavior. I would like to see that stopped also. I would like more dumpsters at beaches in the summer to stop beach goers from just leaving it next to a filled dumpster. I would like signs showing the high fines that will be charged to people who park where there is no parking and then I would like the police to follow through with fines. I would like the Short Termed Rentals to be for people over 25 yr old. Toronto Canada did that to cut down on the young party goers and the software can do that. My STR say one guest has to be 25 yr old or older and that may be why I have fewer problems. I can ask for a photo ID after booking.

PLEASE DON'T PUNISH THE GOOD AND RESPONSIBLE OWNERS AND LANDLORDS. But rather really hit the wrong doers. People as tourist can enjoy the area and be responsible. Incline and the Tahoe area are not the exclusive property of the locals but I can understand completely their angst with the irresponsible owners or property managers who let visitors run wild in these lovely homes. Please find a way to discriminate between responsible property owners and the irresponsible ones.  
Deanne Bourne

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Ellie](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Cc:** [Erin Casey Placer County](#); [Todd Leopold Placer CEO](#); [William Penzel](#); [lwalsh@douglasnv.us](#); [wrice@douglasnv.us](#); [David "Dave Nelson](#); [John Engels](#); [John Marshall TRPA Legal](#); [Joanne Marchetta TRPA](#); [Sue Novasel TRPA GB](#); [Bill Yeates TRPA GB](#)  
**Subject:** Washoe County Vacation Home Rental/STR PROBLEM MUST be addressed immediately Comments for the Record August 25, 2020 meeting  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 9:12:56 PM

---

[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Washoe County Commissioners,  
Washoe County Vacation Home Rental/STR PROBLEM MUST be addressed immediately Comments for the Record August 25, 2020 meeting

Much like Lake Tahoe in Douglas County Nevada, the Vacation Home Rental PROBLEM has escalated beyond anyone's perceptions. South Lake Tahoe is ridden with not your regular type vacationers but large groups of younger people that respect nothing in the way of private property rights, quiet neighborhoods and just plain courtesy to fellow human beings.

Several comments have been submitted and verbally (public comment during Douglas County Board of County Commissioners 8-18-2020, 8-12-2020, etc.) expressed in the past several weeks about the nuisance level issues of trash, rudeness, parking on streets, etc.

Enforcement is difficult to keep up with and Douglas County has recently released the following information. A new third party contractor has been hired to address the overwhelming enforcement issues.

[Douglas County Public Information Officer Melissa Blosser • 1 day ago](#)

[Douglas County Advises the Public About Process for Reporting VHR Issues.](#) Stateline NV- Douglas County would like to advise the public the process for reporting issues with Vacation Home Rental (VHR) properties in the Tahoe Township in Douglas County has changed. Effective immediately, a new third part administer, HdL, will handle VHR complaints.

The Douglas County Sheriff's Office will continue to handle noise and parking violations. As a reminder, a VHR is defined as one or more dwelling units, including either a single-family, detached or multiple-

family attached unit, rented for the purpose of overnight lodging for a period of not more than 28 days.

“It is important to the County that we provide a way for our residents and visitors to effectively report issues and concerns involving VHR’s,” said Patrick Cates, Douglas County Manager. “Moving forward we will work in collaboration with the Sheriff’s Office and HdL to resolve and respond to complaints in a timely manner.”

Noise and Parking Complaints For non-emergency issues the Douglas County Sheriff’s Office will respond in person to any complaints related to noise and/or parking. In these cases, please contact Douglas County Sheriff’s Office non-emergency line at 775-782-5126.

If you feel there is a true emergency, please call 911.

All Other Complaints Non noise or parking complaints should be directed to HdL.

HdL work diligently to investigate and resolve complaints received. Please contact HdL at: Email address: [DouglasCounty@hdlgov.com](mailto:DouglasCounty@hdlgov.com)

Phone: (775) 238-4135 HdL is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If a complaint is made after hours, HdL will initiate an investigation and take necessary action the following business day.

**You as County Commissioners MUST take an active roll in fixing this problem NOW.**

**Maybe it's time for TRPA to also take an active roll in this systemic problem as this is a REGIONAL LAKE TAHOE ISSUE.**

Respectfully, Ellie Waller Douglas County Resident, Lake Tahoe is my Backyard

**From:** [Penny Dupin](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Kathy Emerson](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** SHORT TERM RENTALS IN INCLINE VILLAGE  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 4:21:30 PM

---

[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I have been a resident of Incline Village for the past 24 years, living on Cole Circle which has remained very peaceful until this summer. The reason: new home buyers have turned their house into a STR. Without going into detail, renters must pay \$1550.00 per night for the privilege of tormenting all neighbors with loud music, foul language, intoxicating behavior, exposed garbage and multiple automobiles. Evidently we are not alone! Residents living on 2 streets above mine are encountering similar situations as well as multiple locations in Incline Village. My question to you is: While the revenue is quite attractive to Washoe County, what is the solution to this problem and what are you going to do about it? And please.... not another roundtable discussion to discuss the issues. Actions speak louder than words.

Penny Dupin  
545 Cole Circle  
Incline Village  
775 750-4745  
[penny.dupin@yahoo.com](mailto:penny.dupin@yahoo.com)

**From:** [JOSEPH FARRELL](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#)  
**Cc:** [Edie Farrell](#); [Sara Schmitz](#); [Nick Maiocco](#); [Nick Maiocco](#); [Ronda Tycer](#); [Todoroff, Pete](#); [Diane Heirsberg](#); [Judy Miller](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** STR Additional Suggestions  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 10:46:24 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hi Marsha:

Thanks for going to bat for Incline Village in terms of STR's and also a belated thank you for all the work you have done over the years to bring the Tax Revolt against the county to a hopeful end!

**Additional STR Suggestions that could be instituted sooner than later (Short of Banning STR's):**

1. Mandate a rental license with a high fee for those wishing to rent as a STR.
2. Cleaning requirements: Mandate certification by Washoe County Health department that the STR meets CDC cleaning requirements AND that the home be vacant 72 hours post cleaning prior to new renters coming into the STR. As I mentioned today on the ZOOM call, Marriott Corporation has a stringent cleaning requirement due to COVID and does not rent a hotel room or timeshare until 72 hours has passed post cleaning.
3. Mandate NLTSPD defensible space certification for all STR's.
4. Mandate bear boxes. HOWEVER, some STR's house up to 12 people who generate a lot of garbage. Over the 4th of July Weekend our neighbors STR's left a number of garbage bags in an open garage since the Bear Box had reached capacity. A gift to bears. How can we police this?
5. Mandate significant "fines" for multiple infractions of the STR regulations. After 3 infractions, the STR owner is BANNED from renting forever.
6. **Define STR as a property owner renting their home for a MINIMUM of 28 days. This has worked in Hawaii and I believe an outdated Washoe Co. ordinance also had a 28 day minimal rental timeframe??**
7. Another Key issue is how the regulations will be enforced? E.g. is it up to neighbors of STR to be the enforcers????
8. Bottom line: if we can not achieve a ban on STR. let's attempt to make the regulations so stringent that home owners will not want the hassle or expense of becoming a STR property.

Should I go on the [washoe311@washoecounty.us](mailto:washoe311@washoecounty.us) and post the above or will this email suffice.  
Thanks again.

Kind Regards,

Joe

Joe Farrell  
546 Cole Circle  
IV, NV  
Cell #: 925-980-4888

**From:** [Joe Farrell](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Kathy Emerson](#)  
**Cc:** [edith farrell](#); [Joe Farrell](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rentals (STR) Incline Village/Washoe Co.  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 12:37:12 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners:

**I would like this email read and be included as part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioners Meeting on 8.25/2020.**

In the recent past I have articulated my significant concerns relating to the STR issues in Incline Village. I would like to preface my comments and suggestions; which until you have experienced out of control STR's, you really can not appreciate the nuisance and aggravation a STR can be to a quiet neighborhood and community. My hope is that you as commissioners understand the seriousness of the STR problem to residents of Incline Village where 90% of all Washoe County STR properties are in Incline Village. Unfortunately many investors have bought homes in Incline Village to rent out for significant profit. They are operating a Business in a residential area which is suspect; essentially running a hotel in residential neighborhoods.

Our community is NOT a tourist resort to the residents since many of us moved to Incline Village to retire peacefully and to enjoy the amenities of N. Lake Tahoe. Incline Village should also not be viewed as a "cash cow" for Washoe County for collection of "rental taxes"!

**A brief summary of my experiences with STR:**

- Over the past 5-6 years we have experienced excessive noise (all day) and numerous times late into the night from drunk and obnoxious renters on streets above our home (Len Way and Spencer) which have resulted in numerous calls to the Sheriff's department. Additionally, a house burnt down 3-4 years ago (on Spencer) when STR renters built a fire on the deck, which if the Fire Department did not arrive rapidly, we could have had a major forest fire burn down our town. A similar incident with fire occurred on 7/9/2020 on Len Way.
- Recently, for nearly 10 days our neighbors rented to two large families over the 4th of July Holiday. This house is a set up for a huge party with a hot tub in the backyard and sleeping capacity of 12; charging \$1550.00/night. Meaning multiple families required to pay the nightly rate which in reality spells TROUBLE for the neighbors.
- We experienced constant noise (e.g. loud rap music, yelling drunk and dope smoking parties) from 10 AM to 10 PM. The noise was so intense our 1.5 year old grandson could not take a nap at 2 PM and had difficulty going to sleep at 7 PM. In the mountains, hopefully you are aware that sound travels a long way (our master bedroom is 150" from the hot tub; thus we hear everything).
- One of the above renters left garage doors open with bags of garbage in an open sight for bears to feast on. Yes, we have bears roaming our neighborhood!

- There was also not enough "onsite" parking for one group of renters who had friends come for their 4 day party!

From my summary above, you likely will understand **why I favor a ban on STR's**. It is evident the current STR Ordinance does not protect me from future problems since the Ordinance does not limit STR's in IV/CB by number, location or density; and it does not require Incline Village residents who rent out their homes to have a permit.

**Furthermore, I am concerned that the "proposed" Washoe County STR guidelines are not rigorous enough to control and enforce the Short Term Renter violations and nuisance complaints.** Besides excessive noise, I am also concerned about safety (fire issues), excessive drunkenness which could lead to violence, garbage left outside of homes which attract bears, lack of parking on site of STR's and the obvious fact that the County is allowing residents to rent homes out to the public as if the home is a hotel in a residential zone.

In sum, I am not happy about the Washoe County STR proposed regulations and ordinance. The regulations need to be more stringent, enforceable and yield significant financial consequences if the county decides not to ban STR's (our County should BAN SRT's). My concerns and story is only one of many from concerned residents in Incline Village.

Thanks for addressing my concerns.

Sincerely,

Joe Farrell  
Resident: Incline Village

**From:** [Eddie Farrell](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** STR  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 11:24:09 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioner Mullin,

I have owned my home at [546 Cole Circle](#), Incline Village for 17 years and never in my life have my husband and I experienced such disruptive, loud aggressive behavior from renters at the STR next door or in the neighboring area. We had a terrible 10 day experience from 2 different renters in the STR next to us. The music and voices were extremely loud all day long, there were way more than the allowed 10 people in the house and the cars were all over the street. I happened to have my 18 month grandson one weekend and he was unable to nap or get to sleep at night due to the noise. When we complained to the owner of the STR she only said sorry but that she bought the house to “rent as much as possible”.

The proposed ordinances do not limit the number of STR in residential areas, has no teeth in enforcing any rules and doesn't have a minimal number of days that must be rented at a time. These houses are run like hotels and not vacation homes. I think a minimal of 2 weeks rental would limit the rowdy visitors that come for the weekend and party as hard as possible. One renter next door said “when I go on vacation I party as hard as I can and never go back to the same place again”. His was the worst behavior of all the others.

I beg you commissioners to listen to those of us who live, work, protect our town and the surrounding area. We have invested our money and time here to keep the area healthy and clean.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Eddie Farrell

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [JOSEPH FARRELL](#)  
**To:** [Ronda Tycer](#); [Diane Heirshberg](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Cc:** [Judy Miller](#); [Sara Schmitz](#); [Edie Farrell](#); [Nick Maiocco](#); [Nick Maiocco](#); [Todoroff, Pete](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: South Lake Tahoe bans vacation rentals  
**Date:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:43:32 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

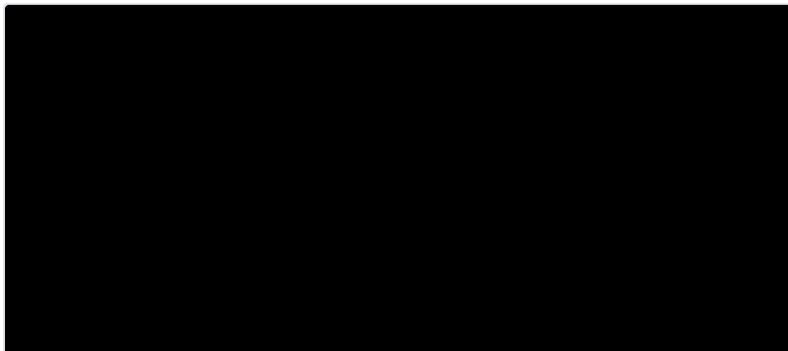
Hi Ronda, Diane and Kelly:

I apologize for not copying you on this email I sent to a number of my neighbors, Sara Schmitz and Marsha Berkgigler. It relates to an article that appeared in the paper last week concerning STR in South Lake Tahoe (See Forward below) and my experience with "noise" awakening me on Thursday night. S. South has some tough regulations that we likely should adapt if we cannot get a full BAN on STR.

Please also follow the email stream from Marsha and Sara. I believe we have the attention of Marsha and I know Sara's on side in a big way since she is dealing with STR's issues with a neighbor.

Check the new law on STR in Oahu!!!!!!!!!!

[3 Months After New Law, Oahu Vacation Rental Numbers Drop on Oahu](#)



### 3 Months After New Law, Oahu Vacation Rental Numbers Drop on Oahu

Ryan Finnerty

The number of vacation rentals on Oahu declined more than 5 percent from the same time last year. Honolulu's rec...

I trust this topic will be discussed at length on Peter's Friday Zoom call. Please call me as needed.

Kind Regards,

Joe

Joe Farrell

Cell #: 925-980-4888

---

**From:** Joe Farrell [mailto:jpfarrell@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 15, 2020 9:26 AM  
**To:** Sara Schmitz; Nick Maiocco; Marsha Berkbigler; Edie Farrell; kate pearce; Stephen Pearce; ketzz@aol.com; Cliff Dobler; Barry Nudelman; Doug Willinger  
**Subject:** Fwd: South Lake Tahoe bans vacation rentals

Hi All:

Just received this from one of our neighbors.

My hope is that Washoe Co. follows suit to make STR a difficult and expensive business (STR is a business in our own neighborhoods) endeavor or truly ban STR in Incline Village.

I am really feed up with the STR situation in Incline Village. Last night I was awakened at 1:00 AM by honking car horns and obviously drunk people yelling & screaming. The noise was likely 2-3 blocks away, however, sound travels in the mountains. Needless to say, very alarming since STR are a breeding ground for visitors to party without respect of our neighborhoods and our citizens!!

The Washoe Co. proposed STR regulations are not strong at all. I plan to write to all commissioners of the county with my suggestions of which I hope are taken seriously.

Please take time to write the County commissioners this week so our voices are heard strongly at the Washoe Co. commissioners meeting on 8/25. I know I am preaching to the choir with this email. Thanks neighbors!

Kind Regards,

Joe

Joe Farrell

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "fdelfer@att.net" <fdelfer@att.net>  
**Date:** August 14, 2020 at 3:15:53 PM PDT  
**To:** Joe Farrell <jpfarrell@sbcglobal.net>  
**Subject:** South Lake Tahoe bans vacation rentals

# Joe, FYI. Frank

## South Lake Tahoe bans vacation rentals: What you need to know

Measure T effectively banned vacation home rentals, such as those on Airbnb and VRBO, from residential neighborhoods in South Lake Tahoe. In the November 2018 election, Measure T passed in South Lake Tahoe, meaning that short-term rentals, such as Airbnb and VRBO, will be partially banned.

[The measure allows for unlimited rentals in commercial zones](#), but outside the tourist core, rental homes will be limited for tourists. While permanent residents would still be able to rent out their homes for up to 30 days per year, the measure will gut the vacation home rental business in South Lake Tahoe.



Volume 90%

Author: Samantha Solomon

Published: 5:44 PM PST December 4, 2018

Updated: 12:17 PM PST December 5, 2018



*If you are viewing on the ABC10 app, [tap here for multimedia](#).*

In the November election, Measure T passed in South Lake Tahoe by only 58 votes, meaning that short-term rentals, such as Airbnb and VRBO, will be partially banned.

[The measure allows for unlimited rentals in commercial zones](#), but outside the tourist core, rental homes will be limited for tourists. While permanent residents would still be able to rent out their homes for up to 30 days per year, the measure will gut the vacation home rental business in South Lake Tahoe.

After the votes were all counted 50.42 voted "yes" on the measure, while 49.58 percent of voters chose "no."

South Lake Tahoe is the lake's only incorporated city and is a large tourist area during ski season, which is just beginning in Northern California. The public now has five days to request a recount. That must be done in writing to the local election official.

For those in the area trying to make a profit from seasonal rentals, short-term rentals are like businesses. Measure T will severely limit homeowners' ability to run this business effectively, even if they are permanent residents. The measure could also somewhat stifle the tourist economy in Lake Tahoe, where the demand for short-term rentals is high during peak times.

Before the vote, a vacation home rental (VHR) permit was required for any person interested in operating a VHR outside of the tourist core. Residents of South Lake Tahoe could then drive up tourist interest by posting their homes on Airbnb and other rental property websites.

Now, Measure T will eliminate most VHRs by 2021, except for

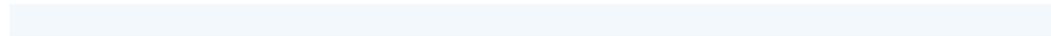
certain “qualified” VHRs. Based on a [VHR Map](#) provided by the city of South Lake Tahoe, there are up to 1,400 active VHRs in residential neighborhoods, the owners of which could lose their permits with the passage of Measure T. In the community of Al Tahoe alone, there are more than 100 active VHRs, and this is just one of several South Lake Tahoe residential neighborhoods.

According to the "No on Measure T" group, “vacation home renters infuse over \$100 million annually” into the local economy, which will likely be reduced with the loss of VHRs in residential areas. Visitors to Lake Tahoe can still stay in traditional lodging properties, such as hotels, motels, condominiums, and timeshares. Measure T also still allows VHRs to operate within the tourist core and all commercial areas.

For those in the South Lake Tahoe area who are unsure if their property is in a commercial area or a residential zone, the city of South Lake Tahoe's [Neighborhood Zoning Map](#) can help.

---

**Want to know how small business owners in South Lake Tahoe are dealing with lack of snow? Check out the video below:**



**From:** [cindy.ferrell@wellsfargoadvisors.com](mailto:cindy.ferrell@wellsfargoadvisors.com)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rentals  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 11, 2020 9:29:06 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello, I'm unable to attend the board meeting addressing short term rentals but I would like to voice my input as a 36-year resident. I own a single family home in Incline Village and have observed significant and steady deterioration of the community in Incline Village and surrounding areas throughout Tahoe over the years and short-term visitors have inundated the parks, beaches, roads, etc. Here are my observations:

Short term rentals cause overcrowding. Most 3 bedroom units are advertised as 'able to sleep 9 or 10 occupants'. Tenants often bring more than the advertised maximum. Many more than a typical long term renter or owner would occupy.

Short term rentals are essentially operating hotels in residential neighborhoods which were by their nature intended as residences not commercial hotels. This increases the parking problems, trash problems with high occupancy and constant turnover, and lack of respect for the surrounding nature and environment and wildlife due to constant turnover with tourists who don't live in the area but are just passing through for a day or two.

Short term rental owners are not prioritizing community desirability or livability. The purpose of operating short term rentals is maximizing cash flow.

NOBODY wants to live next door to a short term rental. There is no neighborhood environment while you have a hotel next door.

Affordability of housing has significantly declined due the fact that many owners specifically purchase property around Lake Tahoe for the sole purpose of turning the property into a hotel (short term rental). Buyers are snapping up properties like business inventory without regard for community improvement or enhancement. There is less and less ability for a family to purchase or rent a fairly priced residence to live in, raise a family in, send their children to school, etc.

Most towns around the lake have several hotels already. The Lake area was not designed and CAN NOT handle the extraordinary overcrowding that short term rentals bring on top of the hotels. The result of exponential overcapacity of short-term visitors is obvious. Just check out all the trash on the beaches and left unsecured at short term rentals which exacerbates the problem of bears getting acclimated to trash, traffic jams, loud noise, overcrowded beaches, and illegal parking.

Many other communities limit rentals to 30-days minimum this would help tremendously. Please let me know how this problem is allowed to continue and worsen year after year? Soon there won't be many locals left who care about community they'll be driven out by reduced quality of life and lack

of affordability and pollution of our great natural wonders.

Let's make community decisions with community in mind over and above cash flow.

Thank you,

**Cynthia Ferrell, Incline Village homeowner and community member.**

**[Cindy.ferrell@wfa.com](mailto:Cindy.ferrell@wfa.com)**

**775-690-3772**

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**From:** [Wayne Ford](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Marsha Berkbigler](#)  
**Subject:** Residential Use/ STR"s bedrooms, sleeping areas  
**Date:** Saturday, August 15, 2020 10:48:01 AM

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## BEDROOM USE OF A HOME GENERAL AREAS FOR SLEEPING:

Adding a smoke or carbon monoxide detector does not make a area safe for bedroom use.

A. If a living room has a gas appliance in it that has been added to a fire-place , if that was in a bedroom it would need a sealed combustion rating, so no carbon monoxide could escape from the unit. These are rated units for bedroom use and may not have been looked at for a living room.

B. If a living room has a door that opens to the garage, that would not be allowed for a bedroom.

C. There is a section in the code that deals with light and ventilation for all rooms. Bedrooms are most important for meeting this code. Many times in plan review the light and ventilation is not well reviewed for living rooms. Most meet light, yet may not meet venting.

There is also the section in the code where based on the relationship of one room to the other the opening distance between each room will make the assessment for the area as two different rooms as one big room. This can change the light, and ventilation numbers for the area.

D. Add required egress for bedrooms that is not required for living room areas you have a real challenge in saying it is alright to use a living room as a "legal" bedroom. Living rooms may have awing casement or slider windows, that do not allow for exit clearances.

There is a difference between a "legal" room being defined for sleeping, or a home owner just having the grand-kids sleep in the living room, when they came to visit. Ask your attorney's about this.

So it would be best to not have this in the STR Code and allow for areas of a home to be deemed to allowed for sleeping, that were not approved as bedroom, when the home was built. The Code should refer to the 2018 IBC, 2018 IRC and the 2017 NEC, for current approved sleeping areas approved for the home's building permits, when constructed.

When you go into just adding smoke and carbon monoxide detection someone will turn a garage into bedroom space. You know it has been done and a garage does not meet egress, light and ventilation or electrical codes in most cases.

Then there is the electrical code for Bedrooms. ARC and Ground Fault needed for these rooms. Where living rooms do not have the same requirement. This is to protect the use of electrical blankets and other heating systems that have transformers in them. On a electrical system that does not have a ARC Fault the transformer can over-heat and cause a fire when one is sleeping.

The breaker does not shut off if not ARC, so the person can die from smoke and fumes.

I speak from experience for if my son had been in his water bed when this took place ( day time) he would have died of the fumes from the plastic. Living rooms under the code as many other rooms do not have the proper protection for being a sleeping area.

The blanket ( pun intended) approval for other rooms to be used as sleeping areas is dangerous to people who rent home as a STR and may become a big liability for the County.

Wayne Ford

**From:** [Wayne Ford](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Marsha Berkgigler](#); [Thomsen, Richard](#)  
**Subject:** Follow up to email August 13 2020/ 8:59 PM  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 5:19:27 PM

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## Kelly: Washoe County Snow Removal Regulations:

Chapter 70. 425/ 70.437 See that section.

Needs to be part of the STR Code and needs to be part of the packet sent or available to all renters in Incline Village/. Crystal Bay , Washoe County. Effective from Nov 1 - May 1 of any year to allow for snow removal on the streets. It is a safety issue for all who live here.

It is also a cost issue to the County: In the past heavy snow years Rich Thomsen in one of the years has at least 7 plus cars, that were hit by the plows. That will in many cases disable the plow and cause costs to the County to repair. ( delay in the removal on the streets and paths).

That is why I have included his email in this area for your to contact him on the need to have STR renters know about the rules for winter snow removal on the roads for our area.

## Washoe County Snow Storage Areas.

Snow storage areas are a little more difficult to deal with, yet in may cases the snow storage can be between homes , like on Lynda Court. Many of these areas

are not marked , yet needed to have a place to store he snow. I believe if such a location has been used over the years that a sign need to be place ( or signs) by the STR owner so the plow is not stopped from putting the snow on the area because of guest parking. Just having all the parking on the site does not take care of this kind of conflict.

In living here I will tell people not to park at the corner of my property for it is a snow storage area.

Over time as the snow gets piled up then it is apparent that it is being used for that purpose.

Wayne Ford

From: [Wayne Ford](#)  
To: [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
Cc: [Marsha Berkgigler](#)  
Subject: STR"s/ Parking  
Date: Thursday, August 13, 2020 8:59:20 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Ms. Mullin: A few observations: When a occupancy is over 10 to me the number of cars is at least three and in some cases 4. Had 8 cars for a 4 bdrm home last week near me.

Garages must be left open for renters to use for parking. In many cases they are the two off street parking spaces which resulted for the approval of the home. Driveways that lead to some of these garages can have space to park, yet if that becomes the only place for 4 cars to park, is becomes a tandem parking and is a problem . That is one car in back of another. That in the end leads to frustration and in a case of a home near me, parking in the dirt in the front yard. To control that, barriers must be installed to prevent parking on dirt, that leads to compaction of the soil and thus water quality issues. So the type of barrier that TRPA has imposed are large boulders that cannot be easily moved. A wood rail fence would also work. This mainly will apply to property on flatter lots. These barriers must be in place for a permit. Yet the one area that is missing, is that the law allows for off property parking. Winter regulations need to be mentioned for STR parking . These can be added as a reference to the code. That code outlines the "red" and "green" day off site parking for snow removal. So when the on site rule

is not followed in the winter who will enforce? In the winter taking a hour to get to a residence will lead to the snow removal being hindered and that will impact neighbors. That should be a clear violation that goes against the owner. If you have the code that has a phone number for what has been determined for that day's parking by roads ,then at least they will know to check to see if parking is allowed. To answer the question: It is "roads" that enforce and have a car moved or towed.

In addition you need to mention that the owner of a STR must contract snow removal for keeping the parking open in the winter on site. I have seen people show up to a home and cannot get in the driveway for it has 4 feet of snow in it. That has ended up with people parking in the street and thus the obstruction of snow removal. It can take many ours for a person to shovel out a place to park and be able to get the car onto the site.

The STR owner must provide snow removal of all walks that are primary exits for the use of the home. That is a safety issue for sheriff, fire and medical. It is also a issue with egress for a event in the home.

If a home is permitted in the winter they have a set time period to get certified in the summer for defensible space compliance or the permit is revoked. The current STR near me has done no summer work at all, for defensible space is a yearly requirements after each winter and is a big

safety issue for the use of the home. ( ie: found in pine needles cigarette butts found in piles of pine needles on the property). No outdoor fires pits allowed in STR's . One metal unit was used this summer on a deck and was left to burn with no one there to make sure it was under control.

Violation: If a home is found to be left open and bears enter due to negligence that is a violation.

The STR on my street has had three events where one was the renter left the door unlocked and the door knob was a lever. Bear went in. The cleaning lady left garbage in the garage and the garage side door open, the bear went in. ( Took the Sheriff two hours to clear the home, 4 officers )

Garbage was left in the front yard and was left in a trash can. Bear raided the can. A violation.

So this is a start. Will be back to you with more. I will get the winter road code for the next set of comments.

Wayne Ford

**From:** [Wayne Ford](#)  
**To:** [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Cc:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Marsha Berkbigler](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Scan  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 11:54:39 AM  
**Attachments:** [Scans2\\_010.pdf](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Please read this email and have it part of the public record for the Washoe County First Reading of the STR Ordinance.  
Meeting Washoe County Commissioners Aug. 25, 2020

**Wayne Ford**  
**731 Lynda Court**  
**Incline Village, NV. 89451**

Eric Brown County Manager  
Marsha Berkbigler Commissioner  
Bob Lucy Commissioner  
Jeanne Herman Commissioner  
Vaughn Hartung Commissioner  
Kitty Jung Commissioner  
Kelly Mullin County Planner  
Kathy Emerson

STR: 725 Lynda Court  
APN: 124-043-40  
2343 SF with 5 bedrooms.  
Land Capability 4 and 6 No coverage left to use .  
Owner: Victor Barkhordarian  
Tiburon ,CA.  
STR sense 2016

Not a Neighbor :

STR Ownership is not being a neighbor. : It means you are not a neighbor . You are a business owner that operates like it is a franchise . In the best cases you have a management team that may or may not care about the people who live near, what you are selling. In the worst case you have a clean-up team that only communicates with you who are many miles away.

What are you selling: Rooms and in most cases a place to come and party and have access to entertainment in the area of Lake Tahoe

A Neighbor :

What does it mean to be a neighbor: You live full time even if it is seasonal in the area. You get to know your neighbors for in many cases they can be support to you and the property you own. Most neighbors invest in the property by taking care of it for they live there. You get to know your neighbors for when you have a party or event everyone shares and helps out. You prefer to be a friend for you may need the same consideration if you have a event. Neighbors in the winter work together in the bad winters to help each other out. I can go on for we all know the difference between someone who is a neighbor and someone who runs a home as a business.

---

Home rental history and impacts

775 Lynda Court: Bought by Mr. Barkhordarian in 9/16/16

History: Did a interior remodel the first 6 to 8 months, No record of any permits being obtained.

a. Within the first year had a bear get into the home because a renter left the front door unlocked.

b. Has complained to the Roads that they need to not store snow in the right front yard , yet is a well established snow storage area. Could not rent the home. We all have snow storage on our property. Where is the County to put it?. County took snow off his property and piled it on other property , so when it melted it flooded a neighbors driveway.

c. After the first bear event he has had two more where a bear got into the home. This resulted in IVIGD violations. Violations continued with cans over filled and put out after pick up times.

One event tied up 4 sheriffs for 2 hours to get the bear out of the home.

d. Renters brought 8 cars , a boat and jet skis to the home and blocked driveways, and left out trash for bears to get into.

Just recently renters brought 8 cars and there were at least 18 people with kids.

- e. Renters brought a 50 foot RV and blocked driveways ,
- f. Renters have had the sheriff called because of noise at 1;00 pm
- g. Renters have parked on the dirt in the front yard that now has caused coverage to be created due to compaction of the dirt and that has resulted in erosion and run-off uncontrolled. Water Quality
- h. Renters had filled my front yard, with cigaret smoke that caused my daughter to become ill. They then smoked up and down the street throwing some 18 to 20 butts into the dirt, on the road and into pine needles. They also did that on the property and left food ( chicken) thrown in the yard and street.
  - I. Driving in the street where we have kids playing they do not slow down and have to be told do so . They drive on the wrong side of the road coming into the street and going out of it.
- j. Back yard is a trash zone with bottles, wrappers, and even a safety light from NDOT taken off the highway one night. Thrown in the bushes.
- k. Defenseable space is not observed with the property filled with pine needles and trees that need to be brought into compliance.

I have documented all these issues and send photos and letters . This has taken many hours to do and yet I do not share in any of the profit from that home. I only have had to try and protect my property. The owner last letter to me; New rules ( he said)

No smoking inside or outside the house . How is he going to enforce that from Tiburon CA?  
Maximum four cars parked on the driveway. Do not park on the street cars will be towed.  
That does not take place, who will tow them?  
If trash is left in the home the will be charged. Does not take care of trash outside ,left in the front yard and in the street ( cooked chicken).

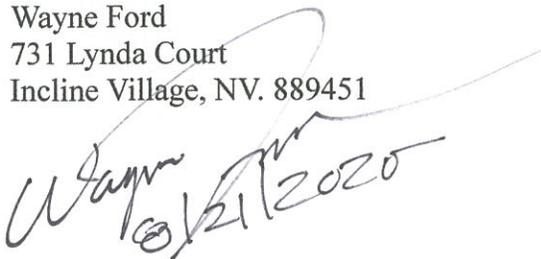
Note on the sheet: "Dear Wayne Hope this will do the job, thank for your letter Victor".

All this took place from 2018 to today. The home had last winter very few renters due to Covid. Now it is rented every week and most of these events are on the increase. When it comes to my other neighbors, two that are long term renters are fed up with the use of the home. I hate to see them move. Another owner after many years of remodel work just put her home on the market . She is right next to the STR.

---

The STR Use of a home is not Compatible with the Character of a Neighborhood.  
This use is a violation of the Zoning: TRPA need to enforce what they said in 2004. Stop the use.  
I will be moving this to the State Legislature for TRPA has passed on their environmental responsibility to the County. The County has gone along with the use that is detrimental to the Lake and my right of being a property owner who bought a home some 40 years ago as a single family residence . My Zoning has not been changed , yet the County and TRPA has allow for a violation of that Zoning in the attempt to approve STR use in a home two parcels away. Not right and not legal.

Wayne Ford  
731 Lynda Court  
Incline Village, NV. 889451



Wayne Ford  
10/21/2020

**From:** [NICOLE GULLIXSON](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Re: COVID 24hr Between Tenant Cleaning Violation 8/14  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 5:53:02 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

Airbnb rental 547 Lantern Court had a large group of guests leave today, 8/14 and another group of renters is entering the airbnb rental right now, same day, 8/14. There was definitely less than 24 hours in between tenants.

Please make these complaints as an official record.

Thank you,

Nicole Gullixson

On Sun, Aug 9, 2020 at 4:54 PM NICOLE GULLIXSON <[nicole.gullixson@gmail.com](mailto:nicole.gullixson@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hello,

Airbnb rental 547 Lantern Court had a large group of guests leave today, 8/9 and another group of renters is entering the airbnb rental right now, same day, 8/9. There was definitely less than 24 hours in between tenants. I would say even less than 12 hours!

This is NOT safe for us, the neighborhood NOR the community.

Please come up with regulations for STRs in the Incline Village community!

--

Cheers,

Nicole Gullixson  
805.452.0503  
Classic Wines of California, Lake Tahoe Region

--

Cheers,

Nicole Gullixson  
805.452.0503

**From:** [NICOLE GULLIXSON](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** COVID 24hr Between Tenant Cleaning Violation 8/9  
**Date:** Sunday, August 09, 2020 4:54:23 PM

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Hello,

Airbnb rental 547 Lantern Court had a large group of guests leave today, 8/9 and another group of renters is entering the airbnb rental right now, same day, 8/9. There was definitely less than 24 hours in between tenants. I would say even less than 12 hours!

This is NOT safe for us, the neighborhood NOR the community.

Please come up with regulations for STRs in the Incline Village community!

--

Cheers,

Nicole Gullixson  
805.452.0503  
Classic Wines of California, Lake Tahoe Region

**From:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Comments for your consideration Prior to the Upcoming August 25, 2020 Hearing on Draft Short Term Rental Ordinance  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:32:34 PM

---

**From:** Diane Heirshberg <[dbheirshberg@gmail.com](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** Brown, Eric P. <[EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us](mailto:EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us)>  
**Cc:** Berkbigler, Marsha <[MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us](mailto:MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us)>  
**Subject:** Comments for your consideration Prior to the Upcoming August 25, 2020 Hearing on Draft Short Term Rental Ordinance

**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

Diane L. Becker

(805) 290-2779

[dbheirshberg@gmail.com](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com)

April 19, 2020

Re: Short Term Rental Ordinance Set for Hearing August 25, 2020

Dear County Manager Mr. Eric P. Brown,

I am writing this letter to follow-up on our conversation last week. As I expressed to you, the Short-Term Rental Ordinance is the single most important concern to Incline Village at this time because of the very difficult experiences which so many local residents are having with what can only be described as "bad" STR visitors in their neighborhoods.

I respectfully submit that the current draft STR Ordinance is contrary to the direction almost all other local government entities at the Lake and in Southern Nevada are taking with respect to STRs, and some of the provisions are based on what Staff perceives are directions from the Commissioners, not necessarily what Staff as prudent planners would have drafted as in the best interests of Incline and others.

Other local governmental entities in Southern Nevada, around the Lake, and across the United States have been endeavoring to protect local residents and residential neighborhoods from the harmful effects of STRs, while still allowing STRs to operate in residential neighborhoods. I believe that a Washoe County STR Ordinance could be drafted that is both protective of the character of residential neighborhoods and at the same time would not unfairly interfere with the ability for Incline property owners to offer their residences for rentals as STRs, as I will discuss below.

I will also review below several problems with the current draft Ordinance, as well as deficiencies in the process leading to the final draft of the Ordinance. I urge you to thoughtfully consider the lack of fair and equitable process in developing the Ordinance, and also the risks to the County, STR visitors, and IVCB residents and neighborhoods, if these deficiencies in the current draft of the STR Ordinance are not corrected, or if a process is not put in place to correct them via a public

comment and amendment process.

**1. A Discussion of Select Significant Problems with the Current Draft Ordinance That Will Likely Lead to Further Nuisance, Noise, Parking, Trash and Other Potential Problems in Local Neighborhoods; These Problems Could Be Injurious to STR Visitors and IVCB Neighborhoods and the County.**

While at pages 4-5 the Staff Memorandum states that “Most jurisdictions in southern Nevada and around Lake Tahoe have already established or are working to establish standards...due to the relative newness of standards for this type of use, there is limited consensus in how STRs are regulated...” I disagree with the conclusion that “there is limited consensus”, because there is great consensus/consistency in str ordinance provisions addressing many of the key issues to protect neighborhoods, in the STR Ordinances around the Lake and in Southern Nevada.

**A. Occupancy Limits of the draft Washoe County STR Ordinance Are Not Consistent with STR Ordinances of Other Local Jurisdictions; The Washoe County Ordinance Maximizes Occupancy in a Way That Will Lead to Excess Noise, Nuisance and Parking Problems in Incline Village/Crystal Bay Residential Neighborhoods (“IVCB”), and Adds Increased Risk of Liability for Injury and Damages to STR Visitors and IVCB Neighborhoods.**

At page 3 of Staff’s July 24, 2020 Memorandum (“Staff Memorandum”) the method for calculating occupancy is set at “one occupant per 200 sq. ft. of habitable space”, rather than being based on persons times the number of permitted bedrooms, which is the basis in all of the other local jurisdictions at the Lake and in Southern Nevada. Use of the standard of occupants per permitted bedroom would have resulted in fewer potential individuals in each STR rental. Page 3 of the Staff Memorandum states that this “standard” is from the International Building Code (“IBC”) which was adopted by Washoe County.

Local residents urged that to reduce noise, parking, trash, crime and public nuisance problems, the County adopt protective provisions from the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Short-Term Rental Neighborhood Compatibility Guidelines for Local Jurisdictions, a copy of which I sent to you attached to my last email (“TRPA Guidelines”). The TRPA Guidelines recommended 2 persons per bedroom. Local residents urged the County to adopt the standard of 2 persons per bedroom + 2 persons, which is the current standard around the Lake and in Southern Nevada. To give you examples of occupancy limits from other STR Ordinances:

Placer County: 2 people per permitted bedroom +2 persons

El Dorado: 2 people per permitted bedroom + 2 persons

Douglas County: 2 people per permitted bedroom + 2 persons

City of Henderson: 4 people in first permitted bedroom + 2 for each other bedroom

City of Las Vegas: 2 people per permitted bedroom

(Some ordinances allow for the addition for children under specified age limits, i.e. 5 yrs.)

The standard based on permitted bedrooms is easy to apply and requires far

less inspection for the other IBC requirements discussed below, than the IBC standard of one occupant per 200 sq. ft. of habitable space.

If believe that if you ask Moira Hauenstein, who I understand is an architect, she will hopefully confirm to you that there are risks to the public health and safety in selecting one small provision out of the IBC, without requiring the many other provisions of the IBC which contain many other life safety protections and limitations that are ignored in the current draft Ordinance. The additional IBC requirements which support the one occupant per 200 sq. foot calculation cannot be met in the bulk of the homes in IVCB which are older homes and pre-date the IBC, such as:

- a) Gas appliance fireplaces are required in most IVCB homes, as wood burning fireplaces are not generally allowed due to TRPA's Chapter 91.3B (unless the fireplace was grandfathered in, or with strict limitations). The IBC requires that a gas fireplace in a sleeping room must have a sealed combustion chamber rating so that no carbon monoxide can escape from the unit. This is not required in living rooms and other non-sleeping rooms where gas fireplace installations are not required to have sealed combustion chambers. Therefore, the County is unintentionally putting STR visitors at risk by causing them to sleep in rooms which may have fireplaces with unsealed combustion chambers, potentially subjecting sleepers to carbon monoxide poisoning.
- b) The IBC does not allow a door to lead directly from a garage to a sleeping room, again to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning from a garage. In older IVCB homes and condominiums. I am told that it is common to find doors between living rooms and garages, rendering the non-bedroom sleeping areas dangerous.
- c) The IBC has code provisions for required light and ventilation for different rooms, and this is very important for bedrooms. Many living room/den/office rooms will not have adequate ventilation to meet sleeping room requirements. Some living rooms/dens/offices that are built into hillsides, etc. will not meet light requirements for sleeping rooms.
- d) The IBC has required egress from bedrooms that is not required for other rooms, again for safety if escape is required. For example, many condominium projects in Incline have lofts which have no windows at all for emergency egress, and others have windows that do not meet IBC size standards to allow for egress. An example of how dangerous this can be is the case a year or so ago where a young man was visiting alone in a home, and slept in a loft that had no windows for egress; he died in a fire because there was no window egress from the loft available to him.
- e) Separate from the IBC, electrical codes for bedrooms require ARC and Ground fault interrupters, whereas living rooms, etc. do not. This is to protect sleepers using electric blankets and other heating systems which contain transformers in them. If an electrical system does not have an ARC, the transformer can over-heat and cause a fire when a person is sleeping, because the breaker does not shut off. A person sleeping can then die from smoke and fumes when the breaker does not shut off. In the winter, electric blankets are common in the mountains.

In short, living rooms, dens, offices, media rooms, etc., do not meet other code and other IBC safety requirements for sleeping rooms. STR visitors are strangers to a home who have no knowledge of the home and who need to be protected from unknown dangers. Although page 8 of the Staff Memorandum states that areas proposed for sleeping purposes have specific safety feature requirements based in existing, adopted codes, if the inspections really do a thorough list of requirements, including those above, and all the other related IBC requirements, and there are actually inspections of all of the IBC, IRC and NEC requirements, these requirements cannot be met by many of the homes in IVCB which are STRs, and the burden on the inspectors/inspections will be huge. So much easier to count permitted bedrooms!

At a minimum, if the County does continue to utilize the one person per 200 feet limitation, at least to protect the STR visitors (and neighbors from fire), the Ordinance should require that any approved sleeping area other than a permitted bedroom must meet the standards of the 2018 IBC, 2018 IRC and the 2017 NEC for sleeping areas. But then you still would need to specify a standard for the majority of the homes in IVCB which will not meet those standards in non-bedroom areas.

**B. It is Crucial that Parking for STR Visitors be Limited to Actual Available Parking Spaces on Site, and that the STR Visitors be Advised as to the Number of Cars and Vehicles (Boats, etc.) They Can Bring**

The Commissioners expressed at the public hearing on the last draft of the Orders that they did not want to impose difficult parking requirements for STR visitors, I think because they believe that IVCB has streets and street parking similar to Reno. This assumption incorrect as IVCB has different topography and has very different requirements for snow, snow removal and snow storage from November to May.

The requirement of one parking space for every four proposed occupants does not limit the number of cars and additional vehicles (boats, trailers, etc.) that visitors can bring to the home to actual available onsite parking spaces. There needs to be a limitation on the total number of cars that can be brought to an STR home based on available on-site parking, based on a parking map. This is common in other STR Ordinances around the Lake, and was recommended in the TRPA Guidelines, due to the particular issues which impact IVCB and other Lake communities. STR Visitors bring RVs and boats and boat trailers with no place to park them and then park illegally around IVCB.

There is a tremendous shortage of parking spaces in IVCB, due to the many narrow streets with insufficient room for any street parking at all, the lack of onsite parking provided for in the older developments, and the fact that public streets in IVCB are used for snow storage during the winter. Effective November 1 – May 1 of each year, to allow for snow storage and removal of snow from the roads, street parking is prohibited under Washoe County Snow Removal Regulations, Chapter 70.425 and 70.437.

Please consider speaking with Rich Thomsen about the problems encountered by the County when the snow plows hit cars illegally parked on public streets. When cars are illegally parked on public streets during snow plowing, this can and has caused the plows to be disabled, and I assume could lead to potential claims against the County for damage to individual's cars as there are no signs posted with this requirement.

Further, because most areas do not have no parking signs in the winter, it is also critical that visitors are advised that there is no street parking during the winter due to the need for snow removal on streets in IVCB.

Additionally, the County has snow storage areas all over IVCB at the sides of all streets, as there is more snow in most years than can be accommodated just by

building the snow up at the sides of the streets. If a location has been used for years by the County for snow storage, and if the County and an STR owner assume that the area in the street will be available for over-flow parking by STR visitors during permitting, that is an error that will lead to future problems for all.

Finally, local residents have requested that the STR Ordinance require that garages be made available for parking of STR visitor cars, if the garages are counted as available in the on-site parking requirement. In IVCB, many homes that are STRs do not allow parking in their garages, because the garages are locked with the personal belongings and a car of a local owner left for their own use. A garage retained for the owner's private use should not be counted towards on-site parking.

### **C. Annual (At Each Permit Renewal) and Unscheduled Health and Safety Inspections of STRs are Needed**

One of the few protections that local residents and neighborhoods had in the prior draft of the STR Ordinance was inspections, both annually at re-permitting and unannounced for certain purposes. If you review Ordinances from other areas and the TRPA Guidelines, annual inspections at permit renewal and unscheduled inspections are included for life safety issues.

The unannounced inspection provision has been removed per Board direction at the February, 2020 Board of Commissioners hearing because some property managers urged that this could be abused by the county or our local Sheriffs or Fire Officials. The annual pre-permit renewal inspection was changed to after three years at re-permitting.

Removing unscheduled inspections is dangerous both to future STR visitors and to neighborhoods. One example of how important such inspections are, is a recent red-tagging of a home on Lakeshore, where an STR owner, in order to maximize revenues, had illegally and without permits converted the garage into a large, dormitory style sleeping room to maximize revenues, and had illegally run a gas line and put a unpermitted, illegal heater in the garage, which could have led to carbon monoxide poisoning of STR visitors sleeping in the garage. The Fire District did an inspection and this was discovered, and the home was red tagged as not inhabitable. The red tagging by the Fire District potentially saved lives of visitors and neighbors!

The Douglas County Fire Chief spoke at one of the TRPA meetings and urged that all jurisdictions at the Lake include strong mandatory pre-permit and annual fire safety inspection provisions in their STR Ordinances because Douglas County Fire Department had found serious fire threats in 90% of its STR inspections, many requiring substantial remedial action before STR permits could be issued. Douglas County and IVCB both have a large number of older homes that pose fire dangers that need to be mitigated before being operated as an STR.

Self-certifications for almost a three-year period, with no monitoring are unfair to STR visitors and to neighborhoods, and are equivalent to no monitoring or inspections. It is urged that there should be inspections at each permit re-issuance annually.

Additionally, inspections for all fire issues should be done by qualified North Lake Tahoe Fire District personnel and Washoe County Code Enforcement personnel, and not by unqualified individual owners and their property personnel who have the incentive to save money and avoid making needed repairs.

### **D. Sanitary Provisions to Protect the STR Visitors and IVCB Residents Should be Added.**

I have seen more detailed discussions by other IVCB residents requesting cleaning/sanitation/safety procedures, which is an issue that was rejected out of hand by the County. I will not repeat their arguments here, with the exception of one. I

believe that Commissioner Berkbigler is currently attempting to get some cleanliness requirements included in the STR Ordinance, but I do not know if she will be able to do so. In any event, I think that this is another area where you as County Manager should double check on the legal analysis and get a written opinion as to why NRS Chapter 447 does not cover STRs, and as to why the County cannot include any health/sanitary/cleanliness provisions.

County Legal Staff has stated that Nevada Revised Statutes, Chapter 447, "Public Accommodations" does not apply to STRs because the STRs are residential and not hotels. Chapter 447 applies to "Hotels" and then defines Hotels at NRS 447.010 as "Hotel" means every building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public, whether with or without meals, including without limitation, a lodging house or rooming house where transient trade is solicited."

I urge you to consider why STR visitors do not deserve to come to clean facilities with proper ventilation and screens on windows. How is an STR not a "building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public." Please recall that when the request was made to close down STRs in IVCB when we had the highest incidence of COVID 19 infection in April, 2020 of any community at the Lake, and even though all other Lake communities had closed down STRs, you were told by Legal that the STRs could not be shut down because Governor Sisolak had included STRs as "Essential Businesses" along with hotels, motels, etc. in his March, 2020 Emergency Orders. It seems contradictory to treat STRs as Essential Businesses on the one hand, and then to say that cleanliness standards required of all "buildings .....held out to the public to be a place where sleeping... accommodations are furnished to the transient public..." are not applicable because an STR is not a business. Also, there are sanitary regulations in Washoe County for Bed and Breakfasts, which have more supervision because the B & B operator is present, which sanitary standards should at a minimum be imposed on STRs.

Additionally, consider that the State has considered health and safety and draft these sanitary and protective provisions after a great deal of thought. Don't the STR visitors coming here deserve the same minimum sanitary protections that they would receive at a local motel? Even the TRPA Guidelines recommend that "state law public accommodation requirements in state law be met" at page 3 under Example of Public Health and Safety Best Practices #5.

Further, please consider the ease of the spread of disease in tiny IVCB, with its one supermarket, Raley's, where almost everyone in the community shops, and its one small post office with insufficient room to social distance, where most people must go to the post office to get their mail as the post office does not deliver mail to many IVCB addresses; think of the potential injury to STR visitors, neighbors, neighborhoods and all of IVCB due to a lack of cleanliness and the spread of disease.

**E. Under the Current Draft Ordinance, STR Permits Could be Issued to Condominium and PUDs which have Express Provisions Disallowing STRs, in Violation of Nevada law NRS 116.340.**

I had discussed the subject of HOA CC&Rs prohibiting short term rentals with Commissioner Berkbigler and Kelly Mullin early in the STR discussions, and suggested to Kelly including language similar to that in Section 3(e)(i) and (ii) of the Henderson str ordinance, along the lines of the following:

"The applicant is required to: (a) certify that operation of the short-term rental would not violate any homeowners' association agreement, bylaws or covenants, conditions and restrictions, limiting the use of the house as a

short-term vacation rental, and (b) acknowledge that registration will not supersede any such private agreements."

Similar language was originally included by Ms. Mullin in the first draft that she circulated to the public, and it put no burden on the County, and allowed the County to comply with NRS 116.340, to avoid its permit being the cause of a breach of the CC&Rs by an STR owner who violated a CC&R covenant against short term renting. This was deleted by the Commissioners or Legal at the first reading of the first draft, even though it was in the draft circulated to the public.

For your information, the City of Henderson requires the confirmation by an applicant described above and the City of Las Vegas requires that an applicant provide the City with a document signed by the HOA approving the short-term rental. Other local jurisdictions at the Lake are allowing HOAs to send letters to the County's str permitting staff, including copies of their CC&Rs saying that no short-term rentals are allowed, and then the jurisdiction does not issue an STR permit under NRS 116.340. Washoe County has taken the position that the County is not bound by NRS 116.340, and further that it will not recognize letters from HOA enclosing CC&Rs with restrictions on short term renting, stating that HOAs and neighbors will have to sue the owner who breach the CC&Rs in Court. This will lead to a multiplicity of actions (an unnecessary burden on the Courts) and an unfair financial burden on the HOAs and non-breaching owners.

NRS 116.340 states, in pertinent part:

"1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a person who owns or directly or indirectly has an interest in, one or more units within a planned community that are restricted to residential use by the declaration may use that unit or one of those units for a transient commercial use only if:

(a) The governing documents of the association and any master association do not prohibit such use;

(b) The executive board of the association and any master association approve the transient commercial use of the unit...; and

(c) The unit is properly zoned for the transient commercial use and any license required by the local government for the transient commercial use is obtained.

...

4. As used in this section:

...

(b) Transient commercial use means the use of a unit, for remuneration, as a hostel, hotel, inn, motel, resort, vacation rental or other form of transient lodging if the term of the occupancy, possession or use of the unit is for less than 30 consecutive calendar days."

Including the language originally drafted by Ms. Mullin on this issue puts no burden on the County, allows the County to comply with NRS 116.340 and does not allow owners to breach the CC&Rs on this subject.

I am hoping that you will consider asking for further research on this subject to

confirm that such protection is appropriate under Nevada Revised Statute 116.340. The rest of the Lake and Southern Nevada believe that this provision applies.

I should add that it is possible that NRS 116.340 concerned someone at the County who mistakenly feared that such a clause in the application would allow owners outside of HOAs to assert that under their Declarations and Covenants restricting business activities would bar all STRs in Incline. NRS 116.340 only applies to planned communities as defined in the NRS, and that is a community that has an HOA that is a condominium or PUD, which has CC&Rs that prohibit short term renting.

**F. There are No Limitations on the Total Number of STRs in a Neighborhood, or on Density or Concentration, No Requirement that the Owner be a Resident rather than a Business Owned STR, No Protections for the Nuisance That Occurs When There is Too Much Concentration of STRs in a Small Area**

While several types of limitation are recommended in the TRPA Guidelines (limiting distance between STRs; limiting the number of days per month or times per month or per year that a rental is allowed, requiring that the home be a primary resident and not a business), etc.), the County has repeatedly stated that such limitations are illegal in Nevada, and that is the reason that they were never considered by the County. Also, the County has stated that there are no such limitations in any str ordinance anywhere in Nevada. Both of those premises are not correct, and I ask that these protections be considered now or at least in the future, if the Ordinance that is adopted does not get rid of the party houses and their noise, the trash problems, the parking problems, etc., because the premises were incorrect.

The City of Las Vegas Ordinance, for example, provides that an STR must be at least “660 feet from any other short-term residential rental.” I recently called Steve Swaton, of the Las Vegas Planning Department (702-229-4714) who is the person who wrote most of the latest City of Las Vegas STR Ordinance. I asked him why he felt that the provision requiring STRs to be 660 feet apart in the Las Vegas Ordinance was legal in Nevada, and he said that it was clearly legal, and that the purpose of this provision is to discourage conglomeration of STR uses in one area, in order to lessen the adverse impacts to the neighborhoods, which is necessary to further public health and safety and avoid nuisances of noise, traffic and crime problems from STRs. Mr. Swanton explained that the City of Las Vegas had realized that short term renters do not own the places they rent, and they come to party and do whatever they want to do, as they feel that they are not being watched. He said that this provision is lawful under the zoning regulation power and the power to promote health and safety. Mr. Swaton said that he is willing to talk with anyone in Washoe County Planning, about the limitation to 660 feet, the Las Vegas Ordinance, the detrimental impacts of party-house STRs on a neighborhood, etc.

The City of Las Vegas’ attorney approved the STR Ordinance including this provision; yet limitations were never even discussed in Washoe County because someone at the County said that such limitations on STRs were illegal in Nevada, which is apparently not correct.

The TRPA Guidelines included at Residential Compatibility Best Practices #2: “allow STR use in residential areas only if the home is occupied by a primary resident the majority of the year (i.e. make STRS an accessory use).” The rationale for this is to protect the neighbors, because an owner who is also a primary resident will be less likely to allow renters to disturb neighbors in the owner’s absence. Also, the entire basis for approval of STRs around Lake Tahoe by TRPA in or about 2007, was that the STRs would only be an accessory use by an owner who owned and lived in a home, and that such use would not be a burden on residential neighborhoods, and that is why each local jurisdiction, including Washoe County, are even allowed to have STRs. Washoe County even signed a Memorandum of Understanding with TRPA that its noise, parking, trash, nuisance and other local ordinances would be enforced to protect the quality of the neighborhoods. If you would like a copy of that MOU or a history of the basis for TRPA’s decision to allow STRs around Lake Tahoe, I can provide these.

One thought for Staff is that perhaps, STRs that are an “accessory use” by a resident could be treated differently than an STR that is owned by people who do not ever or rarely live in the STR house or by LLCs formed solely to own and rent STRs. One way to consider these limitations to protect communities, is to apply the limitations as to density, etc. to STRs that are not owned and operated by people who primarily reside in their home in IVCB. I have not researched this issue, but TRPA’s inhouse attorney who is a Nevada attorney approved the TRPA Guidelines on these subjects.

## **G. Summary**

While I have other concerns with specific provisions of the draft, I will not burden you further by going through point by point, as this letter is already too long. It would be greatly appreciated if some issues could be corrected now, before the first reading, and some issues specified and tabled for further real dialogue between the County and its effected citizens for future amendment if the current draft is passed.

### **2. The Deficiencies in the Process Leading to the Current Draft Ordinance Have Resulted in a Loss of Public Confidence in the Integrity of the Process; The Discussion in the Staff Memorandum at Pages 5-6 Sounds Good, but it Does Not Tell the Full Story from the Standpoint of IVCB and its Residents and Neighborhoods**

The draft STR Ordinance and its history is unfortunately a study in how a rift develops between government and the public due to a lack of effective communication, a lack of public participation in decision making, and a perceived bias on the part of the County leading to a lack of public trust.

I believe that Staff, if asked individually, would tell you that the Ordinance was drafted with direction as to what was and was not acceptable to the Commissioners, and that it was not drafted by Staff and presented to the Commissioners based on Staff’s opinion as to what constitutes best practices and is in the IVCB best interests in all particulars. This Ordinance was drafted in a way that greatly damaged public trust, and which ignored the needs of the local residents who are the most affected and

most adversely impacted by STRs.

For example, the one “resident” input session in July discussed under Stakeholder input had 3 invited attendees from IVCB (5 were invited but only 3 could attend due to schedule conflicts and the shortness of the notice of the meeting), although the attendees have reported that they diligently and vigorously articulated the great difficulties in IVCB caused by STRs.

Another example is the “Structured Public Input” meetings discussed at page 5. What does “Structured Public Input” really mean? These meetings did not develop public confidence in the integrity of the process of drafting this Ordinance, and failed to take public input on many important issues. Incline Village with only 6000 total residential units (houses, condominiums, apartment units) produces over 90% of the transient occupancy tax collected by Washoe County. Therefore, Incline Village residents should have had a great deal of input into the problems that should be addressed in the STR Ordinance that is so crucial to their daily lives. At these 2 public meetings in Incline, the County representative stated a list of items that could not be considered in the Ordinance, and among the items we could not discuss were limits on density and concentration, and use of TOT for any purpose in Incline (such as additional sheriff or fire services, etc.). We were put into groups of 8-10 people to discuss our concerns by topics such as occupancy, noise, parking, safety, enforcement, each lead by a County representative who made notes on little yellow sticky tabs. The County representative from each table orally stated a summary of what was discussed at the group meetings. The meeting room was not full in Reno, but the first meeting in IVCB was so booked by reservations, a second meeting date was set and that was also full. Attendees asked to speak publicly and that was not allowed. Attendees asked to discuss the “forbidden topics” and that was not allowed. The oral summaries presented by County employees did not include all of the comments by IVCB residents because public comments on concerns related to forbidden topics were not mentioned. Ms. Mullin handled the meeting well and was sympathetic and articulate, but she was clearly given directions by others on both the meeting structure and the refusal to discuss the “forbidden topics”.

Following the 2 public meetings in Incline, while a group of IVCB residents attended BOC meetings and made many public comments about the great difficulties that STRs were causing in the IVCB neighborhoods, we did not feel that the other Commissioners were truly listening to what we said or crediting it as the sentiment of the majority of the community. The perspective of IVCB residents was that the other Commissioners did not want us to come to the Commission meetings and take up their time speaking during public comment, and that the Commissioners had already made their minds to have a weak Ordinance.

An STR Ordinance was drafted and presented at the February Board of Commissioners Meeting, that had minimal protections for residents after we had numerous conversations with Ms. Mullin. At the February meeting, a large number of realtors came, not having attended past Board meetings, and we lost even more of the minimal protections for residential neighborhoods which Ms. Mullin had included.

I describe what has occurred and the sentiment of much of the IVCB community with the hope that in the future, meetings can be used for two-way communication and expression of concern, to increase the public trust and confidence.

### **3. Conclusion**

All of the other local governments at the Lake and the local governments in Southern Nevada have passed protective Ordinances because they decided that they wanted to protect their residential neighborhoods. The other local governments at the Lake used the TRPA Guidelines and came up with consistent STR Ordinances, and after adoption, when their Ordinances were not working sufficiently to curb the party

houses and other deleterious impacts of str's on communities, the local jurisdictions amended their ordinances further to increase protections for residential communities. When I called Las Vegas and spoke with the drafter of their Ordinance he said that the Las Vegas City Council felt sorry for the residents and wanted to protect them. When I spoke with the person responsible for the drafting of the Henderson Ordinance the same thing was said, that the City wanted to protect its residents from party houses. The Clark County representative said that they had banned str's in the County as neighborhood protections weren't working.

We do not understand how the decision can be made that neighborhood interests are subservient to all other interests, which is what has happened in the current draft Ordinance. The current draft Ordinance is not standard and it is not protective. Other Washoe County Ordinances have been drafted by Staff, with Staff's expertise, without such strict initial direction from the Commissioners and the protections and care and concern for the local citizenry is evident (i.e. see for example, the neighborhood protections in the Home Office regulations).

Most problems raised by residents are not addressed or "helped" in the current draft of the STR Ordinance. While the Ordinance serves to require STR owners to get permits and to pay fees to the County, it does little to address the concerns expressed by residents as to the impacts on them. We need real rules, real enforcement and real inspections. I am writing in the hope that it is possible to add to/change the draft Ordinance before or at the upcoming public hearings? I hope you can consider if there is a way to help our community. I believe that if a different direction had been given to Staff, we would have seen a very different and better final product for our community. I have a lot of confidence in your Staff, including Ms. Mullin, if your Staff is left to using their credentials and expertise to get true public comment and to get input from other jurisdictions at the Lake and in Southern Nevada, and to then use this in their draft Ordinance as appropriate, without a pre-conceived outcome.

I know that there is a great deal of information here and if I had more time, I would have written a better shorter email. But I wanted to provide you with some of the concerns about the Ordinance as drafted, as soon as possible.

I thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of my comments. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Very truly yours,

Diane L. Becker

Full-time resident of Incline Village

805-290-2779

[dbheirshberg@gmail.com](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com)

**From:** [dhjunk](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); "[Kathy Emerson](#)"  
**Subject:** STRs  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 5:21:55 PM

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**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

I would like this email read and be included as part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioners Meeting on 8/25/2020.

We have used VRBO and AirB&B many times for our vacations. However, we are responsible and respectful renters. What is happening in Incline Village is ruining our town and is a danger to our environment!

- Permitting Process: (ex. fees, fines, review times, etc.)

If there is not a permit, there needs to be one (in addition to the taxes Washoe County is receiving). There need to be stiff and enforceable fines to the owners if any of their tenants violate any of the rules (see below).

There should be an owner or someone who can respond to go to the property within 30 minutes. This is required in many vacation communities and keeps the owners responsible for any mayhem.

- Fire and Guest Safety: (ex. defensible space, smoke detectors, structures meeting code standards, etc.)

This is a huge concern! I have seen fires started in back yards and on decks. We do not want our town burned down due to ignorant and irresponsible renters.

- Occupancy Limits: (ex. number of guests allowed per room, home, etc.)

There should be a minimum of 10 night stay, preferable 14 days. This would at least weed out the weekend parties that are causing most of the issues. Homes should be limited to 2 people per room, no more than 8 in a home. If they want a party venue, then they need to go to a hotel that accommodates that, not our neighborhoods. A hotel can at least kick them out. Many owners that rent do not care, as long as they are making money and will do nothing. Therefore, we are required to call the sheriff, which is a careless use of our sheriff's time and resources.

- Parking: (ex. adequate off-street parking spaces, designated parking areas, etc.)

Limit parking to 2 cars per property. When they come with more than 2 cars, it's always a problem. They had the nerve to park in our driveway and then cuss us out when we told them they could not park there.

In the winter, we cannot have cars on the road inhibiting the snow plows and causing danger.

- Trash: (ex. placement or volume of trash, bear-proofing, etc.)

Each property should be required to have a bear box and if that bear box is not used or there is excess trash, a fine of \$1000/day should be assessed. We do not need any more bears roaming around and breaking into garages.

- Noise: (ex. excessive noise, late-night/early morning noise, etc.)

We had a huge VRBO group drinking and partying in our street and they actually drove a car off the cliff! Other than the obnoxious noise, my concern was the car starting a fire in the brush. This is NOT acceptable!

We **live** in our neighborhoods. The weekend renters are partiers with no care about anyone who actually lives here. When they are loud all day and their dog barks incessantly, they don't care, because they are leaving the next day. I realize this is extra income for Washoe County, however, WE, the local residents of Washoe County are paying the price.

Many other resort towns have had to put into place some enforceable restrictions, fines and limits in place, in order to maintain the integrity and origin of their town. The time has come for Washoe County to please honor and respect OUR real estate purchase and taxes, and do the same.

Thank you,  
Diane Higgins  
Incline Village Resident



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** [Adam Hirsh](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** IV STR Input  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:35:54 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners:

My name is Adam Hirsh, and I'm the owner of 1021 Saturn Ct. in the Apollo neighborhood of Incline Village. There is a year-round STR on the same street, which is listed in the property record as a 3100 SF, 3 bed house. The owner bills it as a 5 bedroom accommodating 14 people. No sprinkler system.

Issues:

A house fire started by guests.

Up to 14 cars parked on street/increased traffic. Recently had 5 cars and a bus.

Animals in trash (which we clean up).

Party with strippers and a drug overdose/ambulance and fire called.

Lighted cigarettes tossed in bushes.

Much late night noise. A regular and continual problem.

Lots of strangers in previously residential neighborhood. Serious safety concerns.

Cars parked illegally on the street in winter.

Elderly neighbor was charged by STR "guest's" dogs.

Bottom line is that the STR has changed everything for the worse. There are countless numbers of strangers in our cul-de-sac, many cars driving up and down, parking on the street, lots of noise which didn't exist before.

The owner, who does not reside on the property at all, has at times attempted to cooperate, but it's basically an unsupervised motel. Some "guests" might not disturb, while others present major problems. We never know who or what is coming tomorrow, so we live on edge.

I hope that you will consider passing the regulations proposed before Covid in order to help address some of the issues.

Thanks for your attention.

Best regards,

Adam Hirsh.

**From:** [Helene Larson](#)  
**To:** [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Submission for 8/25/20 Commissioner""s meeting  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 2:17:55 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To the attention of the Washoe County Commissioners:

Please have this read and made part of the public record at the Washoe County Commissioners' Meeting on 8/25/20; thank you for serving our communities and representing all of us.

This letter represents my concerns regarding the proliferation of STRs in Incline Village, without any limits imposed, and with very little, if any, enforceable regulation proposed. This invites, and then tolerates, inappropriate, and indeed sometimes illegal and dangerous use of housing here. Instances of untended garbage, parking violations, open fires, violations of the peace and quiet of the community with loud partying and music have resulted from unregulated short-term rental use. Self-regulation is obviously a failure. We need our representatives at Washoe County to speak on Incline's behalf as well.

In addition to that, it reduces the number of rentals available to the community of non-homeowners. Subsequently, due to the law of supply and demand, the rents that are available tend to have inflated rental costs. Personally, my rent has increased 42% in less than two years. You can well correctly imagine that my income has not increased to meet that need. I have lived in my current apartment here for 11 years come this October. Even the non-accountants among you know, this spells disaster! If it continues, I will have to move off the hill and re-establish myself as I begin my 70<sup>th</sup> year, over half of which I have lived here, contributing to the North Shore community.

I have lived at Tahoe since 1983, my kids went through school here; my son graduated from Sierra Nevada College. I have grandkids here who are fourth generation Incliners. For eight years I helped publish *North Tahoe Week Magazine*. I certainly understand the value of tourism. I am fond of saying that, without tourists, we could probably not keep quite a number of businesses going at all on on the north shore. Some of them barely even weather the off-season with only locals as customers. STRs reduce the number of residences available to locals, increasing the possibility of our local small businesses having to close doors here.

When you reduce the availability of rental housing, there is a cascade of challenges. Two-bedroom apartments or condos mostly allow one, or if you are VERY lucky two, parking places. Most households of this kind need two incomes to get by. Because the workforce is trying desperately to stay here to be available to provide needed services, and because their rents have increased so much, and wages hardly at all, many of those two-bedroom units are now occupied by 3-4 people each. Just drive down Southwood Boulevard or Oriole when people are not at work, and look at the cars piled up on the side of the road. It is downright dangerous for all of us!

I understand that Incline is physically, and by population, a very small part of Washoe County. I also know that the property taxes here, and other County fees, are well-shored-up by our participation. It is time to recognize that if the STR rentals continue to flourish here, that there is a possibility of a lessening of value of Incline properties. The Realtors seem to perhaps be looking only at the short-term increases; eventually, the nature of Incline Village will change dramatically, and, instead of the town it was chartered to be, it will become a mecca for STRs, and quite unlivable by locals.

Kindly take these comments into consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Helene Larson

822 Northwood Blvd., #1, Incline Village, NV (for now!)

**From:** [Chrystie O Lowden](#)  
**To:** [diane morrison](#)  
**Cc:** [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [robb morrison](#); [Heidi Allstead](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Short term rentals  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 3:52:04 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners:

17 people in a residential house every couple of days is not acceptable. What a joke!

Commissioners, please help those of us who now have mini motels operating next to us. We are trying to raise our families just like you. We need aggressive regulations and restrictions for safety and sanity. The realtors and short term rental/motel owners are making a fortune at our expense. Please imagine for a moment that you had a house like the one in these pictures next to your own. It is not ok!

Please help!

Chrystie Lowden

> On Aug 18, 2020, at 3:28 PM, diane morrison <diane\_m\_morrison@yahoo.com> wrote:

>  
>

**From:** [Keli Maiocco](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#)  
**Cc:** [nmaiocco@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nmaiocco@sbcglobal.net)  
**Subject:** Letter of complaint regarding STRs to be read and made part of public record for WC Commissioners meeting Aug 25, 2020  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:10:59 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Commissioners and Board Members,

I have been a resident in the same neighborhood in Incline Village since 1995. When you call Tahoe your home, you desperately want it to remain “The Gem” that it has always been known. I do not want to restrict others from enjoying Lake Tahoe, but with the Covid Pandemic driving everyone out of cities and hot spots, it is impossible to accommodate everyone who wants to be here all at once without ruining our environment, over using our infrastructures, and endangering others by neglecting fire codes, wildlife, and traffic/parking rules.

While acknowledging the many hours multiple staff has spent on the proposed STR ordinances, they do not protect our residents since the number, location, and density is not limited. Building codes and definitions of “transient housing” and “business” are not clear. Plus the ordinance does not require any sort of residency to obtain a permit.

The suggested “hotline” does nothing to help the level of frustration that is felt by residents when they are watching illegal wood burning fire throw sparks in the air, are woken in the middle of the night by noise and bright flashing Christmas lights, or are trying to pay for a new garage door after a bear break-in when STR garbage and coolers are outside. All of these events (and more) are cause for anxiety and stress with EVERY tenant change which could happen anywhere from 4-8 times per month (possibly more). As I write, a new group has checked in next door and I am already “on alert” as I see the open wood burning stove on the deck and hear the voices of several young men with 4 cars in the drive. That is only on one side of my home. The other side I can see the cleaning crew getting ready for yet another check-in which fills me with dread.

The STR ordinance cannot guarantee compliance, discipline, or removal of the STR, only fines. Fines do not benefit the residents. This raises the question of where the manpower will come from and be paid for inspections, permits, patrolling, and disciplinary action. Most importantly to the residents, how long will we have to suffer as the ordinances due process plays out?

Other communities have banned STRs successfully and continue to host visitors in a safe and enjoyable environment. South Lake Tahoe and Hawaii just to name a few popular tourist areas. Longer term rentals can still bring in revenue while keeping our environment, residents AND visitors SAFE. Please consider the above issues. The Pandemic continues to grow, so will the complaints and problems.

Thank you for the chance to be heard.

Respectfully,

Keli Maiocco

553 Len Way

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Margaret Martini](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed STRS in Incline Village and the discussion at the August 25th Commission meeting.  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 6:26:35 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello all,

Please read this email at the commission meeting of Augusts 25, 2020 and make it part of the public record for same meeting...thank you !

We all appreciate your efforts to bring forth an ordinance to deal with the issues of short term rentals in Incline Village.

Incline Village is located in one of the most susceptible areas for fire! We are in a basin surrounded by uphill slopes. A perfect fire storm. Even worse than the Paradise aka Camp fire as far as spread of fire is concerned. Your proposed STR regs will pack our Village with perhaps thousands (that is NOT an exaggeration based on the number of homes and condos here) during PEAK FIRE SEASON. The road capacity just will not handle the exodus if a fire starts. STR's bring multiple cars adding to the residents cars all vying for the same 3 inadequate escape routes. There is gridlock on all roads with no fire !Local residents will be blocked by a plethora of confused visitors not knowing escape routes. We do not have the numbers of police/fire personnel to handle the mass exodus trying to escape fire.

Your inadequate and ill planned STR proposal is a safety disaster for our community residents. The number of STR's must be limited at a reasonable number like perhaps 200-300 with a maximum time period of years to be then going at the bottom of the list for permits in a rotation manner. This is a reasonable solution for safety.

After reading the proposed ordinance and comparing it to the effective ordinance that Las Vegas has there are the following deficiencies in your proposed ordinance that are very apparent in the Las Vegas ordinance:

- Considered a commercial use, requiring a business license
- STR can have no more than 3 bedrooms (this cuts down on parking issues also)
- Occupancy is limited to 2 people over 12 years of age per bedroom +2
- Maximum daytime occupancy is limited to 1 1/2 times night time occupancy
- STR's in HOA's must show a letter from the HOA documenting approved use as an STR
- Must list on permit all hosting platforms on which the STR is advertised on line
- Evacuation map and emergency numbers permanently listed in all bedrooms
- Vehicles must be parked on site-not in adjacent right of ways. This is a must in snow country where street parking is illegal during plowing
- Prohibit sound producing devices at the exterior of the property.
- No weddings, parties or similar events allowed. Homes are not public venues
- Business license required
- Suspension of license upon 2<sup>nd</sup> violation over a 2 year period. Permit denied if violating any provision in Ordinance

- No STR closer than 600 feet to any other STSR residence
- Dwelling must be occupied by owner during rental period.
- Floor plan identifying bedrooms and living spaces including bedroom occupied by owner during rentals.

In Incline due to our rural area it would be mandatory that tenants were informed by a form stating trash disposal, parking regulations, exiting the area in an emergency, protecting our bears and wildlife and our noise ordinance. The form must be signed by all who intend to occupy.

This IS POSSIBLE because it is already being done and in place in the second largest tourist area in our state. Doesn't Incline village deserve the same protections and safety that Las Vegas has ?

If they can protect their neighborhoods then so should you protect ours. We have much more risk of a catastrophic fire and for sure STR renters have not shown much respect for fire hazards and evacuation.

Thank you for presenting this correspondence to those who will be making the decisions that will impact our community and residents.

*Margaret Martini*

**From:** [Elie Massabki](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Input on Proposed Standards for STRs  
**Date:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 8:13:23 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello,

I am an Incline Village homeowner with primary residence in California and my family uses the property several times a year. I rent my condo to vacationers to help with the mortgage expenses. I have registered my property and pay Washoe County taxes on my rental income. I have been self-managing the property for several issues and I have strict House Rules in my rental agreement that all my guests sign and they cover all of the concerns that residents and stakeholders have expressed regarding noise, parking, occupancy limits and trash.

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that requires that a property manager or representative be located locally. As the owner of the property and unlike most property managers, I am available 24/7 to respond to complaints and I have the greatest interest in my property and well-being of my neighbors. I don't see the need for a property manager to be located locally. I have successfully managed my property remotely for several years. Imposing a requirement for a local representative or property manager will force me to incur unnecessary additional costs without clear benefits to the community that cannot be achieved with my remote management of the property.

I would like to request that the following clause be modified in such a way that **local** representation or **onsite** response within 1 hour are stricken from the requirement.

*Every STR must have a designated local responsible party available 24/7 through a single phone number who shall respond to complaints within 30 minutes of contact (via text/phone acceptable). If an on-site response is necessary, it should occur within the following hour.*

I look forward to receiving your acknowledgement of this email and any suggestions you may have to further pursue this issue to a satisfactory resolution.

Thank you.

Elie Massabki  
(650) 867-1072  
400 Fairview Blvd, #80

**From:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** FW: CAB's and STR's.  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:32:15 PM

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Judith Miller** <[pupfarm1@gmail.com](mailto:pupfarm1@gmail.com)>  
Date: Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 11:20 AM  
Subject: CAB's and STR's.  
To: Berkbigler, Marsha <[mberkbigler@washoecounty.us](mailto:mberkbigler@washoecounty.us)>, Robert (Bob) L <[blucey@washoecounty.us](mailto:blucey@washoecounty.us)>, <[vhartung@washoecounty.us](mailto:vhartung@washoecounty.us)>, Jeanne <[jherman@washoecounty.us](mailto:jherman@washoecounty.us)>, Kitty <[kjung@washoecounty.us](mailto:kjung@washoecounty.us)>  
Cc: <[ebrown@washoecounty.us](mailto:ebrown@washoecounty.us)>

Good morning, Commissioners,

I watched the video of the BOCC meeting yesterday and appreciate your efforts to restore the role of the CAB in bringing the voice of our remote communities to County boards. I agree one solution may not fit every district, and am confident our County Manager will design a program that will fit each of your needs.

In retrospect, perhaps that same approach could have been taken with STR's. Regarding the proposed short term rental regulations, from the perspective of my community (based on years of community input at CAB meetings), there are still 2 major problems: 1) There are no limits and 2) The enforcement provisions are weak.

It appears the negative effects of too much tourism ("overtourism") have finally gained national attention. This is not news to the residents of Incline Village. As some of you know, in 2014 I asked why the County had no regulations to back up its ordinance that declared occupancy in residential use types should be "wholly or primarily non-transient". Now you're going to throw out that concept. And unless limits are enacted, transient occupancy equates to too many tourists. Transient occupancy under the proposed regulations will continue to result in a much higher than normal household occupancy, and in many cases the disturbing and dangerous over-occupancy that contributes to so many problems.

And as to our County counsel's opinion that STR's are not businesses, please ask why the City of Las Vegas requires a business license. Why do they require a special use permit and restrict STR's to owner hosted operations?

If the regulations are passed as presented, it will look to the community that you commissioners have caved to the real estate interests.

Almost every request that the proponents of short term rentals made was accommodated:

1) No signs - so neighbors will not know if an STR is permitted, how many occupants are allowed and who to call when there is a problem.

- 2) No unscheduled inspections - so how will any violation ever be confirmed. A neighbor will have to present evidence, however it was suggested that evidence may not be sufficient because meta data can be changed. Occupancy limits will be ignored since confirmation will not be possible. Kitchens (stoves) in illegal secondary dwelling units will appear in ads and magically disappear before an inspection.
- 3) Parking requirements have been decreased.

And one of the most objectionable added provisions is that permit fees for STR's managed by licensed property managers will be discounted. This is a clear and unwarranted gift to the real estate community.

I strongly believe that the best managed STR's are those that are either owner hosted or have a manager within "shouting distance". My daughter lives on the other side of the lake and operates 2 such vacation rentals there .With an owner onsite or close by, there are rarely any problems. No self-respecting owner would allow guests to disturb neighbors, destroy property or ignore community rules. And no onsite or nearby owner/manager is going to allow over-occupancy to occur. A licensed property manager who lives elsewhere is less qualified and less able to oversee an STR than a local resident. Proximity of a manager and knowledge of the community is more important than a license. I looked at the educational requirements for a Nevada licensed property manager. Most of these have no relation to avoiding the problems associated with short term rentals advertised on a site like Airbnb.

Discounts, if any, should be given to owner hosted rentals or those managed by someone who actually resides in close proximity, therefore much more likely to be familiar with local problems like trash, bears and parking.

There may be fewer STR's this year, (perhaps more 30 day plus rentals by those allowed to work remotely), but once the pandemic is under control, we expect a resurgence. Unless some type of limit is included in the regulations, your legacy will be to make Incline Village unsuitable as a place to live, raise families or retire. Is that what you want?

I hope you will reconsider the proposed STR regulations and allow staff to come back with suggestions on how to better protect Lake Tahoe, our residents and our visitors.

Thank you for dedicating your time and energy to public service.

Judith Miller

Member of the Incline Village, Crystal Bay CAB, speaking as an individual because the CAB was not allowed to vote on these issues.

**From:** [Beth Minick](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Problems and complaints about STRs in Incline Village  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 4:04:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [BethMinick8-17-20.docx](#)  
[BethMinickSTRComplaint11-6-19.docx](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners and Manager Brown,

We understand you are taking up consideration of an STR ordinance again, and wanted to draw your attention to some important issues to consider. The number one issue is that we understand the draft regulation does not include effective enforcement mechanisms to stop the problems our community encounters regarding STRs particularly during this life threatening covid pandemic. Without enforcement, we believe any regulations will be ineffective. Tahoe City is an example of where a single enforcement officer has been highly effective.

In addition, I would like to draw your attention to the attachmentEd two letters that further describe issues we have had in our neighborhood regarding STRs that negatively impact our health and safety.

STR complaint

Next door to me there was an STR problem. One day I drove home to find a man trespassing my property. I asked him if he was renting the home next door. He said yes. I asked him to get off my property immediately. He said “ I just took my glove off on your property” in a threatening way. I was alone and did not want to provoke him so I asked very nicely if he could get off my property. I took a photo of him and checked my bear box and sure enough, he was on my property dumping his trash in my bear box. The next day he left trash in the street. Then it snowed and covered the trash, including a shovel. Someone could have gotten hurt by running over the shovel that was covered with snow. I called the management company to report the incident. It was VERY disturbing in our clean quiet neighborhood to have trespassing, using our garbage and leaving dangerous trash on our roads. Not to mention being threatened by this man. This is a health and safety issue. This impacts the enjoyment of my home and the health and safety of our neighborhood and must stop.

Beth Minick

Beth

Beth Minick  
Incline Village, NV  
brminick@gmail.com

Dear Washoe County Commissioners,

>

> We appreciate that you are undertaking to address the major issue in our community regarding short term rentals. As long-time residents in Incline Village, we recently purchased and moved into a new home here in Incline. We have hired an architect, engineer, designer and contractor to update this house. However, we just learned that a house in our neighborhood is going into short term rental and we have immediately ceased our construction project until Washoe County institutes regulations substantially restricting short term rentals. In talking to our neighbors, many feel the same way and are putting plans on hold. Clearly this is having major impact on local businesses.

>

> When we purchased our single family home in a quiet residential neighborhood, there were specific binding declarations of restrictions included with our deed about how homes here can be used that were an important part of our decision to buy here. These included that the house had to be owner occupied, that it could not be used for business, etc. It was clear that the homes in our residential community were highly restricted and could not be used as a short term rental tantamount to a hotel. We would never have purchased a home in a neighborhood that didn't prohibit short term rentals and neither would our neighbors.

>

> In looking at the draft staff recommendations, it appears that you are considering taking away those existing restrictions and that would substantially diminish the value and take away the use of our property as well as increase the environmental burden in the area with more traffic, people, noise and waste. In addition, that will drive away the people who contribute to our community and are major supporters of local charitable institutions such as the Tahoe Fund, Tahoe Safe Alliance, Sierra Nevada College and many others. What would be the gain from such an action? Perhaps some additional taxes/fees to the county and some additional income to the property owner who is violating the restrictions contract under which they purchased the property.

>

> We and our neighbors strongly object to taking away our property rights in order to enrich short term rental property owners who are violating the terms under which they purchased their property. We and our neighbors are prepared to fight any such action in court, which will only increase costs for the county to defend itself from such an ill-considered action. The citizens of Incline Village recently won a major lawsuit against Washoe County and we believe that it is not in the county's best interest to engage in another expensive lawsuit against its residents that may well result in another legal loss to the county.

>

> We urge you to put the people who live here first before greedy property owners who only want to make money and damage our community.

>

> Thank you for your consideration,

**From:** [diane morrison](#)  
**To:** [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#)  
**Cc:** [Chrystie Lowden](#); [robb morrison](#); [Heidi Allstead](#)  
**Subject:** Short term rentals  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 3:28:44 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good Afternoon Washoe County Commissioners:

I understand there is an ongoing conversation regarding the Short Term Rental policies and wanted to pass along an email I sent last summer. Throughout the year we have experienced STR challenges with renting to too many people, excess cars, noise pollution, careless fire practices, and trash, trash, trash; however with the pandemic and many choosing to "Shelter in Paradise" (as I have seen advertised), the situation has become out of hand. It's no longer a nuisance with parking, irresponsible behavior resulting in threatened wild life, but has become a danger to our region.

This 4th of July, I personally asked 3 groups of VRBO renters to cease their firework igniting. While my request were met with a barrage of name calling and threats, what many, not familiar with the area, don't realize is one errant spark, could set the basin ablaze. They don't understand the dryness of the climate, nor that there is essentially one road in and out of town. The number of people, animals and homes which would perish is unimaginable.

I understand the current STR Ordinance does not protect us from any future problems because the Ordinance does not limit STR's in Incline Village/Crystal Bay by number, location, or density; and does not require Incline Village homeowners to get a permit.

I would like to request that my original and subsequent emails be made part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting on 8/25/20.

I can be reached at 775.250.4549 or via email to answer any questions which might arise.

Thank you for your commitment to keeping Tahoe the paradise it is, and for your service.

Diane Morrison  
825 Geraldine Drive  
Incline Village, NV 89451

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** diane morrison <diane\_m\_morrison@yahoo.com>  
**To:** aventetuolo@washoecounty.us <aventetuolo@washoecounty.us>; Heidi Allstead <heidiallstead@gmail.com>; Chrystie Lowden <chrystieq@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 28, 2019, 03:40:11 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Short term rentals

Hi Amy:

As I mentioned in my earlier email, I will be unable to attend tonight's meeting due to a scheduling conflict, however wanted some photos and comments logged in your discussion.

I live at 825 Geraldine Drive in Incline Village. I am not opposed to RESPONSIBLE short term rentals in our village. I do however, strongly oppose short term rentals with no regulation.

There is a house directly next door to my home which is a repeat offender in the short term rental game. I have included a few photos to show an example of the renters total disregard for the locals, laws which need to be followed or our region's general safety guidelines.

The owners of this home will provide you with empathetic lip service however continue to market their home to large parties. A quick visit to their VRBO and AirB&B site shows they offer the home to large parties, sleeps 18 and can perfect for weddings, events and corporate retreats. This is a 4 bedroom/3 bath home with a total of 4 parking spots.

A quick bullet point list of some of their questionable and unsafe practices:

- \* booking to large parties 18+
- \* providing means (a fire pit) to have outside/open flame/uncovered fire (just last weekend a group of 17 men had an outside fire, uncovered, on their deck during HIGH fire season.)
- \* Loud and boisterous renters; drinking and screaming until early morning hours.
- \* Upwards of 15 cars parked on street. In winter, although we are on a school bus route, the plows often could not plow because of parked cars
- \* Trash - LOADS of it. You can imagine the amount of trash 20 people can accumulate.
- \* Unsafe, unwelcome behavior. Drinking, smoking and all night partying. We are a child rich neighborhood. There are 5 young (13) and pre-teen girls within a 4 house radius of this house. We parents no longer feel safe letting our children walk our dogs, ride their bikes, or generally play unsupervised while these large groups are present.

Solution? HEAVILY regulate and HEAVILY fine the home owners. A number of substantial fines will encourage home owners to stop marketing their property inappropriately.

Fine the owner when a plow can't plow a street.

Fine the owner when the trash is overflowing and wildlife gets into it

Fine the owner when cars are parked on the street.

Fine the owner when the police are called due to noise.

Fine the owner when illegal, unsafe activities are done (fires.)

Fine the owner when the number of people renting a house exceeds the allotted amount.

I understand an owner can not control the actions of their renters, however fines will go a long way toward self regulation. People should be able to rent

homes in our beautiful area. They should however be expected to be respectful, safe and responsible.

Finally, the tax dollars generated from short term rentals should directly benefit the community in which the taxes were earned.

Thank you for your time, I am available for any questions or comments.

Appreciate you opening the conversation and affording several opportunities for community members to express their concerns.

Regards,  
Diane Morrison  
775.250.4549

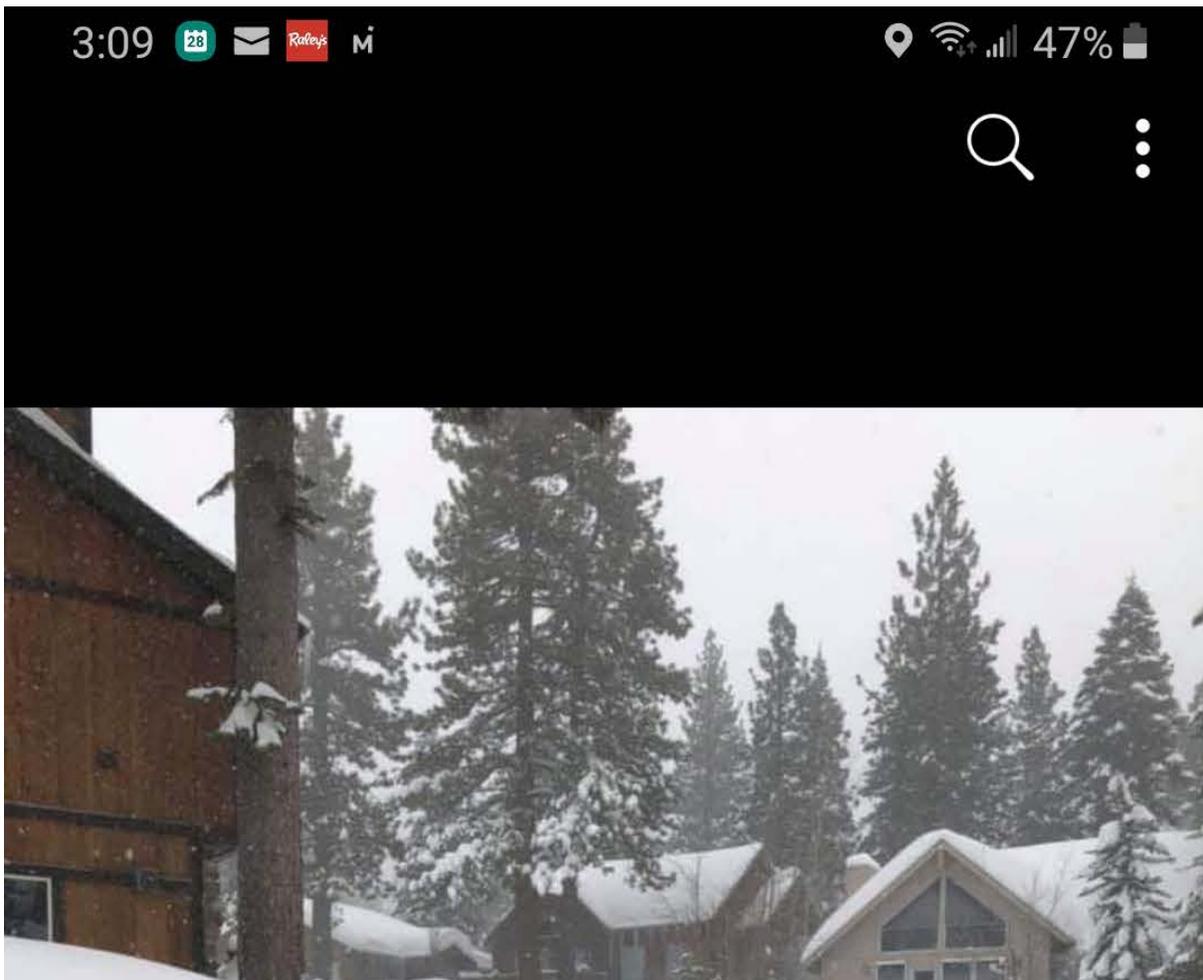
----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** diane morrison <diane\_m\_morrison@yahoo.com>

**To:** diane morrison <diane\_m\_morrison@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 28, 2019, 03:08:55 PM PDT

**Subject:** Short term rentals





**Chrystie Quilici Lowden**

FEB 9 AT 2:30 PM



3:09



47%





**Diane Fatovic Morrison**

FEB 10 AT 11:35 AM



3:10



47%





**Diane Fatovic Morrison**

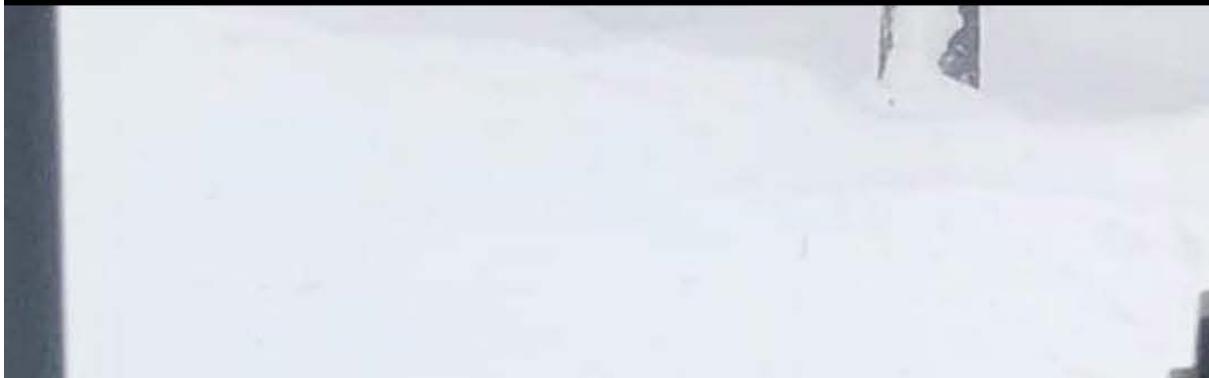
FEB 10 AT 12:38 PM



3:09



47%





**Diane Fatovic Morrison**  
FEB 10 AT 11:35 AM



3:10



47%





**Diane Fatovic Morrison**

FEB 10 AT 11:37 AM



1:24



70%

## Reviews



table, TVs, decks, just everything about this house was very nice.

I would highly recommend this house and would most definitely stay here again.

Published Feb 22, 2019

### Cozy Winter Retreat

5/5 ★★★★★ Stayed Jan 2019

Angela C.

Great home for our weekend ski trip! The home was

nicely appointed, clean, and very comfortable for our group of 12. Kids loved the bunk room and the adults loved the awesome kitchen and pool table downstairs. Robin was a great host and very responsive to questions. Overall a great stay!

Published Feb 16, 2019

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## Reviews



Alexandra

Published Jun 5, 2019

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## Great house for our large group! Even a small group would be great!

5/5 ★★★★★ Stayed Feb 2019

Anders H.

What a great stay 17 of us had here!

Robin was pleasant to work with and responded quickly to my questions.

17 of fit very comfortably and all had beds to sleep in. It's also a really nice house from the hardwood floors, marble countertops, appliances, beds, furniture, pool table, TVs, decks, just everything about this house was very nice.

I would highly recommend this house and would most definitely stay here again.

Published Feb 22, 2019

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## Reviews



### Family Fun in a Beautiful Modern Setting

5/5 ★★★★★ Stayed Aug 2019

We had the best vacation here! The home was so spacious, gorgeously redone and very accessible to all the beaches and nearby fun. We had 11 family members and there was plenty of room. We barbecued on the large deck, enjoyed the views of the trees and the stars, it was so peaceful. The older kids enjoyed playing pool and boardgames while the adults hung out in the beautifully renovated kitchen. The bedrooms were nice, the master was huge and stocked with comfortable blankets and sheets, so soft I plan to purchase some for home! Robin was very informative, responsive and provided all we needed for a great and memorable stay. I will definitely stay here again.

Published Aug 19, 2019

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## Beautiful summer getaway

5/5 ★★★★★ Stayed Jul 2019

Caryn N.

Our large family really enjoyed this property. The house was beautiful and very roomy. We especially enjoyed evenings out on the large patio having dinner. The views and smell of the pine trees was amazing



1:02 73%

[Overview](#) · [Reviews](#) · [The Host](#) · [Location](#)

Value



Adam

August 2019

Robin was a wonderful host who made everything about this trip absolutely seamless. She was very responsive and went out of her way to help me with anything I needed before I arrived. She has great suggestions for local activities too. This house is PERFECT for golfers as it is minutes

HOUSE IS PERFECT FOR golfers as it is minutes from the Incline Village Mountain and Championship courses, which are both immaculate. We also rented boats one day and the private beaches were a great way to finish the day and only minutes from the house. The house itself was updated with a beautiful kitchen and plenty of gathering space for a group. The charcoal grill on the large deck made group dinners easy, cheap, and fun. The beds and couches were comfortable, and the pool table is a great way to spend some down time inside. I would recommend this home to anyone or group looking to stay in the Tahoe area.

**\$650** per night  
★★★★★ 8

Reserve



[Overview](#) · [Reviews](#) · [The Host](#) · [Location](#)

looking to stay in the Tahoe area.



**Bobby**

July 2019

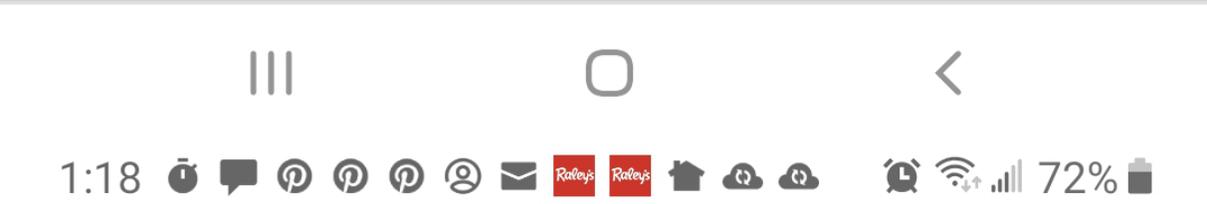
Place was beautiful and in a great location near beaches. Host was pretty quick with responses and had great communication. Only thing to take in consideration would be noise volume. This is something out of the hosts hands but there is a neighbor across the street who has an extremely low noise tolerance. The only reason I write this on the review is because he came and aggressively knocked and screamed at us because we were playing a game of beanbags(cornhole) out on the patio at 10am on a Saturday morning and he stated the bean bags were too loud. He was very aggressive when he came to the door and it made the rest of our stay a bit uncomfortable. Again this is something to take into consideration but other then that the house is beautiful and the host had amazing communication.

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**\$650** per night  
★★★★★ 8

**Reserve**



**Overview** · **Reviews** · **The Host** · **Location**

Great property. Family had a great time.  
Owner very helpful and accommodating.  
Highly recommend.



**Ryan**  
March 2019

What a wonderful stay at this beautiful home!



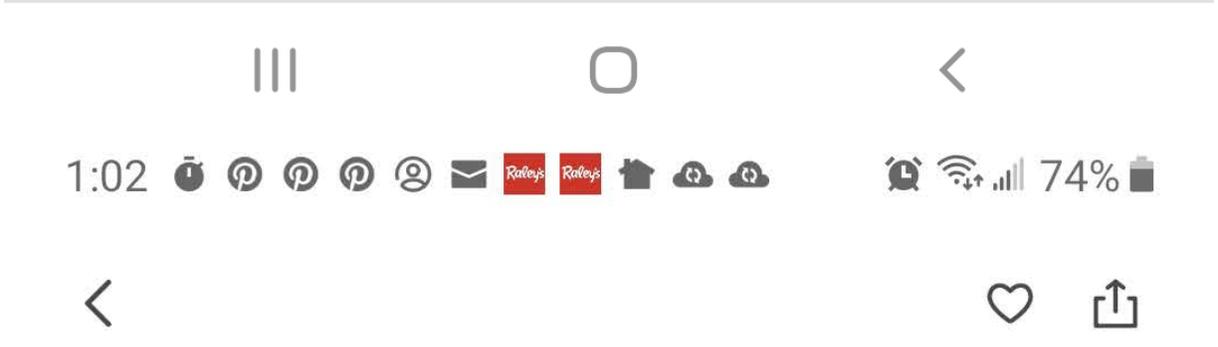
**Nikolas Gabriel**  
February 2019

Robin was an amazing host, the first day we were there the heater was broken and within an hour or so Robin had someone out there to fix it. The home it self was very spacious and the kitchen was a great communal space to hang out in after a long day of

to hang out in after a long day of snowboarding. Everything was clean, the beds were comfortable and after the heater was repaired the house was nice and toasty. If I ever have a large group again this will be at the top of my list. More than enough sleeping space for my group of 17

**\$650** per night  
★★★★★ 8

**Reserve**





# Incline Chateau at Lake Tahoe

Incline Village



 **Entire house**

16+ guests · 4 bedrooms · 12 beds · 3 baths

 **Great location**

100% of recent guests gave the location a 5-star rating.

 **Great check-in experience**

100% of recent guests gave the check-in process a 5-star rating.

**\$650** per night

★★★★★ 8

**Reserve**







[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Suzie Parks](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Lake Tahoe Environment  
**Date:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 10:28:00 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I'm tired of being overrun by tourists, their rudeness and rubbish. Our '2 lane' road around the Lake is bumper to bumper. Garbage is everywhere ~ plastic bottles float by me when I kayak. Dog feces is on every trail I hike.

While I appreciate people wanting to make money there needs to be some control. The owner in the condo next to mine insists everyone who arrives, all different, every week are relatives ~ to avoid paying taxes that might help to keep our beautiful area free of trash, help our sheriffs dept, etc.

I've lived here 30 years and I've NEVER seen so many people ~ something must be done

--

Suzie Parks

**From:** [kate pearce](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Kathy Emerson](#)  
**Cc:** [Stephen Pearce](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rentals Incline Village  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 12:43:46 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners,

**I would like this email to be read and included as part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioners Meeting on 8/25/2020.**

We bought our home in Incline Village to enjoy the beauty and tranquility of living on the shores of Lake Tahoe, with its wonderful amenities and community spirit. We love to take our 7 year old son to the beaches, hiking on the many trails and skiing at diamond peak resort. All that changed recently, when the house next door to us was sold to a couple living in downtown San Francisco who styled the home as a party venue with accommodation for 10-15 people, a hot tub and indoor and outdoor games and now rent it out via Airbnb for \$1550 per night. This implication of this is that multiple families are sharing the property to afford the high price tag and a huge party ensues. This is a 3200 sq ft structure, a mere 20ft from our home structure. The main issues are noise, aggression, parking and trash. July 4th week was particularly tough as we were subjected to 9 days of drunken partying with constant loud music and yelling from early morning until late evening. It's tough to explain to a 7 year old why he's having rap music blasted into his bedroom, where every other word is "MF". When I asked the renters to quieten down a bit because after many late nights, my son really needed to get to bed on time, I was told told by an obnoxious, loud mouthed drunk that I was an old fart and that they had every right to make as much noise as they like until 10pm. They then proceeded to make even more noise and yell abuse at me in front of my son for 2 hours until 10pm sharp, when they killed the noise completely.

Since then, I've become very much aware of how big a problem short term rentals are in the area, sure I'd seen them in the town causing problems and heard stories of revellers starting fires and driving their cars off the cliffs, putting the entire neighborhood at risk, but am only just beginning to understand the misery they are subjecting the residents of our lovely neighborhood to.

I used to be a fan of Airbnb as a way to access family centric accommodation in the home of a caring host. However Airbnb has evolved into a money making commercial machine, attracting greedy owners and inconsiderate party goers who should be staying in resorts. Hotels in private residential homes should be treated as the commercial enterprises they are and subject to the same planning restrictions and regulations as setting up a nightclub in the middle of a peaceful, residential area. For these reasons I am against STRs, and while I can see the proposed STR ordinance will be cash generator for Washoe County, I don't see how it will improve the lives of the many resident in our town who are the victims of this uncontrolled greed.

I would like to respectfully request you, the commissioners of Washoe County to re-evaluate your proposed ordinance on STR to take into consideration the residents of Incline Village and ensure you address the points I've outline above. I would advocate for the following alternatives, in order of priority:

1. A ban on STRs of less than 30 days
2. Managing STRs as a commercial rather than residential operation
3. Limiting the number of days a property can be rented each year to less than 90, making this a less attractive option for greedy investors
4. Hefty and enforceable repercussions for noise, aggression, parking and trash - the current 10pm-7am quiet hours proposal doesn't go far enough and seems to act as permission to make as much noise as possible during the day

Sincerely,  
Kate Pearce,  
Incline Village

**From:** [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Cc:** ["Diane Heirshberg"; rondatycer@aol.com](#)  
**Subject:** The citations begin  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 7:14:52 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Marsha,

Today I am sending, via certified mail, the complete compilation of all letters previously sent to the property owner and the letter below. The Sheriff's Deputies were kind and considerate when taking the information for the citation. They told me they know of the issues with the property, witness the excessive cars, people and partying. This is a nuisance property for which legal action will be taken. I have been writing the property owners almost daily with the issues since the beginning of July. We have had no response from them which is why I am sending copies by certified mail.

Here is today's letter.

August 14, 2020

John and Cynthia Hunter  
4740 Opal Cliff Dr.  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hunter,

On the night of August 13, the Sheriff's deputies issued your renters, a large group of young men, a citation for disturbing the peace. As the photos show, on August 12<sup>th</sup>, they were partying hard all day in the back yard. Lots of drinking, smoking, shouting, yelling, cheering for hours. I was hopeful they would just pass out at some point, but they continued into the evening. The renters don't seem to understand or care that this is a residential neighborhood, with neighbors. Unfortunately, once again the Sheriff had to send resources at the County Taxpayer's expense to 'educate' them.

When speaking with the Deputies issuing the citation, they knew of all of the issues at your property. They know it well. People around Incline Village know it well, they all comment to me about the number of cars, people and observed misbehavior. When speaking with new neighbors, they were in disbelief and horrified to also observe and understand your home is a short term rental party house.

As I've written you before, your unmanaged short term rental is consuming taxpayer resources, is disturbing the peace of the neighborhood and is a nuisance. Nevada State statutes (NRS 40.140) has language about homes that are a nuisance and disrupting the peaceful use of neighboring homes.

If this behavior continues and you continue to ignore our documented complaints, the surrounding neighbors will have no choice but to start legal proceedings. We'd prefer to work together as 'neighbors', however you have yet to show your interest or willingness to do so.

Please call us to discuss the situation with your short term rental.

Thank you!

Sara and Patrick Schmitz  
932 Lakeshore Blvd.  
Incline Village, NV  
925-858-4384      Email: [schmitz61@gmail.com](mailto:schmitz61@gmail.com)  
Enclosure: all emails and photos sent to date

**Sara Schmitz**  
**(925) 858-4384**

**From:** [Sara Schmitz](#)  
**To:** ["Patrick Schmitz"](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** 936 Lakeshore - more county resources consumed.  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 11, 2020 7:38:06 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Kelly and Marsha,

Below is the letter I will be sending the property owners today. Understand they have never provided us their phone or email and don't respond in any way. I'm asking this to go on record with my other written complaints to forbid them from receiving a permit when the County Ordinance goes into effect.

August 11, 2020

John and Cynthia Hunter  
4740 Opal Cliff Dr.  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hunter,

On the night of August 10, the Sheriff's deputies had to visit your short term rental due to the renters disturbing the peace. The loud shouting and talking continued after midnight. The renters don't seem to understand or care that this is a residential neighborhood, with neighbors. They leave windows open and carry on. Unfortunately, once again the Sheriff had to send resources at the County Taxpayer's expense to 'educate' them.

On the night of August 11, the behavior was continuing. I 'told' them to close the windows. They must have realized they were on the brink of receiving another visit by a deputy, but this time not with a warning, but a citation. Thank goodness because I had a peaceful nights rest.

Your unmanaged short term rental is consuming taxpayer resources, is disturbing the peace of the neighborhood and is a nuisance. Nevada State statutes has language about homes that are a nuisance and disrupting the peaceful use of neighboring homes. This is NRS 40.140.

If this behavior continues and you continue to ignore our documented complaints, the surrounding neighbors will have no choice by to start legal proceedings. We'd prefer to work together as 'neighbors', however you have yet to show your interest or willingness to do so.

Please call us to discuss the situation with your short term rental.

Thank you!

Sara and Patrick Schmitz  
932 Lakeshore Blvd.  
Incline Village, NV  
925-858-4384      Email: schmitz61@gmail.com

**Sara Schmitz**  
**(925) 858-4384**

**From:** [Joe Shaefer](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#)  
**Subject:** Life and death in Washoe West  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 10:46:42 PM

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Washoe County Commissioners Lucey, Berkbigler, Brown, Herman, Emerson, Mullin, Hartung and Jung,

You are killing us. Literally. In order to ensure maximum revenue from short-term rentals at least one of you has succumbed to two false narratives:

The first false narrative is that those protesting the depredations of short-term renters in residential neighborhoods (STRs) are just a few whiny rich folks up the hill. This falsehood disparages the thousands of hard-working service workers in home health care, hotel and home housekeeping, teaching, landscaping, and running small businesses, all of whom pay either primarily or secondarily into Washoe County and State of Nevada coffers. It disparages those of us still working, or who have started second careers. Just because Zephyr Cove and Incline Village/Crystal Bay residents do not come to your meetings en masse in the time of COVID-19 does not mean that the thousands of us Washoe County residents in the western suburbs are not deeply harmed by your intransigence in this matter.

The second false narrative is that there are bigger fish to fry. If a few old people die from COVID-19 as a result of the assault from weekend or one-week renters, well, the western suburbs are, after all, lightly populated.

Not all short-term renters are bad people. But the trash they spew in every location is bad. Without intelligent regulation, 14-20 people in 6 or 8 cars can stay in a family home designed for 4-6. Of course their garbage overflows! And of course the bears and other wildlife that help make Lake Tahoe Washoe County's biggest tourism draw will be slaughtered as "dangerous." The danger comes from failure to act. Now.

Their vehicles are not inherently evil. But parking so many cars in so small a space, overflowing into the middle of both sides of many residential avenues, means paramedics, police and fire personnel are unable to traverse many streets. Is a life-and-death situation to the few outweighed by the greater distribution to the many?

I have yet to see any of these invaders, so relieved to be beyond their own states' restrictions, wear a mask as they walk our trails. The redeeming fact is that they are outdoors – but so were the people on the beaches in Miami. Every trail for miles around is packed with people inches apart, passing each other in both directions.

No one from the Nevada side of Stateline in the south to Crystal Bay in the north is asking for a ban on STRs. We Washoe County residents merely ask that intelligent regulation be instituted for the protection of Washoe County citizens, Washoe County property, and the beautiful lake that defines Washoe County's western boundary.

Not being willing to consider a dialogue about how STRs should be regulated is a breach of legal, fiduciary and community trust. Please advise how you plan to address the dangerous issues being promulgated on one of the most vulnerable neighborhoods in Washoe County. I look forward to your response.

In the spirit of discussion,

Joseph L. Shaefer  
Brigadier General, USAF, Ret.  
775 832-5440

**From:** [Julia Simens](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Incline Village  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 9:42:53 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Having bought in Incline in 1998, we love it here.

We do not like the impact that short term rentals have had in our neighborhood. In the past we have had to call the sheriff a few times for loud parties and way too many people in one unit. This was when we only had one STR in our 24 units.

This summer alone we have had seven+ units converted to STR, this has resulted in watermelons being tossed off second floors, trash being left in hallways. Trash being left outside the bear trash bins. Loud parties and unbelievable parking issues. Many of the renters did not know about the CC&R's and rules. Our CC&R's clearly outline where you can park and how recreation vehicles, trailers, RV are not allowed to park. Renters have even parked in the fire lane.

When we call the sheriff department, they are wonderful to try and help with these situations. The fire department even came out to help us get a huge RV out of the fire lane.

We have taken it upon ourselves to remove the trash or store the trash as any responsible person would do in order to help 1000 Lakeshore Blvd. association.

As a full time owner in Incline Village, I would like to see the STR's have a much better way to deal with these irresponsible renters.

Julia Simens  
1000 Lakeshore Blvd. #5  
Incline Village, NV. 89451  
925-357-5542

**From:** [Judith Simon](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Cc:** [Judith Michaels Simon](#); [David Simon](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rental  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 3:06:59 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To: Washoe County Commissioners

From: Judith Simon, Incline Village

I request that this e-mail be read and made a part of the public record.

I understand that on August 25, 2020 you will be reviewing the latest iteration of the Short Term Rental Ordinance. I object to several provisions in the Ordinance; briefly, the ordinance does not limit the number of STRs in Incline Village nor outline their locations. Additionally the Ordinance does not require that STR property owners actually reside in Incline, nor to be present when the rentals occur.

Unlimited STRs lead long-term, far-reaching problems, both in public safety and in the quality of life in our neighborhoods. I urge you to

- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Limit the size and number of bedrooms, defining dwellings having more than 3 bedrooms as commercial use, requiring a business license.
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Limit occupancy to 1 person per 200 square feet
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Require STRs to list hosting platforms
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Require emergency/evacuation maps, with emergency telephone numbers affixed in each bedroom
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Limit vehicle parking to on-site, not in adjacent public right of way.
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Prohibit sound-producing devices outdoors as well as prohibiting large parties, receptions, and similar events.
- [if !supportLists]--> <!--[endif]-->Verify that applicants owning dwellings that are part of a HOA document that the HOA approves of the STR.

**From:** [Bill Tamblyn](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rental (STR"s)  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 4:07:57 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To Whom It Concerns:

I appreciate the desire to address problem situations, but a blanket policy, as proposed is stifling to individuals who wish to have some income from a property.

This appears to be a bureaucratic pitch for permit funding to support aspects of the county.

Example: The fact that if I stay in my property - there is no noise restriction, but if it's rented - it has quite hours from 10pm to 7am. Isn't there an overall common 'quiet hours' that is enforced? Why create a new "class" to enforce? The claim that there were 64 noise incidents - doesn't clarify that they were ALL STR candidate properties.

This looks like a grab for fees. The fees will have to increase regularly - such as fire inspections etc. to address compliance. I believe there are already overworked inspectors to address current infrastructure and housing in the county. Adding this complexity will not be favorable.

We already have an "occupancy tax" for short term rentals - what are the owners of STR's receiving for the increased revenues to the county? Has there been consideration of "what if" the current short term rental folks STOP renting out? That revenue will decrease - but you may think it will go to hotels.....hotels won't have capacity.

Bottomline - the extensive rules for STR's seem like overkill to existing laws that are in place. Respectfully, as a owner of property in Washoe County - I believe this is excessive and not of significant value.

Regards

Bill Tamblyn

**From:** [Alexander Tsigdinos](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Public input to the Short-term Rental (SRT) Policy at the Commission's 8/25 meeting  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 12:52:28 PM

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Please read my email at the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting on 8/25/20 and make it part of the public record.

Dear Washoe County Commissioners,

Re: Short-term Rental (SRT) Policy

I'm writing to urge you to adopt much more stringent regulations on STRs in Incline Village/Crystal Bay – much as Las Vegas has done -- than those currently drafted.

As an Incline Village homeowner since 2004, I've seen firsthand the dramatic increase in sustained tourism here -- over the last five years in particular. Given the persistent crowds, traffic congestion, dangerous illegal parking and what's best described as just generally uncivil behavior, it seems as if the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend now lasts all summer. This new reality is especially disheartening during this pandemic: Just as state public health guidelines in both California and Nevada advise citizens to stay home and to limit travel and group exposure, tourists continue to overwhelm the Tahoe Basin. We already feel the long-term effects and stress on our fragile environment, public health and community.

The surge in visitors is directly linked to the proliferation of STRs, enabled and commercialized on an industrial scale, by online platforms such as VRBO, Air B&B and Vacasa. Over time, the increasingly negative impact SRTs have on communities favored by tourism is universal, be it in Lisbon, Venice Berlin, Dublin, Seattle, Las Vegas, South Lake Tahoe or Incline. One only need Google terms such as "communities banning short-term rentals" for examples. The basic progression is as follows.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->First, local primary residents make additive income by occasional renting a room or their apartment/condo/house while they are out of town. This worked in Tahoe for decades.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Second, affluent individuals, real estate groups, and companies -- get into the SRT business by buying up multiple properties solely for financial return and effectively inserting commercial lodging into residential-zoned neighborhoods. (Ask yourself, would it be OK if someone effectively turned the residence next door to yours into a hotel that hosted one nightly bacchanalia after another? And if such a conversion of a residence into a commercial enterprise is acceptable in defiance of zoning laws, would then conversions residences into stores,

restaurants, dance clubs or other commercial enterprises also be acceptable?)

• Third, communities come under growing pressure as available housing units for local residents are removed from the market (directly competing with other government initiatives to increase affordable housing); first-responders, public facilities and local infrastructure become overtaxed; and the community and environment frays.

• Fourth and finally, a boiling point is reached when the community loses its identity to become a sort of “Disneyland” (e.g., DisneyVenice, DisneyTahoe) resulting in a severe political backlash in which SRTs are banned outright and/or heavily taxed – but only after real and lasting damage has already been done. Everyone loses.

Experience tells me we are already well into phase three of the above. We can avoid further digression by adopting SRT policies with real teeth, much as our fellow south Nevadans have done. If we don’t, experience elsewhere has shown we will “kill the goose that laid the golden egg.” The communities of Incline/Crystal Bay -- your constituents -- will no longer be recognizable.

In closing, I’ll add that I was nearly dissuaded from writing to you by a friend and neighbor. He told me I’ll merely be written off as a “NIMBY neighborhood crank” and would “... waste my time, as the money is behind STRs and the money always wins.”

I disagree with those cynical assertions. My hope is that the long-term interests of this beautiful area your constituents will prevail over the short-term interests of real estate investors out to make a buck. As our County Commissioners, please take another hard look at the SRT policy as drafted, take the community input of actual residents to heart, and act accordingly.

Sincerely,

Alex P. Tsigdinos  
LCDR, USN (Ret.)  
1080 Oxen Rd.  
Incline Village, NV

**From:** [agdiancin@hotmail.com](mailto:agdiancin@hotmail.com)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** STR in Incline Village  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 11:12:11 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I am writing as a concern resident of Incline Village regarding short term rentals. As pandemic hits our country, more short term renters are seen in Incline Village. More problems are on the horizon now that short term rentals have taken over Lake Tahoe.

1. Traffic and parking problems: The main highways are not intended to pack in STR during these high traffic times. More accidents are occurring, especially from Incline to Sand Harbor area. Also, STR cannot restrict the amount of cars these tourists bring in, therefore overcrowding the streets and blocking garbage trucks and deliveries as well as snow plows (importance during winter time in Tahoe). Main problems are parking along hwy 28 with no regards where there is a tight street highway with no accessible parking yet they still park along the side of the highway causing major accidents.
2. Fire: There have been STRs where houses have caught on fire Bc the recklessness of the renter and or the landlord.
3. Trash and pollution: Every year residents are left to pick up trash after tourists who leave Tahoe's trails and lakes with trash they brought in. We know it's a STR problems because high littering occurs right after 4th of July and extremely high this summer because of the pandemic.
4. Bear problems: STR are not educated to know that bears can break into their garages or homes where food is present. Therefore, they automatically call the sheriff and NDOW to trap the bear(s) to be killed. Residents of Incline are opposed to this and will not stand for killing innocent animals because STR could not prevent this from happening.

There are so much more problems with STR but these are main concerns.

I propose these solutions

1. Limit STR so streets are not overcrowded with their multiple cars and their boats.
2. STR owner to pay HIGH fees for bear break ins and have STR brokers/landlords educate renters when checking in.
3. All STR should have inspections yearly so that it's in code. Inspection should be paid by STR owner.
4. STR should pay a fee for every time their place is renting out since tourists use trails that are at no cost for them but at a cost for the town since the town is the one cleaning up after the tourists. This money should be used to give back to the town, ei. Beautification or towards parks.
5. Children should be counted as to how many renters can occupy a STR since they are given beach passes in Incline Village via IVGID.
6. All STR hosts should be accessible via online directory for any neighborhoods with complaints or problems to be resolve.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Heather Williams](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Incline Village STRs  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 5:55:00 PM

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**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

Dear Mr. Brown

The new STR policy adopted by the Washoe County Commissioners is not even “a good start”.

While it may reflect the views and interests of the Commissioners, it certainly has no bearing on the issues and problems of Incline residents. .

I have sent e-mails and pleas to the Commissioners (Only Ms Berkbigler has had the courtesy to respond – once.) I have attended Public Forums where the meeting was opened with “There will be no ban on Short Term rentals”, and then we were given a limited number of issues we could discuss – as well as issues we were not allowed to raise. That sounds more like County input, than public input.

Mr. Brown, let me give you my personal and public input. All 3 of these incidents occurred **just this weekend**, and are not atypical:

1. Outside my home, I picked up 12 – yes, 12 – piles of dog poop and dog poop bags.
2. On Sunday morning, the STR down the street had 3 bags of garbage sitting outside the Bear Box.

3. And, finally, beginning Friday afternoon, another rental in the neighborhood had 8 cars parked on the street (with 2 more in the driveway). For one rental. If there had been an emergency, a fire truck could not have gotten through. As it was, 2 cars could not pass on this active roadway.

Without being dramatic, we are under siege in Incline. It used to be just the summer. Now it is year round and only getting worse year by year. I now live on Hotel Row – not a neighborhood. We used to go for walks without fear of being mowed down. We used to watch out for each other – summer and winter. We knew our neighbors. Now, it is all professional investors and property management services. Dog poop, garbage, speeding, boats/cars on my street, in front of my house - everywhere. Mr. Brown, does this sound like somewhere you want to live? There is no respect for the residents, the wildlife or the lake. And that is my biggest concern.

By not limiting and placing restrictions on STRs, we are going to lose this beautiful lake, and Washoe County is going to kill its Golden Goose. We have already lost our community and our quality of life. .At the very least, the following restrictions should be applied:

1. NO off street parking. Our streets are too narrow, and emergency vehicles and snowplows can not get through.
2. Bear boxes should be mandatory – with instructions as to how to use them!
3. Require Incline Village residency in order to be issued an STR permit. And limit those permits by number, location or density.
4. Repeated violations – no! First violation is a hefty fine (Monroe County in Florida imposes a \$15,000 fine per violation.) Second violation results in a permanent loss of any and all STR permits.

Contrary to what the Incline residents have been told, repeatedly, by the Commissioners,

“Understand that we cannot stop AirB&B.”

“Our DA has told us we have no authority to stop people from renting their property to others for whatever reason...” , and

“We are located in NV a Dillions Rule state that does not allow municipalities to interfere with the properties rights of residents or property owners in the State.”  
(Uhhh....Las Vegas??)

many, many, many other communities have effectively shut down STR abuses. Since our “guests” are not going to respect the lake or our community, it’s time we take the initiative and preserve our lake and our quality of life. Thank you for helping us control STRs in IVCB

I also request that this email be made part of the Public Record for the Washoe County Commissioner’s meeting on 8-25-20.

Respectfully,

Heather Williams

**From:** [Michael Abel](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#)  
**Cc:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#)  
**Subject:** Public record  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 8:43:21 AM  
**Attachments:** [Lessons-from-Paradise.docx](#)

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Please have these comments included in the Public Record of the commissioners meeting of Tuesday 8/25/20. Also included in Word format below.

## Lessons from Paradise – August 2020

As I write this comment, my wife and I have been preparing to leave our beautiful Incline Village home if a fire emergency develops in the area.

We have packed one of our cars with sleeping bags, valuables, and heirlooms in case we need to evacuate on short notice.

In 2018, just two years ago the Camp fire (aka Paradise Fire).....(from wikipedia)

caused at least 85 civilian fatalities, with one person still missing, and injured 12 civilians, two prison inmate firefighters, and three other firefighters.

It covered an area of 153,336 acres (62,053 ha) (almost 240 sq. miles), and destroyed 18,804 structures, with most of the damage occurring within the first four hours.

The towns of Paradise and Concow were almost completely destroyed, each losing about 95% of structures in town. The town of Magalia also suffered, with roughly half of the structures in town destroyed.

By January 2019, the total damage was estimated at \$16.5 billion.

As you know we are in the middle of a major fire season. In both California and Nevada fire suppression resources are stretched to their limits.

We can in no way depend on mutual assistance pacts with nearby or even far away communities.

In the event of a fire emergency our **ONLY** resource is our vehicles and our ability to drive out of town.

Paradise had only one road. Fortunately, IV/CB have three roads. But these roads are burdened with many problems.

The proposed STR regulations **will pack IV/CB during peak fire season with thousands of visitors.**

Our NLTFPD, on their web site, **lacks any form of a coordinated coherent emergency evacuation plan.**

Our lack of a normal government structure here and a multiplicity of multi-state and multi-jurisdictional police and fire-rescue entities insure that in the case of a major conflagration we are screwed.

Tourist visitors will be on their own with no signs or people to guide them to a safe exit from the area.

Locals will be blocked by confused visitors not being familiar with escape routes.

Just this week mid-day traffic was backed up at least ¼ mile with people trying to go left from highway 28 onto (eastbound) highway 50 at Spooner junction. We all know what a disaster traffic is in Kings Beach with the pedestrian crosswalks and roundabouts. Every weekend all Summer long we routinely see backups of ½ to one mile extending into Nevada. How would that work out as an emergency exit from IV/CB in a fire storm?

We do not even have the police available to make highway 28 a one-way exit from our area.

And then, what difference would it make if traffic were bottlenecked at Kings Beach or at Spooner.

If a firestorm came from the southeast, I doubt that even then, that signs and police would be available to make 431 a one way exit from the area.

This ill planned and defective STR legislation is a safety disaster for our community.

The number of STR's must be capped at a reasonable number like 200-300 with a maximum number of years before going back into the

pool to be drawn again for a permit.

Regulations like that adopted in Las Vegas should be the model. As for the uniqueness of this area, all primary renters should be briefed (perhaps by watching a movie) on trash disposal, parking regulations, exiting the area in an emergency, protecting our bears and wildlife, and our noise ordinance.

Do you, respected commissioners, want to watch the possible disaster that took place in Paradise repeated in IV/CB?

Do you, respected commissioners, want to see a multi-hundred death count of people who died in their cars and STRs because a bunch of greedy realtors want to exploit our community residents and make some money.

Look, I know that many of you get campaign donations from our local real estate interests.

But to throw sanity to the wind with this proposed regulation is going too far.

Finally, I would like all of you to see the film “Fire in Paradise” on this PBS link. If you do not care to see the entire movie (which is excellent). **At least look at the trailer.** If you get nothing else from the film, it will help you to personally know how to respond with speed and focus in a fire emergency.

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/fire-in-paradise/>

Respectfully, Michael and Helen Abel –full time residents -Incline Village

**From:** [Jill Brandin](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#);  
[Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Cc:** [IV.STR.advisory.group@gmail.com](mailto:IV.STR.advisory.group@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Short term rentals in Incline Village  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 6:12:01 PM

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[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Washoe County Commissioners:

The number of short term rentals you have allowed in Incline Village is a disaster. This is a residential community - and our deeds reflect that fact.

The Nevada law allowing short term commercial use can be restricted by local ordinance as enacted by Las Vegas. We urge you to adopt similar restrictions on short term rentals as done in Las Vegas. We deserve nothing less from you.

Please read this email and be sure it is included in the public record of your meeting on August 25, 2020.

Jill Brandin  
818 Toni Ct.  
Incline Village, NV 89451

**From:** [Debbie Delfer](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#);  
[Mullin, Kelly](#); [Kathy Emerson](#)  
**Subject:** SHORT TERM RENTALS INCLINE VILLAGE  
**Date:** Saturday, August 22, 2020 1:12:35 PM

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Dear Commissioners,

My name is Debbie Delfer and I live at 538 Dale Dr with my husband Frank. We live one street below Cole Circle where unfortunately there has been some disturbances from Airbnb rentals. Please reference both emails from Kate Pearce and Joe Farrell. We totally agree with their views and recommendations.

Thank you  
Debra Delfer  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [info](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** NO STRs Incline/Crystal Bay  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 6:33:00 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

A five year moratorium and halt on Str rentals in Incline Village and Crystal Bay is a must. We need to allow other communities who are solving this problem to clarify for us the way in which we can have a fair and equitable balance of community and commercialization of homes.

Steve Dolan  
Incline 28 yrs.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

**From:** [JOSEPH FARRELL](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Kathy Emerson](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#)  
**Cc:** [Edie Farrell](#); [JOSEPH FARRELL](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: STR Additional Suggestions  
**Date:** Saturday, August 22, 2020 3:44:22 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners:

After communicating with numerous citizens concerning the STR situation in Incline Village and Washoe Co. yesterday on a ZOOM call, I sent the forwarded email below to Marsha Berkbigler with numerous suggestions to insure that regulations for STR are stringent and enforceable if your Board does not vote to BAN STR in Incline Village.

**PLEASE INCLUDE THIS IN THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE 8/25/20 County Commissioner meeting. Thanks.**

Kind Regards,

Joe Farrell  
Resident of Incline Village

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** JOSEPH FARRELL <jpfarrell@sbcglobal.net>

**Subject:** STR Additional Suggestions

Hi Marsha:

Thanks for going to bat for Incline Village in terms of STR's.

**Additional STR Suggestions that could be instituted sooner than later (Short of Banning STR's):**

1. Mandate a rental license with a high fee for those wishing to rent as a STR.
2. Cleaning requirements: Mandate certification by Washoe County Health department that the STR meets CDC cleaning requirements AND that the home be vacant 72 hours post cleaning prior to new renters coming into the STR. As I mentioned today on the ZOOM call, Marriott Corporation has a stringent cleaning requirement due to COVID and does not rent a hotel room or timeshare until 72 hours has passed post cleaning.
3. Mandate NLTFPD defensible space certification for all STR's.
4. Mandate bear boxes. HOWEVER, some STR's house up to 12 people who generate a lot of garbage. Over the 4th of July Weekend our neighbors STR's left a number of garbage bags in an open garage since the Bear Box had reached capacity. A gift to bears. How can we police this?
5. Mandate significant "fines" for multiple infractions of the STR regulations. After 3 infractions, the STR owner is BANNED from renting forever.
6. **Define STR as a property owner renting their home for a MINIMUM of 28 days. This has worked in Hawaii and I believe an outdated Washoe Co. ordinance also had a 28 day minimal rental timeframe??**
7. Another Key issue is how the regulations will be enforced? E.g. is it up to neighbors of STR to be the enforcers????
8. Bottom line: if we can not achieve a ban on STR. let's attempt to make the regulations so stringent

that home owners will not want the hassle or expense of become a STR property.

Should I go on the [washoe311@washoecounty.us](mailto:washoe311@washoecounty.us) and post the above or will this email to use suffice.  
Thanks again.

Kind Regards,

Joe

Joe Farrell  
546 Cole Circle  
IV, NV  
Cell #: 925-980-4888

**From:** [J Gumz](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#)  
**Cc:** [Washoe311](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** August 25, 2020 - Vote NO on STR Ordinance  
**Date:** Saturday, August 22, 2020 3:23:56 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners:

I am a long-time Nevada resident and voter; ***please respond to my six questions by email regarding the STR ordinance you are considering.***

1. LEGAL: Why are Commissioners ignoring Nevada law NRS 116.340, which states vacation rentals are a “transient commercial use”, while Las Vegas has recognized the commercial nature of STRs?
2. FIRE SAFETY: As STRs dramatically increase fire risk, how do the Commissioners propose to PAY for the increased risk and compensate property owners?
3. CONSTITUTIONALITY: How do the Commissioners propose to compensate property owners for the loss of their peace and tranquility when they are trying to change the zoning of all residential areas subdivisions of Incline Village to Transient Commercial Use?
4. LEGAL: How does the RSCVA issue a tax license without verifying
  - a) if the STR is properly zoned per NRS 116.340 and
  - b) the property is not subject to a recorded Declaration of Restrictions limiting lot use?
5. LEGAL: Is the County willing to risk litigation for its trampling of property rights? At least 19 subdivisions of Incline Village have Declaration of Restrictions with “*EXCLUSIVE RESIDENTIAL USE*” and limiting each lot to a “*single-family residence dwelling.*” The Restrictions state, “*No noxious or offensive activities shall be carried on any lot nor shall anything be done on any lot that shall be or become an unreasonable annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood.*” STRs are both an unreasonable annoyance and a nuisance. The DoRs were accepted by Washoe County and recorded by the WC recorder in the 1960s and 1070s. “*All of the Restrictions shall run with the land and shall be binding on all parties*”. Washoe County cannot remove them with its ordinance. The County risks litigation as it attempts to trample the “mutual and reciprocal benefits” of the DoRs..
6. FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY: When Washoe County breaks the law, we taxpayers wind up footing the bill. Has District Attorney who retired recently given the Commissioners faulty advice?

What is the solution?

When I purchased my home decades ago, STRs were allowed ONLY in “central” Incline Village: the IV Commercial, IV Tourist, and North Stateline (Crystal Bay) TRPA Plan Area Statements. These PASs are still in place although Washoe County is trying to remove them. It does not matter; these facts remain:

Declaration of Restriction limit residential subdivisions to **SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL USE.**

STRs are a **TRANSIENT COMMERCIAL USE** per NEVADA LAW. See NRS 116.340.

**WASHOE COUNTY IS IN NEVADA** and subject to NEVADA LAW.

The solution is to allow STRs ONLY in CENTRAL Incline Village and CENTRAL CRYSTAL BAY - NOT in the "residential" subdivisions.

**VOTE NO ON THE STR ORDINANCE.**

**J. Gumz**

**From:** [Ken Hubbart](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Incline Village Short Term Rentals  
**Date:** Saturday, August 22, 2020 9:53:11 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Washoe County Commissioners:

The influx of short term rentals, which you have allowed in Incline Village, has been excessive and indicates a disdain you possess for the permanent residents of this community. You have an opportunity to right your wrong by adopting restrictions that were enacted by Las Vegas, a copy of which you have in your possession. The Nevada law allowing short term commercial use can be restricted by local ordinance, as evidenced by the actions taken in Las Vegas.

Please read this email and be sure to include it in the public record of your August 25, 2020 meeting .

Sincerely,  
Ken Hubbart  
664 Country Club Drive  
Incline Village, NV 89451

**From:** [Nick Maiocco](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Cc:** [nmaiocco@att.net](mailto:nmaiocco@att.net)  
**Subject:** Please read and made part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting 8/25/20.  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:52:40 PM

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**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

I have lived in Incline for 30 years and it was never this way with STR's. Within 2 years both sides of our house are rented out constantly. Most are 2-3 days and we never know who is in there, how many, and if they are planning a huge party. Within the past 6 months we have called the police several time for large parties with up to 30 people. Just in July we called police dispatch 5 time for noise, parties more than 10 people and the fire department for a fire that was started on the deck. Also garbage and coolers left outside for the bears.

Back in Feb 2018 an STR caught on fire on Spencer with about 18 occupants inside barely getting out alive. The Washoe County Commissioners could have put in policies many years ago but chose not to, making STR's as residential property by adopting the IRC residential code. At that time they could have included the IBC which defines Use and Occupancy Classification Chapter 3. The Washoe County Planners and Building Department gave recommendations to this board and the recommendations were ignored and push for polices that left Planners with a tough job to write and enforce.

In the Meeting minutes: Commissioner Lucey emphasized "he did not want to see any kind of ban on rental properties in the County. He pointed out Lake Tahoe was a good draw for people to visit the community and home owners should not be excluded from sharing their homes. He indicated short-term rentals improved air quality and sacrificing short term rentals could have a negative impact on tourism, resulting in financial suffering. He pointed out there was only one hotel in the area and, without short-term rentals, people would not have a place to stay. He summarized the discussion should be about the Board drafting good policy which laid out how the County would interact with owners and renters."

**We have not seen any studies supporting any of these statements. Our community is not a business that should be supporting the main tax revenue for RSVCA and Commissioner Lucey also sits on the RSCVA board which is a conflict of interest. Our neighborhoods are not a commercial area for STR to be run. We are part of a community that deserves to be protected and heard. We raise our families here and this is our home. We live in a tourist area not a tourist town. We have residents that are year-round.**

The question would be when does the STR become commercial? Some home owners rent out their houses to cover costs for owning there vacation home. As soon as there is positive cash flow then it should be considered under the IBC section 310 as Residential Group R. When individuals or entities buy more than 2 or more properties then it should be considered a business. What would keep a company from buying up real estate and renting those properties out turning them into Real Estate Investment Trust. This is already happening across our neighborhood and all other resort areas throughout the world.

Ways to control this practice is to issue only one permit to an individual or group, restrict multiple

permits if you own more than one house, have the STR occupied by the home owner for a portion of the year, require 5 day or longer minimum stays.

Incline Village and Crystal Bay permanent residents should be benefiting from permitted STR's which make an impact on our resources, infrastructure, and environmental concerns in our community.

There should a new property tax group that applies to permitted STR property or capping off our property tax rates for full time residence this also can include a head tax per occupant . Additional tax revenue from the STR's can have our streets properly plowed, fixed and maintained which has not happened in years, create signage for parking, fund enforcements and education for visitors.

Nicholas Maiocco, IV Resident

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [cbwillb@charter.net](mailto:cbwillb@charter.net)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#)  
**Cc:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Washoe311](#)  
**Subject:** STR Ordinance/Regulations - Concerns and Recommendations re WC BOC Meeting 8/25/2020 Agenda Item #21  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:43:07 AM  
**Attachments:** [Addendum with references re STR Ordinance concerns.pdf](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Cc to Washoe311: Kindly include in Written Public Comment for WC BOC meeting 8/25/2020, Agenda Item #21 re Short Term Rental Ordinance/Regulations

To: Commissioners Lucey, Berkbigler, Hartung, Herman and Jung; Cc Mr Brown, Ms Mullin, Written Public Comment (Washoe 311)

Commissioners, As you know I am a retired physician and resident of Incline Village. By way of further introduction, my credentials include two science degrees from MIT (BS Chemistry, MS Biology); medical degree (MD) from Harvard Medical School; and Board Certification in Internal Medicine. A 35+ year professional career has included clinical practice; Chief/Medical Director roles in practice and health plan settings; and national consulting in areas of quality and care delivery efficiency/effectiveness in practices, hospitals and health plans.

I received the recent notice re WC STR Ordinance/Regulations to be considered at the 8/25/2020 BOC meeting and I am writing to raise several substantive concerns. I agree that it is important to finalize an initial regulation - however, I believe that addressing the items below is critically important.

**Priority concerns include:**

**1) Public Health, Sanitation and Safety Requirements:** The current situation with SARS -CoV-2 virus spread and resulting Covid-19 infections & deaths has highlighted usage and risk profile similarities between STRs and other types of lodging services/transient lodging. Various NV and WC regulations (e.g., WCC Chapter 25) have previously classified Rentals < 28 days/Vacation Rentals/STRs as Transient Lodging; however, standard Public Health/Safety requirements have not historically been applied in WC. Nonetheless, no matter how creative the attempts to portray otherwise for certain applications, STRs are a form of Transient Lodging where unknown guests come to stay for a brief period followed quickly by more, different unknown guests but with minimal, if any, on-site supervision and often with little knowledge of high risk local environments.

Thus Public Health/Safety risks to visiting tourists, servicing staff and other occupants (e.g., owners/guests staying in the same units immediately before or after a rental) are likely identical or potentially worse for those staying in STRs vs. other Transient Lodging. In addition, adjacent resident neighbors to STRs particularly in high density situations are exposed to increased risk by ever increasing numbers of variably compliant visitors and servicing staff. Recent government declarations have further emphasized the legal and health/safety risks of considering Public Health/Safety differently in STRs in comparison with other forms of Transient Lodging. These include: Governor's recent Directives defining STRs/Vacation Rentals as "essential businesses" along with other Transient Lodging; NV OSHA referencing the Governor's Directives and stating that OSHA regulations apply to all essential and non-essential businesses which would thus include STRs; and WC Health District indication that county guidance does not over-ride state orders or directives (WCHD Website).

Currently the regulations and guidance above have been applied via Emergency Directives which are already flagged in the STR Ordinance/Regulations. Nonetheless, as noted by the Governor recently, the current emergency may well become a "new normal." And on-going recommendations/requirements may thus be embedded within "standard procedures" without persistent emergency declarations. This virus doesn't respect political or regulatory distinctions, nor do vectors of West Nile Virus or infectious exposures related to improper handling/disposal of sharps/needles, etc. And, without appropriate safeguards, individuals in/near STR's are and will remain potentially MORE, not less, exposed to Public Health and Safety risks than users of other Transient Lodging.

Public Accommodation regulations were designed to protect Public Health and Safety in these types of usage situations. Further, the state of Nevada has provided clear direction by specifically classifying STRs as essential businesses and explicitly applying applicable regulation, enhanced for the current pandemic, to all essential and non-essential businesses. In addition, Washoe County has classified Vacation Rentals (STR's) as Transient Lodging within WCC Chapter 25. It is thus an abrogation of the County's responsibility to its citizens and the visiting public to not specify that standard Public Accommodation Public Health and Safety requirements are applicable to STRs at all times as for other Transient Lodging. If there are specific elements that are felt to not apply in STRs, a list of exceptions could be considered.

As a retired physician, I find it difficult to rationalize how proper public health, safety, cleaning and sanitizing regulations would not be applicable and appropriate protections in STRs as well as hotels, motels, etc. Given the same environmental circumstances, pathogen exposure and disease transmission should be just as likely in a rented unit vs. a hotel/motel suite. **Thus, in addition to comments re Emergency Declarations, as responsible public officials, I strongly recommend that you please re-assess your prior decision and appropriately include the Public Accommodation requirements (with specific limited exceptions if indicated) as required, as enforceable elements in STR's/Vacation Rentals.** I note that Public Accommodations regulation is listed as a "best practice" in the TRPA STR Neighborhood Compatibility Program. In addition, I have provided in the attachment accompanying this email detailed regulatory code reference and rationale supporting this recommendation,

Further, if for some unfathomable reason it is felt that this proposed approach cannot be used, I strongly recommend that WC BOC and WCHD develop specific parallel public health/safety regulation applicable to STRs/Vacation Rentals for protection of renters, service providers, owners and neighbors. I can think of no reasonable objection by responsible officials to prudent regulation to protect Public Health and Safety.

**2) Occupancy limits and STR Tiers:** As you may recall, residents have presented extensive analysis regarding the proposed STR Tier structure and related permit approval requirements. **Specifically, the proposed STR Ordinance/Regulation threshold between Tier 1 and 2 STR Permit categories is excessively high, significantly exceeding average residential occupancy which Tier 1 requirements are supposed to reflect.** In addition, comparators, specifically group homes, presented to justify the proposed tiering threshold are not applicable in the STR situation: group homes are better supervised with longer lengths of stay than in STRs; residents are better known to supervising staff and more familiar with the environment than STR visitors; and group homes are already subject to extensive regulation not applicable to STRs.

The proposed, but mistaken, classification is fundamentally a safety concern – in the higher occupancy STRs currently incorrectly classified as Tier 1, larger numbers of individuals than in a typical residential setting who are unfamiliar with the area stay in a transient, unsupervised setting increasing their and the community's risk. The permitting requirements for Tier 1, while helpful, do not impose the added level of review that should be required to address the added risk. With the recommended adjustment in the threshold between Tiers 1 and 2, the additional permitting requirements at the Tier 2 level can then be appropriately utilized to address/mitigate added risks incurred with the added occupancy. **For everyone's safety, the STR Ordinance/Regulation**

**threshold between Tier 1 and 2 should be adjusted to reflect actual average residential occupancy in Tier 1.** Please see attachment for further detail and relevant chart showing suggested adjusted threshold between Tier 1 and 2 and rationale with supporting data.

**Additional Priority Areas of Concern are also presented in detail in the attached document including: 3) Zoning and Use Changes and 4) TRPA Neighborhood Compatibility compliance : 4a) Area Occupancy, Parking and Traffic Safety 4b) STR Density and Neighbor Impacts**

Thank you in advance for your attention to these important health, safety and neighborhood compatibility items.

Carole Black, MD (617-312-8834)

## WC BOC MEETING 8.25.2020 STR ORDINANCE RECOMMENDATION ADDENDUM AND REFERENCES:

This document is submitted by Carole Black retired physician and IV resident as an addendum to the email from Carole Black dated 8/23/2020 to Washoe County Commissioners with cc to Planning staff, County Manager and Washoe 311 website for inclusion in the public record for the BOC meeting on 8.25.2020, Agenda Item #21. It includes additional detail, discussion and references from Nevada (NRS) and current Washoe County (WCC) documents.

### I. Public Health, Safety and Sanitation Requirements

**PREMISE:** STRs/Vacation Rentals are a form of Transient Lodging. This use poses similar and in some ways added risk as other forms of Transient Lodging and should therefore be regulated as such including Public Health and Safety elements required under Nevada statute as a Public Accommodation and any other relevant Washoe County and/or Nevada requirements for Transient Lodging uses. If for some reason which I cannot fathom this is viewed as not possible currently, an alternative proposal to begin to achieve comparable goals is presented below.

### REFERENCES AND RATIONALE:

1) Nevada NRS defines “Transient Commercial Use” of units in certain planned communities *(note: this applies to the majority of Incline Village’s geography which was developed as a planned community with C, C & R’s governing area uses):*

NRS 116.340 Transient commercial use of units within certain planned communities. ...

4. As used in this section: ... (b) “Transient commercial use” means the use of a unit, for remuneration, as a hostel, hotel, inn, motel, resort, vacation rental or other form of transient lodging if the term of the occupancy, possession or use of the unit is for less than 30 consecutive calendar days.

**DISCUSSION:** Though C, C & R’s differ in the various planned community areas within Incline Village re STRs/Vacation Rental regulations, **this definition applies throughout the majority of Incline Village’s geography as a planned community with various governing C, C & R’s: STRs are thus classified as a “Transient Commercial Use” and “Transient Lodging”**

2) Washoe County Chapter 25 also defines Transient Lodging for “HOTELS, MOTELS AND LIKE ESTABLISHMENTS” as follows:

25.150 - "Transient guest" defined. "Transient guest" means any individual occupant who has or shall have the right of occupancy to any room for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes in a transient lodging facility for less than 28 consecutive days.

25.1501 - "Transient lodging" defined. "**Transient lodging**" means any facility, structure, or portion thereof occupied or intended or designed for occupancy by transient guests who pay rent or other consideration for dwelling, lodging, or sleeping purposes, and includes, without limitation, any hotel, resort hotel, motel, motor court, motor lodge, bed and breakfast, lodging house, rooming house, resident hotel and motel, guest house, tourist camp, resort and "dude" ranch, cabin, **condominium**, **timeshare properties**, **vacation home**, **apartment house**, recreational vehicle park/campground, guest

ranch, or other similar structure or facility, or portion thereof. ... The term "transient lodging" does not include any of the following: ... any room within a private dwelling house or other single-family dwelling unit if the permanent or principal owner also resides in and occupies the dwelling ... The burden of establishing that the housing or facility is not transient lodging as defined herein shall be on the owner thereof ...

**DISCUSSION: Per both Nevada NRS and existing Washoe County Code, STRs/Vacation Rentals are only referenced as classified with Transient Lodging and in NRS also labeled as a Transient Commercial Use.** The only applicable exception (NRS) appears to be the rental of a room in a private dwelling or other single family dwelling unit if the owner resident occupies the unit. **This concept should therefore be captured in the STR Ordinance.**

I am aware that there are references to Transient Lodging in zoning/development sections of WCC where vacation rentals/STRs have not previously been explicitly listed because this use has not historically been considered anywhere in WC zoning/development code. As noted above, in these sections STRs should be clustered by description and actual use pattern with other forms of Transient Lodging.

*[Note: Regarding Washoe County's on-going effort to de facto implement a zoning and development classification for STRs/Vacation Rentals through this Ordinance without comprehensively processing as a massive code change, please see discussion in item III below. Currently STRs are not listed in WC Development Code and therefore do not have a zoning/development code classification.]*

**3) NRS Chapter 447 Public Accommodation is defined as applicable to "Hotels"** with this term defined as follows:

**NRS 447.010 "Hotel" defined. "Hotel" means every building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public, whether with or without meals, including, without limitation, a lodging house or rooming house where transient trade is solicited.**

**DISCUSSION: STR's/Vacation Rentals specifically meet the NRS Public Accommodation "Hotel" definition in all of its elements:**

- **building or structure held out to the public** > STR's are units in buildings or entire buildings advertised to the public broadly on internet sites and by contracted realtors/property managers
- **a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public** > advertisements and reservations offer sleeping accommodations; STRs offer transient lodging as defined above and for lengths of stay often as short as 1-2 days which surely meets the description of "transient public"

**NRS 447 is enforceable by the Heath District and defines public health and safety elements** (see list in Attachment A below) **which are just as applicable in practice to STR's as to traditional hotels, motels, etc. Its requirements have been applied to other listed forms of Transient Lodging in WCC.** Though the list of NRS Public Accommodation elements was written some time ago, the elements seem applicable though amendments can certainly occur related to changes in medical science. In addition, if there are elements which need to be modified specifically to address the STR

use or which are fully covered/duplicated in other sections of the STR Ordinance or related code, a list of modifications and cross references could be appended by Washoe County with rationale. Additional pertinent Public Health/Safety and/or OSHA safety requirements currently recommended by Washoe County which have not apparently been promulgated in STRs should also be applied, e.g.,

- sharps/needle precautions and disposal at all times (“*routine*” directives)
- employees to wear a face covering in any space visited by the general public, even if no-one else is present currently (*current Emergency response*)

As Ms Hauenstein has recently mentioned, **it is correct that the Public Accommodation discussion has been raised previously and discarded by Washoe County re STRs though the rationale given the definitions above is unclear and the decision appears to me to be incorrect.** I do understand that there are apparently some controversial elements - I have, for example, heard concerns about requiring screens. However, West Nile Virus is found in this area and screens are an appropriate preventive measure. If screens are required for motels and hotels, why not in STRs – same situation (open windows and doors, perhaps more often in STRs with less frequent air conditioning), same clinical issue, same intervention!?!?!)

**SUMMARY: I am therefore requesting that the prior conclusions re Public Health/Safety regulations in STRs be explicitly reviewed at this time, particularly in the context of additional parameters which have changed in recent months reinforcing the potential error of the prior conclusion based on not viewing STRs formally as Transient Lodging/Businesses including:**

- **Designation of STRs/Vacation Rentals as an Essential Business by the Governor’s Declarations** reinforcing this as a lodging and business/commercial use
- **Designation of applicability of NV OSHA requirements as applicable to all Essential Businesses** which would therefore include STRs and again reinforcing as a business/commercial use
- **Urgency of implementing enhanced Public Health interventions currently, and the likely need to maintain some of these interventions as standards once Emergency Directives expire** so that limiting interventions to Emergency situations will be insufficient

**Specifically STRs/Vacation Rentals are a form of Transient Lodging. This use poses similar and in some ways added risk as other forms of Transient Lodging and should therefore be regulated as such including NRS 447 Public Health and Safety elements and any other relevant Washoe County and/or Nevada requirements/recommendations for Transient Lodging uses.**

**Alternatively, since Public Health and Safety requirements are needed and though the public health, safety or legal rationale for not taking the path recommended above escapes me, if approved on re-review by applicable legal and administrative opinion and regulation, Washoe County could consider developing its own list of comprehensive Public Health/Safety requirements related to the STR use as Transient Lodging.** In this case, the list should I believe provide appropriate public health/safety protections at all times with escalation as indicated during emergency situations. I understand and support that the necessary capability to escalate in unusual or emergency situations is apparently included in the current draft.

## II. Occupancy Limits and STR Tiers

I have included in Attachment section below documents submitted in earlier STR discussions to better illustrate two critical points on this topic:

**i. STR function is most comparable to other types of Transient Lodging in that stays are typically very transient and guests are unknown, often minimally vetted, poorly supervised and typically unfamiliar with the lodging facility or the environmental risks in the area. The latter item is of course of particular risk concern in our area. See Attachment E.**

In contrast, other uses (Group Homes) which have been incorrectly listed as comparators in the STR Ordinance's Tier proposal include clients or guests who stay longer, are better vetted and supervised and/or quickly become more familiar with the facility/environment. In addition, these uses are not referenced within "Transient Lodging" listings in WC or Nevada state regulations and are extensively regulated in other code sections not applicable to STRs/Vacation Rentals

**ii. The proposed STR Tier structure links complexity of use with added regulatory requirements for enhanced permit review. Tier 1 was listed as most closely resembling actual residential use with limited requirements for permit review.** However, as noted above, incorrect comparators were used in setting occupancy threshold for the Tier 1 > Tier 2 transition. As the attached graph (Attachment F) clearly shows, the average actual residential use (and average actual historic STR occupancy) is less than 30% of the proposed threshold between Tier 1 and 2. **Thus the Tier 1 > 2 threshold is artificially inflated and should be reduced substantially to better mirror actual residential use. This will allow for implementation of enhanced permit review at appropriate higher levels to more likely address adversely impacted adjacent residential property owners. Alternatively the Tier 1 permit process could be enhanced (AR) to allow for adjacent neighbor input.**

## III. Unprocessed Zoning/Use Classifications are included in the proposed STR Ordinance and STR Limits or bans are excluded

**Washoe County's on-going effort to de facto implement a zoning and development classification change for STRs/Vacation Rentals through this Ordinance without comprehensively processing as the massive code change that it is appears disingenuous and possibly illegal to me.** Currently STRs are not listed in WC Development Code and are therefore not categorized for zoning/use. Further Residential use is currently defined in a manner inconsistent with STR's/Vacation Rentals in existing WCC: **WCC 110.304.15 Residential Use Types.** Residential Use Types include the occupancy of living accommodations on a wholly or primarily non-transient basis ...

This is among items proposed for change within the STR Ordinance without any open public discussion or disclosure. Additional proposed code changes include adding the newly defined STR use and flawed tier structure to residential zones/permitting regs.

Open public airing of the proposed embedded code changes related to STRs/Vacation rentals simply has not occurred and, in fact, when individuals have tried to ask questions and/or air concerns in the various meetings that have been held, they have been summarily silenced and the issues glossed over

with obscuring representations by WC representatives. A common refrain is either that the resident is mistaken and/or that the resident's proposed alternative is not allowed per the District Attorney but we can't explain why, akin to the stance - "because I said its so, it is so..."

For example, at a single Tahoe Area Plan public discussion session, officials appeared to misrepresent the proposed approach as containing "no" or "only minimal, unrelated" zoning changes and dismiss resident questions/concerns on this topic. Contrast this with extensive discussion and additional dedicated sessions regarding the proposed permitting changes for communication towers on distant mountains. In addition, the public workshops and meetings re the "STR Ordinance" were very tightly structured with many items considered off the table for discussion including zoning change or limits/bans for STRs.

#### **IV) Compliance with TRPA, including the Short term Rental Neighborhood Compatibility**

**Program:** As an entity within the TRPA regulatory area, WC in its Tahoe Area is required to comply with applicable TRPA regulations, including the Short Term Rental Neighborhood Compatibility program. **To date, WC has provided no assessment demonstrating likelihood of meeting acceptable score levels with the proposed STR regulation - this should be required.**

**4a. Area Occupancy, Parking and Traffic Safety:** Incline Village area occupancy and resulting traffic and parking situation has changed dramatically particularly with the growth in STRs in recent years. Detailed documentation will be provided in a separate document discussing recent crowding/trash concerns. In addition, in some spots parking is somewhat improved, in others dramatically worsened as a result of both the recent surge in STR & day visitors and the recent requested and well intentioned parking restriction changes. What has been lacking consistently is a comprehensive parking/traffic planning process for this community including immediately surrounding "feeder areas." Hence fragmented, piecemeal solutions repeatedly fall short and our lives are unnecessarily adversely impacted and sometimes endangered. **Pending this planning and design effort, the initially proposed STR parking restriction would provide some measure of interim relief from a safety perspective and should be retained.**

#### **4b) STR Density and Neighbor Impacts**

**In the proposed ordinance there is to date a dearth of a variety of proposed density, intensity of use and permitting elements** which are included in the TRPA best practices list and in many other jurisdiction STR regulations. **Other residents will speak in more detail to these gaps which should be addressed and remediated in the Ordinance. At a minimum formal review of impacts and efficacy should occur promptly, within 6 months or sooner, for required course correction.**

## ATTACHMENTS

### Attachment A. NRS Chapter 447 Public Accommodation Section Titles:

447.007 – 447.010 *Definitions; “Health authority” defined; “Hotel” defined.* > See content discussed above

447.020 Cleanliness of bedding; worn out and unfit bedding

447.030 Extermination of vermin.

447.040 Cleanliness of rooms used for sleeping

447.045 Hotel required to be kept in sanitary condition.

447.050 Certain areas of hotel prohibited from use as quarters for living or sleeping.

447.060 Ventilation of rooms.

447.070 Windows and outside doors to be equipped with screens

447.080 Air space, floor area and ceiling height of rooms.

447.090 Amount of bedding required; furnishing clean sheets and pillow slips; size of sheets.

447.100 Fumigation of room after occupation by person having contagious or infectious disease.

447.110 Facilities for bathing.

447.120 Towels to be furnished.

447.130 Toilets required in hotels or other establishments for transient lodging: Number; facilities for washing hands.

447.135 Entrance to corridor leading to toilet facility to be marked with sign that conforms to requirements of Americans with Disabilities Act and includes features for use by visually impaired persons; reporting of violations; duties of Attorney General; enforcement.

447.140 Ventilation of room containing water closet, bathtub or shower.

447.145 Systems for heating and ventilating hotels or other establishments for transient lodging.

447.150 Exemption from requirement for number of water closets, bathtubs or showers in certain hotels.

447.160 Disposal of sewage; disinfection of toilets.

447.170 Supply of water; plumbing.

447.180 Disposal of garbage and rubbish.

447.185 Regulation of construction or reconstruction of hotel or other establishment for transient lodging.

447.190 Enforcement of chapter by health authority; records.

447.200 Access for inspection of hotel.

447.210 Criminal penalty; each day of violation constitutes separate offense.

## **Attachment B. Definition of NV Essential Businesses includes Lodging and specifically STRs/Vacation Rentals**

- **NV Guidance: Directives re Essential Businesses specifically lists “Lodging” as an essential business category** ([http://gov.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/govnewnv.gov/Content/News/Emergency\\_Orders/2020\\_attachments/All-Guidance-Issued-on-Directives-003-and-013-Essential-Non-Essential-4-16-20.pdf](http://gov.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/govnewnv.gov/Content/News/Emergency_Orders/2020_attachments/All-Guidance-Issued-on-Directives-003-and-013-Essential-Non-Essential-4-16-20.pdf))

- **March 20, 2020 Emergency Regulation of the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management listed an Amendment to Chapter 414 of NAC which includes:**

**1. “Essential Licensed Business” means a business operating in the state of Nevada that provides: ... (aa) Hotels, motels or short-term rentals, ...**

**DISCUSSION: Though issued as part of emergency declarations, the clear intent is to list STR’s as lodging businesses.** The use and thus this categorization are unchanged in non-emergent situations.

**Attachment C. NV OSHA regulations are applied to all Essential and Non-essential Businesses operating in Phase 2.** The document describing this requirement was issued by NV Governor on June 26, 2020 ([OSHA-Ltr-Phase-II-Updated-6-26-20.pdf](https://www.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/OSHA-Ltr-Phase-II-Updated-6-26-20.pdf)).

**Attachment D. NV OSHA regulation: NRS Chapter 618 defines NV OSHA as applicable to businesses and their employees.**

**NRS Chapter 618 NV OSHA indicates:**

**NRS 618.015 Purpose of chapter. 1. It is the purpose of this chapter to provide safe and healthful working conditions for every employee**

NRS 618.085 “Employee” defined. “Employee” means every person who is required, permitted or directed by any employer to engage in any employment, or to go to work or be at any time in any place of employment, under any appointment or contract of hire or apprenticeship, express or implied, oral or written, whether lawfully or unlawfully employed. ...

NRS 618.315 Authority of Division over working conditions; limitations; safety orders.

1. The Division has authority over working conditions in all places of employment except as limited by subsection 2.
2. The authority of the Division does not extend to working conditions which: (a) Exist in household domestic service; ...

**DISCUSSION: By declaring NV OSHA as applicable to all Essential Businesses and thus to STRs/Vacation Rentals, this use is thus clearly again classified as a business.** As a corollary, as a business and not a household, the exclusion for “household domestic service” does not apply re STRs.

Attachment E:

**Use Comparison Table: STRs DO NOT MIMIC RESIDENTIAL USE**

| Lodging Type                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | ZONING / USE        |                     |                       | SUPERVISION / KNOWN?      |                        |                                  |                            | SERVICES & REGULATION EXAMPLES                  |                                    |                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Com vs Res Use      | Zoning Status       | Daily Rent Fee; TOT   | On-site Owner or Manager  | Visitor known to Owner | LOS; Offered to                  | Visitor knows area/culture | Occupancy/Parking Actively Regulated/ Monitored | Food Utensils Available/ Regulated | Public Health/ Safety Regs Apply |
| <i>Categorized as Transient Lodging by <u>WCC 25.1501</u> and <u>NRS 447.010</u> (w or w/out meals); <u>NRS 116.340</u></i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                     |                     |                       |                           |                        |                                  |                            |                                                 |                                    |                                  |
| Hotel/ Motel                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | C                   | Varies              | yes                   | yes: manager              | no                     | short/ public                    | no                         | yes                                             | yes/yes                            | yes                              |
| Time-share                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | C                   | Varies              | yes                   | yes: manager              | no                     | short/ public                    | no                         | yes                                             | yes/yes                            | yes                              |
| B & B                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | C                   | Varies              | yes                   | yes: mngr or owner        | no                     | short/ public                    | no                         | yes                                             | yes/yes                            | yes                              |
| <b>STR's now</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>C per WCC 25</b> | <b>Not allowed</b>  | yes                   | <b>no</b>                 | no                     | short/ public                    | no                         | <b>no</b>                                       | <b>yes/no**</b>                    | <b>no**</b>                      |
| <i>Residential - Not Categorized as Transient Lodging in <u>WCC</u> or <u>NRS</u></i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                     |                     |                       |                           |                        |                                  |                            |                                                 |                                    |                                  |
| Group Home                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | R                   | Parallel to res use | charge/ stay; no TOT  | manager                   | yes, mngr              | longer; must meet eligibility    | yes                        | yes                                             | yes/yes                            | yes                              |
| LT or Seasonal Rental                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | R                   | Parallel to res use | charge/ month; no TOT | owner in touch            | yes                    | long                             | yes                        | yes, by in touch owner                          | n/a: renter is resident            | n/a: renter is resident          |
| Owner's Family/ Friends                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | R                   | Parallel to res use | none                  | owner on-site or in touch | yes                    | varies; limit to friends/ family | yes, close owner contact   | yes, by in touch owner                          | n/a: not rented                    |                                  |
| <p><b>Legend:</b> "Varies" notation indicates variability among regulatory zones, typically allowed or allowed with restrictions in tourist and/or commercial areas and not allowed or allowed with restrictions elsewhere;<br/>           * indicates proposed in <u>STR</u> Ordinance while **Recommend add Public Accommodations or equivalent</p> |                     |                     |                       |                           |                        |                                  |                            |                                                 |                                    |                                  |

Attachment F:

**ZONING COLLATERAL DAMAGE: STRs DO NOT Mimic Residential Use & Programs Must Consider this Variance**

- Proposed STR Tier 1 level fails to meet design objective
  - As currently described will inappropriately subject adjacent residents particularly in denser residential areas to significant adverse Neighborhood Compatibility impacts
- Proposed STR Tier 1 remedies:
  - Reduce the Tier 1 upper occupancy limit to ≤ 4 to more closely mirror actual residential use
  - Require Tier 1 Discretionary Permit (AR) in residential areas to allow neighbor noticing and input

| Compare: Short Term Rental Occupancy Levels |                           |                 |     |                                      |                         |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Occupants                                   | 10                        |                 |     |                                      |                         |
|                                             |                           | 2.4             | 2.8 | ~4.5                                 | 4                       |
|                                             | Tier 1 WC Draft Ordinance | Census Data     |     | Avg Short Term Rentals (VGIQ survey) | Tier 1 Proposed Maximum |
|                                             | Avg Residence             | Avg Family Size |     |                                      |                         |

**From:** [Lynette Cardinale](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** STR Ordinance  
**Date:** Saturday, August 22, 2020 6:06:29 PM

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Hello Everyone,

Please have this email read at the August 25,2020 commissioners meeting and also be part of public records for that meeting, as well. Thank you!

It is with great concern that I am led to write you all a letter concerning the poorly contrived, ineffective and insufficient resolutions that will be making up the STR Standards for Incline Village.

Although, I can appreciate the effort you have made in addressing a very serious issue the Incline Community is facing concerning the eroding factors that the STR'S are contributing to the well being of residents and the dangers they create for the perseverance of Incline in general, the concerns are of a most grievous nature and desperately need your attention.

The fire danger in Incline is paramount, as we are situated in a hole with only a few ways out for evacuation, fire trucks and first responders. The parking and traffic on 28 is abhorrent and has become a quagmire of illegal parking, no room for pedestrians or bicycles, let alone a safe flow through traffic for all concerned. Living in Mill Creek, with my backyard backed up to 28, I experience, first hand, the constant barrage of fire vehicles with sirens blaring consistently and constantly. In calculating my living experience in Mill Creek since 2005, the amount of these rescue vehicles has increased no less than 75% in the past recent years. This is unacceptable.

In addition, in reading the STR'S for Las Vegas, in comparison to what you are proposing for Incline is shamefully inadequate and is a blatant disrespect to Incline residents and their well being. To my knowledge, you all have heard these concerns many times and truthfully we have been disregarded and ignored.

As commissioners of a very large county, that is inclusive of one of the most treasured assets of our nation, Lake Tahoe, many decisions made, have sorely abused this privilege of overseeing this responsibly both towards sustaining and safeguarding the Lake for years to come. Residents' lives and well being are now put at risk with fire dangers, noise pollution, heavy trash deposits, no security and peace,with almost daily turnarounds of tourists in residential areas that were not intended for the element that STR'S bring to it. Many are seniors that did not sign up for this when they chose Incline to be their destination home for their senior years. They deserve better!!

My question to you....Why can Las Vegas implement a very acceptable STR Ordinance and you cannot ? In Las Vegas:

- considered a commercial use, requires a business license
- STR unit can have no more than 3 bedrooms
- occupancy limited to 2 people over 12 years of age per bedroom + 2

- maximum daytime occupancy is limited to 1 ½ times nighttime occupancy
- STRs in HOAs must show a letter from the HOA documenting approved use as a STR
- must list on permit all hosting platforms on which the STR is advertised on line
- evacuation map and emergency numbers permanently listed in all bedrooms,
- vehicles parked on site—not in adjacent public right of way
- no sound-producing device allowed outside
- no weddings, parties, receptions, or similar events allowed
- business license required
- suspension of license upon 2<sup>nd</sup> violation in 2 year period; permit denied if violating any provision in Ordinance
- no STR closer than 660 feet to any other STR residence
- dwelling must be occupied by owner during rental period
- floor plan identifying bedrooms and living spaces including bedroom occupied by owner during rentals

In Incline Village:

- considered a residential use, requires a RSCVA permit
- no limit on size or number of bedrooms
- occupancy limited to 1 person per 200 square feet, no distinction based on age
- no difference in day and night occupancy
- no requirement for HOA documented approval
- no requirement for letter from HOA documenting approved use
- no requirement to list hosting platforms
- no emergency/evacuation maps and numbers in each bedroom;
- vehicles limited based on occupancy, 1 onsite parking space needed for every 4 occupants; offsite parking allowed
- sound-producing devices allowed outside
- parties, weddings, etc. allowed as long as not exceeding maximum occupancy limits
- no business license required; RSCVA permit only
- suspension of permit after 3<sup>rd</sup> violation for 1 year
- no limit on density
- no requirement for owner occupancy during rental
- no floor plan identifying bedrooms required with permit

Please consider the Las Vegas model for Incline Village STR Ordinance...Let's not have Las Vegas, Do Better!

Sincerely,  
Lynette Cardinale  
Incline Village Resident  
1056 Sawmill Rd.

**From:** [Jack Dalton](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#);  
[Emerson, Kathy](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** STR Washoe County Manager and Commissioner Meeting August 25,2020  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 3:09:24 PM

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Dear All: Please read and make part of the public record.

My name is Jack Dalton 980 Cart Court Incline Village, NV 89451 full time resident

I was raised in a small rural town in the middle of Nebraska, and my career as a physician was in NYC for 44 years except for 2 years in the Navy. I knew all my neighbors in a Nebraska town of 1000 people and my apartment floor in a rent stabilized building in NYC. In Incline, I also know my neighbors. Fortunately no STR in my neighborhood. So I am not a NIMBY person.

However, the STR in Incline affects a significant number of people and their quality of life. I implore the commissioners to pass meaningful regulations. STRs are a business with more than 70% owned by corporations. Incline has at least one corporation owning 15 houses. Covid has put additional stress on the community. WE need meaningful regulations. thanks  
Jack Dalton cell 917-880-6848

**From:** [David Dreyer](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#)  
**Cc:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** str"s  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 8:31:25 AM

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Like so many others regarding the str's, my concerns are the noise, parking and garbage. But what is Washoe County going to do about zoning the str's because after buying a lot and building a home 31 years ago in a residential zone in Incline Village, I didn't realize that I was going to be living next to a hotel room. Save IV

Thank-you David Dreyer



August 24, 2020

Washoe County  
Board of County Commissioners  
Chair, Bob Lucey  
1001 E. 9th Street  
Reno, Nevada

Dear Chair Lucey and Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Washoe County's efforts to regulate short-term rentals. Expedia Group is a family of brands that includes vacation rental leader Vrbo, and our experience working with communities in Nevada and around the world gives us a unique understanding of the kinds of regulations that work for municipalities like Washoe County.

Expedia Group supports regulations and oversight of the short-term rental (STR) industry. We welcome the responsible regulation of the industry, because we see STR's as an important part of the fabric of tourism. STRs provide an essential option within the visitor industry for travelers, such as families, and gives them an opportunity to enjoy Washoe County in a more personal setting.

Again, thank you for allowing Expedia Group to comment and support your STR regulatory proposal. We welcome the opportunity to work together in the direction of responsibly regulating STRs and look forward to working with you further to identify sustainable, workable, and legal ways to assist Washoe County in increasing compliance with local regulations. Please feel free to contact me at [wagonzales@expediagroup.com](mailto:wagonzales@expediagroup.com) or 512-505-1615 with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Walter R. Gonzales'.

Walter R. Gonzales  
Government Affairs Manager  
Expedia Group

**From:** [Bill Ferrall](#)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment-Amendment to Nuisance Code-STR  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 11:22:13 AM

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Honorable Board Members,

I am writing to express concern over the lack of oversight this board is demonstrating in the proposed STR ordinance changes. The Board of Commissioners is proposing a scheme that is basically issuing permission through a permit to homeowners to violate the CC&R's the property resides in.

In addition, the definition proposed makes little sense to me:

*"Short-term rentals are distinguishable from commercial lodging use types in that no meals may be provided within short-term rentals as part of the rental agreement and the home may only be rented out for short-term rental use to one group at a time."*

The above sentence appears to be a carve out from a Bed and Breakfast, the only allowable lodging use of property type in the CC&R's, and further confuses STR's from homes renting individual rooms to multiple parties in the Air B&B platform and no owner is present. Not very clear.

My biggest concern is the lack of density provision. The trend is gaining in popularity and further diluting neighborhoods where families are denied peaceful enjoyment of their home. There needs to be limits on the allowable maximum number of these permits issued. This trend has made workforce housing in Incline Village and other areas not only scarce but unobtainable.

These are plain and simple hotel operations, and should require a business license. A business license applicant would be required to meet Zoning, Municipality, fire and building code. This would prevent the license from being issued in Incline Village, and any such use punishable under licensing laws, not a permit scheme.

The activity here will ultimately generate legal action against homeowners violating deed restrictions. I can only assume these homeowners will turn back to the county for issuing a permit to operate in a capacity that is restricted.

William Ferrall  
559 Len Way  
Incline Village NV 89451  
Washoe County District  
[billferrall@gmail.com](mailto:billferrall@gmail.com)

**From:** [kathie julian](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Re: STR Ordinance - Comment from Full-time Resident, Incline Village  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 6:17:08 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners:

## **Overview and Core Flaw of Draft Code**

I am a full-time resident of Incline Village. My presence here is not as an “investor” or a 2<sup>nd</sup> home owner. **I am a full-time community member. A volunteer. A voter.**

As background, Incline Village has full-time residents who are not wealthy. These residents have jobs and they send their kids to local public schools. Incline Village is a **genuine community, with residents of all ethnicities and socio-economic classes. Our arguments here are not “elitist”**. Many of us writing on this issue speak out on behalf of a broad array of community members, including teachers, medical workers, first responders, local government employees, and service workers who find it impossible to live where they work because areas zoned residential are being used commercially with no limits on numbers or density. And make no mistake, not living where you work is a problem given weather and road conditions that affect Incline Village.

While appreciating the efforts of County staff, I **strongly oppose the draft code language** for dealing with Short Term Rentals (STR) as it applies to my community. The draft code **does not address serious concerns that Incline Village residents have about the ever increasing number and density of STRs**, and how this unregulated aspect of the tourism industry adversely impacts our residential neighborhoods and the fabric of our community.

**I am not against STRs.** STRs have a role to play to support tourism

and our related businesses. STRs supplement the very high-end Hyatt accommodations in Incline and, in some cases, provide necessary income to homeowners to cover their primary and secondary home expenses.

However, for many of us who call Incline Village our full-time home, the **draft code language disregards the fundamental concern that STRs are commercial businesses.** STRs are not residences that house community members. They are transient lodging. Their very existence **removes housing for full-time and seasonal workers** who are dependent on longer-term rentals. The **unfettered growth in the number of STRs, irrespective of their size, changes the nature of our community** because it replaces housing for community members with tourist lodging and vacant houses in the off season. In effect, this draft regulation would allow every property in Incline Village to be converted into tourist lodging. Many STRs are commercial tourism businesses and should be regulated as such.

**Residential and commercial zoning has been established for a reason.** To support a healthy social and economic community. The draft regulation in treating STRs as residential undermines the purpose of zoning. The draft benefits the real estate and property management industry in Incline, but **unfettered growth of STRs undermines the ability of our community to provide workforce housing for our business, schools, and local government.**

**We need an ordinance that supports sound zoning practices and addresses both the number and the density of STRs in various areas of Incline Village.**

### **Other Comments on Select Provisions**

The various provisions in the draft ordinance that purport to address the other impacts of STRs – the noise, the parking and the trash – **just**

**tinker around the edges** of the community's STR concerns. And the draft tinkers ineffectively.

The draft code allows **occupancy levels vastly in excess of the Incline Village average**, crowding 16 adults into a residential home that would traditionally house a family of 5 -- even less if we took the Incline Village average occupancy rate.

The draft **turns a blind eye to permit applications that are in violation of HOA restrictions**, thus forcing neighbors to police this aspect, all the while the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority access fees, directly benefiting from such non-compliance.

An **opaque enforcement mechanism and timeframe** putting undue reliance on the Washoe County Director of Planning and Building, or their agents. Confirming violations appears to be left to the Planning and Building Division Director or his agent. This is non-transparent and vague.

On noise, it is **not clear what constitutes a confirmed STR noise violation?** What is the confirmation process, and how long does it take? How cumbersome to implement? How reasonable is it that a neighbor would get redress for a party-house disturbance on their block?

The draft demonstrates **bias for the property management industry and against homeowner-occupied STRs**. Onsite owner managed STRs do not benefit from the reduction in fees accorded to individual and corporate property owners/investors in STRs who hire licensed, but offsite property managers --- who may be outside Incline. The draft code also demonstrates its bias against owner-occupied STRs (with less benefit to the property management industry) as it disallows rental to more than one party at the same time. I have stayed in STRs where a modest homeowner lives and rents out two spare rooms to sole travelers or couples who do not have the resources to rent a condo or house, or

stay at the Hyatt. These onsite homeowners need STR revenue to help pay their mortgage, not use as an investment vehicle. Why the bias against such full-time residents and voters? Do they not have sufficient financial and lobbying might?

It is unclear why **the inspection mechanism was rendered toothless by eliminating the prospect of unscheduled inspections** where authorities suspect violation of occupancy rules or issues of health and safety. Unscheduled inspection capacity related to suspected health, safety and occupancy violations is imperative.

**On parking, the draft code is unclear.** Is off-site street parking prohibited? If so, what is the mechanism for enforcement? And what are the implications of the provision that allows the Planning and Building Division Director to “relocate” the required parking location at the property owners request? That provision demands further clarification. It appears to give undue authority to individual County staff in consultation with STR property owners/investors.

In the **Bitterbrush Condominiums**, where I am surrounded by four STRs, the **proposed parking requirements are nonsensical**. There may be two allocated spots per Bitterbrush unit, but the garages are too narrow for all but compact cars --- leaving many STR guests to take up scarce guest parking or park illegally in the fire lane. Looks good on paper, but is ineffective.

Again, is not only about noise, waste and parking altering the “character of existing residential neighborhoods”. The draft code takes an **exceedingly narrow view of the STR issue**---a view focused solely on property rights. **It assumes that the replacement of homes and families with transients/tourists/customers does not alter the “character of existing residential neighborhood”**. It ignores the concept of residential vs commercial zoning.

I don't begrudge Washoe County and the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority the benefits of a strong tax base that Incline Village tourism provides, **but please not at the cost of our residential**

**community and its workers. Please revisit the draft code and reconsider your approach.**

*Please ensure that this emailed letter is read and made part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting on 25 August 2020.*

Sincerely,

Kathie Julian

PO Box 5477

Incline Village, NV 89450

**From:** [Sara Lafrance](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Short term rentals in Incline Village  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:53:34 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I am writing in the hope that the Washoe County Manager and Commissioners will take steps to regulate short-term rentals in Incline Village.

Continuing to allow these properties to operate uncontrolled presents a source of danger and disruption to local residents.

In many places around the country, short-term rental operators must obtain a business license and a short-term rental permit, as well as carry a liability insurance policy. Hosts who are part of a homeowners association must also have written permission to have a short-term rental in the neighborhood.

The fact is that short-term rentals are businesses. And requiring proper licensing and liability coverage is no different than what any other business is mandated to do.

In Nevada, Las Vegas has such an ordinance. It has proved to eliminate many of the problems that impacted local residents and ensured short-term rental users understand the rules regarding noise, parking, trash and occupancy.

Enforcing licensing will not only minimize the impact of short-term rentals on local residents, it will provide the county with a source of tax revenue.

I implore you to take action. The community of Incline Village looks to you for our representation.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sara Lafrance  
500 Fairview Blvd  
Incline Village, NV 89511  
775 772 2637

**From:** [Sara Lafrance](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Short term rentals in Incline Village  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:49:08 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

I am writing in the hope that the Washoe County Manager and Commissioners will take steps to regulate short-term rentals in Incline Village.

Our 1000 short-term rentals consume valuable real estate that could be rented long term. Although that's a problem wherever STRs exist, in Incline Village it has serious consequences. Because of our geographical isolation from major metropolitan areas, without local housing, most Incline employees commute from Reno or Carson through snow in winter and construction in summer. Employees who have other options refuse to do the commute. That means local businesses, services, and even agencies like IVGID can't recruit the best employees.

Employee turnover from year to year means rehiring and retraining; and that affects the bottom line. Local businesses don't last when they can't find good employees. And when local businesses go under, Incline residents have to travel to Reno or Carson. This greatly increases traffic in and out of the basin and—according to TRPA—cars are the number one enemy of lake clarity.

But those aren't the only drawbacks. Short-term rentals cause problems in the neighborhoods and the village as a whole. First, they take away a house that could be a home to a resident who votes for local issues and contributes to the local community. Communities lose committed and invested residents, and businesses lose year-round customers. Second, they cause problems between neighbors wanting the tranquil use of their properties and owners who rent to short-term renters who want to party like there's no tomorrow. Neighborhoods fray. Housing prices teeter. As STRs increase, residential neighborhoods transform into tourist areas and permanent residents move out.

Please help preserve Incline's residential character. Please find a way to limit the impact of short-term rentals on Incline Village.

Sincerely,

Leonard Lafrance  
500 Fairview Blvd.  
Incline Village, NV 89451  
775 772 2567

**From:** [Keli Maiocco](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#); [iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: STR INCIDENT LANTERN CT  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 8:46:54 AM  
**Attachments:** [VID-20200822-WA0002\\_001.mp4](#)

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----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Keli Maiocco** <[kmaiocco65@gmail.com](mailto:kmaiocco65@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sat, Aug 22, 2020 at 8:42 AM  
**Subject:** STR INCIDENT LANTERN CT  
**To:** Berkbigler, Marsha <[mberkbigler@washoecounty.us](mailto:mberkbigler@washoecounty.us)>, Lucey, Robert (Bob) L <[blucey@washoecounty.us](mailto:blucey@washoecounty.us)>

Commissioners,

If you are able to open this video, you will hear the cries of a bear cub who wandered through an open door next door at 3:30am this morning. The renters who arrived yesterday evening went to bed with the door open. The cub tried to exit from the top floor window and was there dangling by it's front paws for 10-15 minutes. It's mother circled my back yard distressed until a neighbor from the bear league came with a ladder. He was finally coaxed down and both bears left the area. All the neighbors were awake from the screaming cub, crying mother bear, deputies, and the tenants. Luckily, there appeared to be no damage.

The authorities have been involved with incidents at this STR for months. The new ordinance must stress education and this ignorance must stop.

Please read and add to public records at WC Commissioners meeting 8/25/20

Respectfully,  
Keli Maiocco  
553 Len Way





**From:** [Shirley Roxburgh](#)  
**To:** [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#)  
**Subject:** Suggestion for STR Standards  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:24:37 AM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

As a 20 year home owner in Incline Village, I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed Standards for Short Term Rentals.

I appreciate the many hours of work that have gone into preparing the current draft.

There is one most important item not addressed in the draft that could very simply resolve much of the conflict regarding the standards.

**LIMIT THE NUMBER OF SHORT TERM RENTALS THAT ARE ALLOWED IN A GIVEN GEOGRAPHIC AREA, (INCLINE VILLAGE).**

The vast majority of property owners have made it know to you at public meetings that they consider STRs a problem in our community. There are many reasons for these problems. However, the main reason is that there has been a huge increase in the number of short term rentals. Limiting the number of STRs would be extremely effective in managing the problem.

Thank you,  
Shirley Roxburgh

**From:** [Pamela Tsigdinos](#)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [CSD - Short Term Rentals](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#)  
**Subject:** Resend: STR Ordinance - Public Comment, Please read at 8/25/20 Washoe County Commissioners Meeting  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:47:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [WashoeCountyMasterZonePlanning.pdf](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Note: Apologies for the resend. Typos fixed below. Please use this version to read into the public record

-----  
To: Eric P Brown, Marsha Berkbigler, Bob Lucey, Jeanne Herman, Vaughn Hartung, Kitty Jung, Kelly Mullin, Kathy Emerson

From: Pamela Tsigdinos (*pronounced: Sig-din-us*), Incline Village Homeowner

RE: Short-Term Rental Ordinance Public Comment

Date: August 20, 2020

*Please read the following email at the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting 8/25/20 so that my comments are made part of the public record.*

I have been a homeowner in Incline Village since 2004. I understood -- then and now -- that Washoe County's Development Code (page 92, attached) states "lodging services" are a commercial use and that lodging services (page 148, attached) in medium density suburban zones are **not** allowed. Period.

Furthermore, Washoe County's master plan zoning plan map (attached) specifically **prohibits** tourism commercial uses in suburban zones.

In the years since becoming a homeowner, I have watched Washoe County officials willfully ignore their responsibility to the residents of Incline Village. This dereliction of duty over more than a decade has allowed businesses like AirBNB, VRBO and nearly a dozen other online property management companies to turn quiet residential zones into unruly commercial districts.

By turning a blind eye, congestion, garbage, noise, and water pollution have damaged our fragile environment. In short, the Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority and Washoe County focus on turning North Lake Tahoe into a tourist destination 'cash cow' has trashed Incline Village and Crystal Bay.

Beyond the very real inconvenience of competing for space in overcrowded grocery store parking lots, paths, beaches and other facilities, many of us have pleaded with you to do something to help our overworked first responders and to mitigate the very real danger of forest fires and overcrowded two-lane roadways. These are life or death evacuation routes.

When many residents did not think it could get any worse, Washoe County officials ignored requests to institute a temporary ban on all short-term rentals during the pandemic to prevent community transmission of a deadly virus. Inaction has jeopardized the health and safety of residents and first responders.

Weak attempts to 'rein in' short-term rentals by Washoe County through public workshops and online surveys has been a charade. The refusal -- announced at the beginning of the public workshop I attended -- to consider a ban (in accordance with your own code) only reinforced that Washoe County officials have no intention of listening to residents' concerns.

Even knowing the process was biased against residents, we still showed good faith in asking for STR limitations, quotas, and hard enforcement of rightly tough new code requirements.

Instead, the latest version of the proposed plan reads like it was written by the property management companies. Self-certification? Really? That is like giving burglars the keys to the house and telling them not to take anything.

Please do your duty: enforce what is already on the books and stop pandering to scofflaws and outside business interests. If you are not prepared to do your job, residents will do ours and vote for elected officials who will represent us.

Sincerely,

Pamela M. Tsigdinos

*3 Attachments, Not for public reading but for submission into the public record*

Table 110.302.05.3 (continued)

**TABLE OF USES (Commercial Use Types)**  
(See Sections 110.302.10 and 110.302.15 for explanation)

| Commercial Use Types<br>(Section 110.304.25) | LDR             | MDR            | HDR            | LDS/<br>LDS 2  | MDS/<br>MDS 4  | HDS            | LDU            | MDU            | HDU            | GC             | NC             | TC             | I              | P&P            | PR             | OS | GR             | GRA            |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----|----------------|----------------|
| Limited Gaming Facilities                    | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | P              | P              | P              | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |
| Marinas                                      | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | P              | -              | P              | -              | P              | P              | -  | P              | S <sub>2</sub> |
| Outdoor Entertainment                        | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | -  | -              | -              |
| Outdoor Sports and Recreation                | S <sub>2</sub>  | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | P              | P              | P              | P              | S <sub>2</sub> | P              | -  | P              | S <sub>2</sub> |
| Outdoor Sports Club                          | S <sub>2</sub>  | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | P              | -  | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> |
| Unlimited Gaming Facilities                  | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |
| Communication Facilities                     |                 |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |    |                |                |
| Commercial Antennas                          | S <sub>2</sub>  | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | -  | S <sub>2</sub> | -              |
| Satellite Dish Antennas                      | See Article 324 |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |    |                |                |
| Wireless Communication Facilities            | See Article 324 |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |    |                |                |
| Construction Sales and Services              | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | -              | A              | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |
| Continuum of Care Facilities,<br>Seniors     | -               | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | -              | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |
| Convention and Meeting Facilities            | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | P              | P              | P              | -              | P              | S <sub>2</sub> | -  | -              | -              |
| Data Center                                  | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | A              | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | -  | S <sub>2</sub> | -              |
| Eating and Drinking Establishments           |                 |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |    |                |                |
| Convenience                                  | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | A              | A              | A              | P              | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |
| Full Service                                 | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | A              | A              | A              | P              | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |
| Financial Services                           | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | A              | A              | A              | P              | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |
| Funeral and Interment Services               |                 |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |    |                |                |
| Cemeteries                                   | P               | P              | P              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | -              | -              | A              | -              | -  | P              | S <sub>2</sub> |
| Undertaking                                  | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | A              | A              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |
| Gasoline Sales and Service Stations          | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | A              | A              | A              | A              | -              | -              | -  | S <sub>2</sub> | -              |
| Helicopter Services                          |                 |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |    |                |                |
| Heliport                                     | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | -  | S <sub>2</sub> | -              |
| Helistop                                     | S <sub>2</sub>  | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | -  | S <sub>2</sub> | -              |
| Liquor Manufacturing                         | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | P              | P              | P              | A              | P              | A              | A              | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |
| Liquor Sales                                 |                 |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |    |                |                |
| On-Premises                                  | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | P              | P              | P              | A              | P              | A              | P              | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |
| Lodging Services                             |                 |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |    |                |                |
| Bed and Breakfast Inns                       | S <sub>2</sub>  | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> | -              | P              | -              | -              | -              | -  | S <sub>2</sub> | S <sub>2</sub> |
| Condominium Hotel                            | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | A              | S <sub>2</sub> | A              | -              | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |
| Hostels                                      | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | P              | -              | -              | P              | -  | -              | -              |
| Hotels and Motels                            | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | A              | S <sub>2</sub> | A              | -              | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |
| Vacation Time Shares                         | -               | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | -              | P              | -              | -              | -              | -  | -              | -              |

Key: - = Not allowed; A = Allowed; P = Administrative Permit; PR = Park Commission Approval pursuant to Section 110.104.40(c); S<sub>1</sub> = Planning Commission Special Use Permit; S<sub>2</sub> = Board of Adjustment Special Use Permit

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the allowed uses described in Article 302, Allowed Uses, the following regulation modifiers shall apply in the High Desert planning area:

(a) Allowed Uses:

(1) Residential Use Types:

- (i) Family residential - attached accessory dwelling;
- (ii) Family residential - detached accessory dwelling;
- (iii) Manufactured home parks; and
- (iv) Group home.

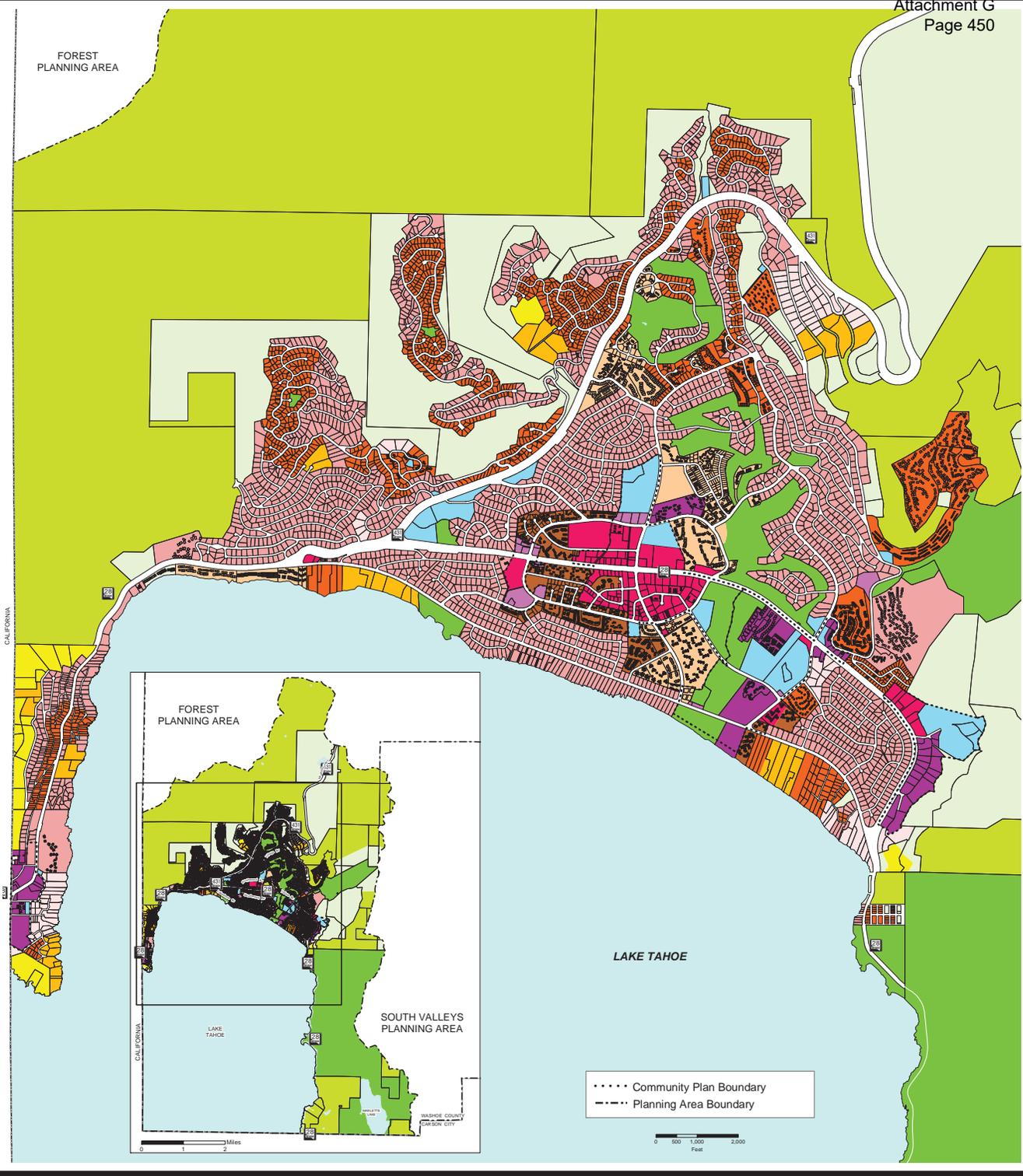
(2) Civic Use Types:

- (i) Administrative services;
- (ii) Child care - family daycare;
- (iii) Community center;
- (iv) Convalescent services; and
- (v) Postal services.

(3) Commercial Use Types:

- (i) Administrative offices;
- (ii) Animal sales and services - veterinary services, agricultural;
- (iii) Animal sales and services - veterinary services, pets;
- (iv) Commercial educational services;
- (v) Commercial recreation - commercial campground facilities;
- (vi) Lodging services - bed and breakfast inns;
- (vii) Medical services;
- (viii) Nursery sales - retail;
- (ix) Personal services;
- (x) Personal storage;
- (xi) Recycle center - remote collection facility;
- (xii) Repair services, consumer; and
- (xiii) Retail sales - convenience.

FOREST  
PLANNING AREA



## TAHOE REGULATORY ZONE MAP

|                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  LOW DENSITY RURAL         |  HIGH DENSITY SUBURBAN              |  INDUSTRIAL                        |
|  MEDIUM DENSITY RURAL      |  LOW DENSITY URBAN                  |  PUBLIC AND SEMI-PUBLIC FACILITIES |
|  HIGH DENSITY RURAL        |  MEDIUM DENSITY URBAN               |  PARKS AND RECREATION              |
|  LOW DENSITY SUBURBAN      |  HIGH DENSITY URBAN                 |  OPEN SPACE                        |
|  LOW DENSITY SUBURBAN 2    |  GENERAL COMMERCIAL                 |  GENERAL RURAL                     |
|  MEDIUM DENSITY SUBURBAN   |  NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL/<br>OFFICE |  GENERAL RURAL AGRICULTURAL        |
|  MEDIUM DENSITY SUBURBAN 4 |  TOURIST COMMERCIAL                 |  DRY LAKE/<br>WATER BODY           |

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PATH: G:\arcgis\plan\washoe\info\Region\_3.mxd

CERTIFICATION:  
THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND APPROVED AS AN ACCURATE REPRESENTATION OF THE ADOPTED ZONING MAPS OF WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA, BY THE WASHOE COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION.  
DATE: 5/8/2018 DIRECTOR: [Signature]

**Community Services  
Department**

**WASHOE COUNTY  
NEVADA**

**From:** [Aaron Vanderpool](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#);  
[Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Cc:** [Washoe311](#)  
**Subject:** Washoe County STR ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 7:17:52 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Washoe County Commissioners,

To be made part of the public record for the Washoe County Commissioner's Meeting  
8/25/2020

My family has been residents of Incline Village for 4 decades and we are against short-term rentals. Upper-class Gentrification is KILLING Lake Tahoe environmentally and culturally. The evidence is surrounding us both anecdotally/subjectively (TRPA Thresholds) and scientifically/objectively (Lake Tahoe State of the Lake Report) as invasive species increase and as over-development continues (shrinking the quality of life). Short term rentals bring trash problems which create bear problems. There are growing noise problems and disrespect on all levels from those that don't live here long-term. When you don't live in a place, it's easier to pollute it with the dumping of aquariums (e.g. invasive species), litter, light, noise pollution and fire threats. It's growingly unaffordable to those who grew up here. People are destroying the very thing they seek when they come here.

I urge you to enact strict rules regarding short-term rentals to reduce unnecessary development, reduce incentive for (often vacant) investment homes (that could be used instead for local renters), reduce crime (not knowing your neighbors with people coming and going), reduce pollution, and open up our economy to a stronger and more sustainable local community--one which can help balance out many of the problems created by too many short-term rentals.

Sincerely,  
Aaron Vanderpool

**From:** [andrew.whyman](mailto:andrew.whyman)  
**To:** [cpricebrown@washoecounty.us](mailto:cpricebrown@washoecounty.us)  
**Cc:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** STR Ordinance  
**Date:** Saturday, August 22, 2020 5:35:21 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Please read this email aloud at the August 25th, 2020 Washoe County Commissioners meeting and make it a part of the public record. Let me not bore you with the redundant detail already articulated by other like-minded residents of Incline Village.

In brief, my wife and I have lived in Incline for some 20 years. Gradually, nearly imperceptibly, Paradise has drifted towards purgatory.

The erosion of community is at the core of this transformation: More tourists, fewer full-time residents, a decline in enjoyable public space and civic-mindedness, the deterioration of comity between neighbors, particularly in our increasingly mislabeled residential areas, failing businesses, roadways littered with out-of-state vehicles, garbage everywhere.

Each of these factors contribute to a gradually corrosive decline in the quality of life in our small Mountain Home. The STR Ordinance, as written, will accelerate the decline of Incline Village Crystal Bay as a livable Community. Surely, our commissioners would not want to preside over this looming and predictable catastrophe. With all due respect this ordinance, as written, is about politics, power, grievance, and greed; a small number of people, many though certainly not all from out of the area, purchase real estate to profit at the expense of the rest of us.

Wondrous places have been decimated through overuse and rapacious greed. Will IVCB become another such place? Sincerely, Andrew and Barbara Whyman

Good afternoon: My name is Joe Farrell. My wife and I have been homeowners in Incline Village for 18 years. We currently make Incline Village our permanent residence.

I have sent several emails (7/23/20,8/18/20, 8/21/2020) to all commissioners concerning the Short-Term Rental situation in Incline Village. Ironically, none of the commissioners have acknowledged my emails, except for Marsh Berkgigler. Kelly Mullin has confirmed receipt of my emails and promised they would become part of the Public Records.

Over the past 5-6 years we have experienced obnoxious noise and rowdy parties in our neighbor which has necessitated involving the Sheriff to settle the situations down. Recently we have experienced Short Term Renters whose drunken behavior has led to significant disturbance of the peace from 10 AM to 10 PM for over a week during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. My neighbors up the mountain from us have experienced weekend after weekend of Short Term Rental partying, issues with garbage attracting bears, bears entering a Short Term Rental home and the renter scaring a cub into an upstairs bedroom to the point whereby the cub was hanging from a window for 15 minutes prior to a neighbor from the Bear League helping the bear to safety and lastly, short term renters allowing sparks from charcoal grill fires to get blown into the air necessitating the Fire Department to put out the grill fire. Additionally, some Short-Term Renters using foul language directed towards neighbors attempting to quiet the partying down is quite alarming.

As you have heard from many constituents of Incline Village, we have a significant short-term rental problem, which has significantly affected our communities, ambience, safety and the safety of Short-Term Renters. There is significant risk for forest fires, bear mauling's, and even death of short- term renters who have no idea how to handle the wildlife in our area. In addition to the safety issues the excessive noise and drunken partying is significantly disturbing the peace of our quiet neighborhoods. Incline Village has turned into party central and many residents have turned their homes into HOTELS in a residential zone. Residents have the RIGHT to peace and quiet!!

I am beginning to believe that an act of violence from a short term renters drunken behavior, a forest fire, or a death due to a bear mauling has to occur prior to the majority of the you Commissioners seriously listening and doing something about our short term rental complains!! Hopefully, your potential inaction will not lead to a major catastrophe in Incline Village!!!!!!!!!! Please re-read my August 21, 2020 email where I offer 8 suggestions to make Short Term Rental regulations more stringent and enforceable.

I am for a BAN of STR in Incline Village; however, do we as residents need to contribute to your political campaigns to get ACTION on our complaints??? I understand money talks in politics; however, safety and paying attention to your constituents should talk!

**From:** [Svata](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Washoe311](#)  
**Subject:** Incline Village STRs - Please Limit!  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 1:58:40 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Svata Trossen and I live in Tyrolian Village at 7200', above Diamond Peak Ski area. There are 5 homes in our cul de sac, one of them being a short term rental. The constant comings and goings of strange people and cars cause noise and traffic issues. At times there are up to 4 vehicles for this one residence! In addition to all the extra cars with snow or water toys, there is noise late into the evening, and sometimes their pet dogs can be heard disturbing the peace with their barking. It appears that there are several families sharing the house judging by the number of extra vehicles parked in our already crowded cul de sac.

I am particularly concerned in the winter, when often only a small area has been cleared because most of the snow has to be moved out of the cul de sac after the storms have subsided and the main roads in our Village have been cleared. Many of these renters are unaccustomed to driving in snow, and often do not have snow tires or chains. I have observed some cars sliding dangerously on our narrow, steep roads. One evening two vehicles arrived at about 11 p.m., and not seeing an open parking area, simply left their cars in the middle of the single cleared lane and did not come out to move them until after 10 a.m. the next morning. Most of the owners on our Court are seniors. Emergency vehicles would not have been able to reach these residents if they needed help!

I also believe that you should include a condition that requires the owner to send renter information to the HOA manager so that we know when the property will be occupied, by how many people and for how long.

Please, please take these dangerous situations into consideration, and limit the number of STRs allowed to rent, not only in Tyrolian Village, but in the entire town of Incline Village.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

(Mrs.) Svata Trossen

**From:** [JAZ](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Aaron Vanderpool](#)  
**Cc:** [Washoe311](#)  
**Subject:** Washoe County STR ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 4:19:40 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Washoe County Commissioners,

Please make Washoe County short term rentals more strict than Las Vegas. Incline Village is a tiny town that can't handle the problems created by short-term rentals. We increasingly struggle to find places to live here.

Thank You  
Jean Zambik  
Incline Village Resident for 45 years.  
806 Oriole #20  
Incline Village, NV 89451

**From:** [Shawn Cardinal](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#)  
**Subject:** Incline Village Short-Term Rentals  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 11:08:08 PM

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

*I would appreciate having this statement read at Tuesday's meeting if at all possible.*

I am a native Nevadan. I was born at St. Mary's Hospital in Reno in 1960. My father was an aircraft mechanic at Stead AFB at the time, but moved our family to Las Vegas (and Nellis AFB) when Stead closed in the mid 1960's. My son and daughter grew up in Las Vegas, but both chose to pursue journalism degrees at UNR. That is where they met my future son-in-law, a sixth-generation Reno native who graduated with an eco-hydrology degree. He and my daughter were married at the Hyatt in Incline five years ago. I say all of this so you will understand how much I love — and am invested in — the state of Nevada. As long as I can remember, our family has been returning to Tahoe for sunny summers and snowy holidays. It is our absolute favorite place in this incredible, wide-open, beautiful state.

Several years ago, my husband and I started looking for a second home in Incline. The plan was — and still is — to live in Incline permanently once we both retire. Last year, we found the perfect spot in the perfect neighborhood and started enjoying the Tahoe experience as “locals.” What we soon learned is that there are far too many non-locals in STRs who sometimes ruin the experience for the rest of us. We have chatted with them at the beach and on the hiking trails. Many make it known they are here to “party” and seem to have no guilt about smoking on the beach, leaving trash on the trails or parking on (and speeding through) neighborhood streets all around town.

I understand why people want to visit Incline. And I understand why someone who owns a home here might want to rent it out periodically. But there have to be some limits and some guidelines. In Las Vegas, this has become a huge issue which we residents are all aware of. Careful, thoughtful considerations have been made to limit the number of bedrooms, parking spaces, noise violations, etc. In addition, Las Vegas requires a business license for operators of short-term rentals. Essentially, STRs are treated as “hotels” and have to adhere to many of the same rules & regulations.

I don't think we can — nor should we — eliminate all STRs in Incline Village, but it seems to me we need to regulate and control the process far better than we currently do. Las Vegas is an example of a community getting it right; it wouldn't hurt for us to follow that lead.

I appreciate your time and hope you will seriously consider my comments.

**MS. SHAWN CARDINAL**  
ASSISTANT TO FRANK J. FERTITTA III  
CHAIRMAN & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
**RED ROCK RESORTS**  
1505 SOUTH PAVILION CENTER DRIVE  
LAS VEGAS, NV 89135

1.702.495.3701 office  
1.702.497.1887 mobile

**From:** [Collin Harris](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L.](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Emerson, Kathy](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#)  
**Subject:** STR  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 8:17:00 PM

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

The current STR ordinance falls way short of protecting our neighborhood. Just the other day, there was an STR in our neighborhood (lower Tyner) where a huge party was held and disturbing the peace until 3-4am! Even the Sheriff here won't intervene.

Why can't you follow the guidelines of Las Vegas? Makes so much more sense! See below for an excellent STR ordinance.

Sincerely,  
Collin Harris  
Incline Village, NV 89451  
775-240-8370

In Las Vegas:

- considered a commercial use, requires a business license
- STR unit can have no more than 3 bedrooms
- occupancy limited to 2 people over 12 years of age per bedroom + 2
- maximum daytime occupancy is limited to 1 ½ times nighttime occupancy
- STRs in HOAs must show a letter from the HOA documenting approved use as a STR
- must list on permit all hosting platforms on which the STR is advertised online
- evacuation map and emergency numbers permanently listed in all bedrooms,
- vehicles parked on site—not in adjacent public right of way
- no sound-producing device allowed outside
- no weddings, parties, receptions, or similar events allowed
- business license required
- suspension of license upon 2<sup>nd</sup> violation in 2 year period; permit denied if violating any provision in Ordinance
- no STR closer than 660 feet to any other STR residence
- dwelling must be occupied by owner during rental period
- floor plan identifying bedrooms and living spaces including bedroom occupied by owner during rentals

**From:** [Dema Herrera](#)  
**To:** [Washoe311](#)  
**Cc:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Incline Village STR  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 3:12:22 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To our Valued Representatives;

When making your decisions in regards to STR's in our communities I would like you to take into consideration the fact that STR's located in residential housing creates a myriad of problems.

### WHO MONITORS THE STR's?

- 1.) **NOISE-** We who actually live in these communities have to get up and go to work and school. No, we are not on permanent vacation as some would like to think. The noise factor disturbs all of us whether or not we have a day job, swing shift, or night job. I repeatedly let STR vacation renters no of the noise ordinance to no avail. Our daughter, who lives between two STR's, never knows who is going to be her neighbor for the week, weekend etc. They have even witnessed sex trafficking in the unit next to them.
- 2.) **TRASH-** The burden of cleaning up and lack of education in regards to proper trash disposal is exhausting. In my small complex we have added 2 additional 4yd dumpsters this summer and it is not enough. Ultimately, those of us who are full time residents end up paying out of our pockets for the additional services required to handle the traffic.
- 3.) **PARKING-** I cannot stress enough the lack of parking in our community. Which agency is going to be here on an hourly basis monitoring the parking situation and making sure that the limit on cars is being met. My guess is no one. Our complex has one parking bay per household for those of us who own our units. Parking is stretched to the limits every single day during a normal summer. You only have to look into the number of parking citations the NV Hwy Patrol has been issuing this summer. We have had unprecedented numbers of visitors to our area all summer long.
- 4.) **SAFETY-** Our local emergencies services are small and inadequate to meet the demands of the influx of people to our area. In the event of an actual Forest Fire; A large percentage of us would not be able to evacuate. Example: From the hours of 8:00-10:00 a.m. on any Friday-Sun it takes me a minimum of 45 minutes to go 3 miles due to the Sand Harbor Traffic situation. It is unacceptable and no one seems to know how to fix it or is unwilling. I have called the Sheriff's dept on several occasions (non-emergency) to complain of STR noise. By the time they were able to respond I had given up.
- 5.) **HOUSING/EMPLOYMENT-**As a business owner in our community, there is a "HUGE" problem with lack of housing and employable persons. This goes hand in hand with the STR situation. We no longer have any affordable housing in our town for our local teachers, officers, firemen and women, as well as health care providers. For the most part, if you work here you don't live here. Unless you share a house with mates or spend your wages on housing. Again, NO COMMUNITY.
- 6.) **QUALITY OF LIFE-**In closing, our quality of life has been deeply impacted by the allowance of STR's. We longer feel

as if we live in a safe environment. I do remember several years ago, during a hearing on Time-Shares in our association, one commissioner voting against the Time-Shares due to safety concerns. Please keep in mind the safety concerns of our community when deciding today. The \$\$ do not replace the loss of our community.

Kind Regar  
775-832-5061

d s

Dema Herrera

**From:** [linda@marknewman.net](mailto:linda@marknewman.net)  
**To:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Hartung, Vaughn](#); [Herman, Jeanne](#); [Jung, Kitty](#); [Lucey, Robert \(Bob\) L](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Washoe County Commissioners 8-25-20 Meeting - Written Comment on proposed Regulations for STR/Vacation Rentals Agenda Item  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 4:46:49 PM

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Honorable Commissioners, County Manager Brown and Ms. Mullin,

The negative impacts of short term rentals have plagued cities across the nation. Here in Incline Village/Crystal Bay the proliferation of unsupervised and unregulated vacation rentals have disrupted our neighborhoods, reduced the available housing for our workforce, endangered our community's health and safety, unfairly disadvantaged licensed lodging businesses, placed the lives of visitors at risk with the absence of uniform sanitary and safety measures, threatened the clarity of Lake Tahoe and strained our local government, our local resources and County infrastructure. If money could fix these problems, there isn't enough of it that can be generated by increasing taxes, fees and penalties. The same is true for adopting regulations without effective enforcement. Voluntary compliance is an oxymoron that will not render the required compliance to minimize the harms caused by short term rentals.

After more than a decade of real facts to support the validity of these detriments, I respectfully request the implementation of an Ordinance that will successfully create enforceable standards that do reflect best practices and address impacts. The Ordinance has already been adopted in our State by the City of Las Vegas. I strongly recommend its adoption here. A copy is attached for your thorough review.

As we face more than a triad of new challenges from the economic and financial fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic along with the unrelenting threat to our community and our visitors' health and safety, we also face the season of virulent wildfires. The evacuation plans in place to support our year round population of under 10,000 do not appear to have the elasticity to also support those who visit for the day or the unknown number of short term renters that arrive at any given time. There must be a plan in place to accommodate the evacuation of the additional 2,000, 5,000 or 10,000 vacationers. There must also be a budget and workforce for the additional first responders as well as an expansion of health care facilities, sanitation, and wildlife protection –not only for emergencies but for the expanded daily population base.

These are new times that demand new thinking to reverse the damage already done. Please set the foundation for a future that allows our property owners and residents to restore their neighborhoods and protect our Lake, and please implement the same uniform protections for our short term vacation renters from the hosts of these "residential" businesses that you

demand of hotel/motel and other lodging businesses. There may not be second chances...

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Linda and Mark Newman

P.O. Box 5685

Incline Village

\*Please be kind enough to include our written comments with the Meeting Minutes.



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING**  
Planning Division, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Code Enforcement Division, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Business Licensing Division, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
333 N. Rancho Dr.  
Las Vegas, NV 89106

Contact us at:

**Complaints 24/7 Live Operator: 702-229-3500**  
Planning (Zoning) Information: 702-229-6301  
Code Inspection Scheduling: 702-229-5253  
Licensing Questions: [license@lasvegasnevada.gov](mailto:license@lasvegasnevada.gov)  
**TTY: 7-1-1 [www.lasvegasnevada.gov](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov)**

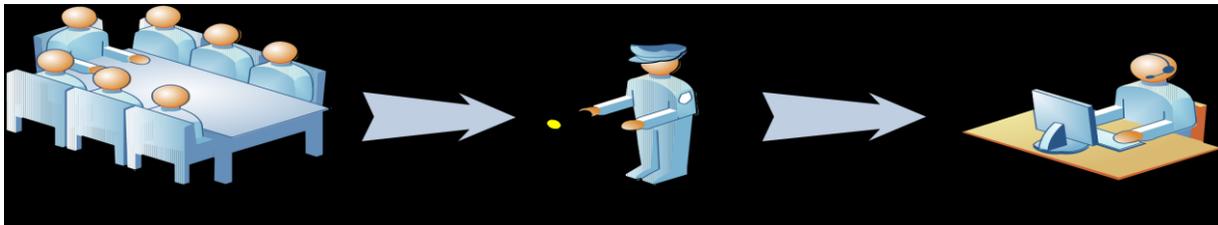
## SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL RENTAL GENERAL INFORMATION

### What is a Short-Term Residential Rental?

The Las Vegas Municipal Code defines a short-term rental as follows:

*A Short-Term Residential Rental means the commercial use, or the making available for commercial use, of a residential dwelling unit for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes, wherein any individual guest rents or occupies the entire dwelling unit or one or more individual rooms within the unit for a period of less than thirty-one (31) consecutive calendar days. The term does not include a community residence, facility for transitional living for released offenders, or any other facility with dwelling units that is specifically defined in LVMC, Chapter 19.18.*

**The approval process for a short-term rental requires three steps.**



### 1. PLANNING

The first step in the process starts with the approval from Planning.  
To begin the process, call Planning at (702) 229-6301.

Short-term rentals are allowed in most residential neighborhoods of Las Vegas, subject to a number of restrictions. They are prohibited in the following master planned areas

- *Summerlin, including Sun City Summerlin*
- *Town Center*
- *Skye Canyon*
- *Cliff's Edge*
- *Symphony Park*
- *Grand Canyon Village*
- *Las Vegas Medical District*
- *Providence Square*

A short-term rental license does not provide authority to violate any common-interest community's covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs). If the residence is inside a gated subdivision or a controlled-access building that is governed by an owner's association, a letter from the association acknowledging the use and granting access to occupants of the rental unit will be required as part of the application.

A short-term residential rental requires a Conditional Use Verification (CUV).

Effective December 5, 2018, a short-term residential rental may be allowed to operate as a conditional use, provided it meets the following standards:

1. Must be owner occupied.
2. Have no more than three bedrooms. The number of bedrooms is that shown on the Clark County Assessor's records.
3. Be at least 660 feet from any other short-term residential rental
4. Be in a location that allows short-term residential rentals

If the residence does not meet the standards for a conditional use, they cannot be waived.

#### Who qualifies as an owner?

"Owner" includes any person who is listed as an owner of record of the unit in the records of the County Assessor, or, in the case of a unit that is owned by a trust or other corporate or legal entity, a trustee or principal of that trust or entity. LVMC 19.12.070(7)(b)

#### What does it mean to be "owner occupied"?

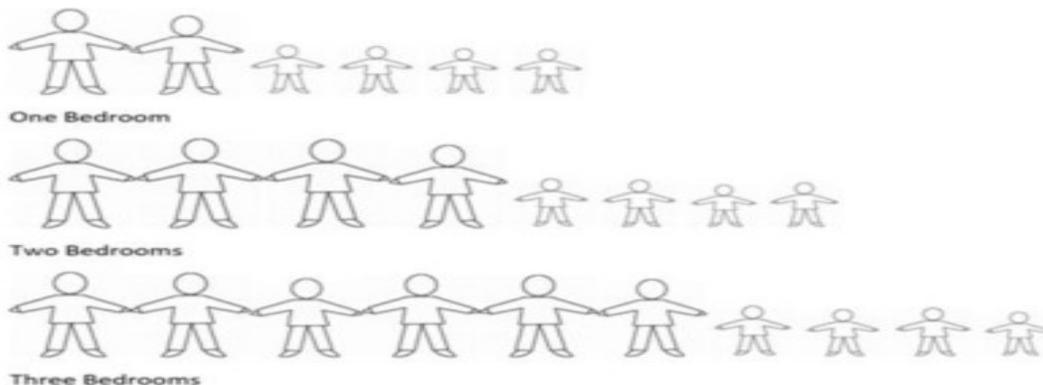
A dwelling unit qualifies as "owner-occupied during each period the unit is rented" only if the dwelling unit is the owner's primary residence, the owner continues to reside at the unit throughout the rental period, and the owner's absence, if any, from the unit during the rental period is attributable only to employment or to the running of typical personal or household errands. LVMC 19.12.070(7)

#### What is the maximum occupancy for a short-term rental?

The maximum occupancy of a short-term residential rental unit shall not exceed either of the following limits:

1. Two persons per bedroom (but excluding children under the age of twelve); or
2. The maximum occupancy limits for residential dwellings established by the Uniform Housing Code, as adopted in LVMC Chapter 16.20.

The number of children under 12 years of age can be increased if the number of adults are reduced but the number of adults cannot be increased by reducing the number of children. **No more than 2 adults per bedroom at any time during the rental period.**



## 2. INSPECTION

As part of the Conditional Use Verification (CUV) Permit approval process, an inspection of the property will be required. The inspector will verify the number of bedrooms in the house and will check for a number of life safety and related requirements. **The inspector will also check for building permits for all changes and additions that have been made to the original structure.**

For a detailed list of the items inspected, see Appendix 1. In general, the residence must meet all applicable building and fire safety codes for a residence, plus others that are required for commercial use of the property. These include:

- *Fire extinguishers properly mounted in the garage, in the kitchen and on each floor, with a current service tag from a contractor certified by the State of Nevada Fire Marshal*
- *Interconnected smoke detectors in each sleeping room and at other locations in the residence*
- *Carbon monoxide detectors are required in several locations in residences with fuel-fired appliances.*

## 3. LICENSING

All short-term residential rentals must obtain a business license prior to operating. The license application has several special requirements and restrictions:

- *No accessory structures such as casitas, tents, trailers or other mobile units may be used for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes.*
- *The business license number must be included in all advertisements.*
- *The licensee must provide proof of liability insurance coverage with a \$500,000 minimum amount.*
- *The residence must display a placard whenever rented listing the maximum occupancy and a 24-hour contact number for complaints.*
- *660-foot separation between short-term residential rentals is required.*
- *The property owner must be the license holder.*
- *The license application must list the hosting platform on which the units will be advertised.*
- *The application must include an affidavit attesting that there are no delinquent room tax liabilities or liens on the property.*
- *If applicable, corporation/LLC/Trust documentation will be required*
- *A floor plan identifying the bedrooms and living spaces must be provided to include the bedroom being occupied by the property owner during the rental periods.*

A complete list of the items required for the application in Appendix 2.

### APPENDIX 1—INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

1. **Inspection Requirements:** Property must be inspected to verify it complies with all life safety codes and minimum property standard requirements.
  - a. UAC- 301.1 Permits Required- All additions, patio covers, patio enclosures, garage conversions, exterior perimeter masonry walls, pools, spas, casitas, electrical conduit or devices, water heater, water softener, air condition/heat pumps or any other structures or equipment that would require a permit shall have final inspections approved.
  - b. LVMC 19.06.070-Building Placement- Minimum Front Yard Setback 20 feet, Minimum Side Yard Setback 5 feet, Minimum Corner Side Yard Setback ,15 feet. Minimum Rear Yard Setback

15 feet no structures shall located in these areas.

- c. LVMC 19.04.050 (H).1 Site Address- The property address shall be displayed on the front of dwelling with 4" tall numbers in a contrasting color.
- d. Egress Door-Egress doors shall be readily openable from the inside without the use of key or any special knowledge or effort.
- e. The door between the garage and the residence shall be a solid wood door and shall be self-closing.
- f. Smoke Detectors shall be located in each sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area (covers 80 square feet) and at each additional story. All smoke detectors shall be interconnected in such a manner that actuation of one device will activate all smoke detectors inside of the dwelling.
- g. Carbon Monoxide Detectors shall be installed in dwelling units that have fuel-fired appliances or combination smoke and carbon monoxide detectors will meet this requirement. Carbon monoxide detectors shall be located on every habitable level and in every HVAC zone of the dwelling.
- h. Fire Extinguisher shall be located-one in the garage, mounted on a wall not more than 48 "off the finished floor, in the kitchen under the kitchen sink, one on each floor of a dwelling unit and shall have a current service tag from the State of Nevada Fire Marshal certified contractor. i. The Limitation of Hot Water in Bathtubs and Whirlpool Bathtubs- The maximum hot water temperature discharging from the bathtub and whirlpool bathtub filler shall be limited to 120°F (49°C).
- j. Seismic Provisions-Gas fired water heaters shall be anchored or strapped to resist horizontal displacement due to earthquake motion. Strapping shall be located in the upper one-third and lower one-third of the tank. At the lower one-third, the strap located not more than four inches away from the controls.
- k. Reduction of Clearances for Gas Fired Water Heaters B-Vents-Water heater single wall B-Vent clearance to combustible material shall be 6" away from combustible materials and double wall shall be 1" away from combustible materials or per the UL listing.
- l. All drain waste traps shall have a smooth and uniformed waterway (no flex piping).
- m. Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) - When applicable a ground fault circuit interrupter shall trip when the current to ground is 6 milliamps or higher and will not trip when the current to ground is less than 4 milliamps. The device shall be wired properly with no open ground, open neutral, open hot, hot ground reversed or hot neutral reversed.
- n. Electrical Boxes, Conduit or Fitting (C) all electrical wiring shall be inside all boxes, conduit or fitting shall be protected from abrasion (tight fitting not exposing any of the wiring).
- o. All electrical boxes, switches or outlets shall be closed by suitable covers securely fastened in place.
- p. Exposed electrical wiring (B) Protection from physical damage-Nonmetallic Sheathed Cable (Romex) exposed to physical damage and shall be in electrical conduit or boxes.
- q. Unused Openings-All unused openings in any electrical service panels shall be closed with an approved cover.
- r. Pool Access barrier Requirement-Mesh, Chain Link or Wrought Iron fence 48 inches tall surrounding the pool with a self-closing gate with the gate latch at the top of the fence and shall not allow the passage of a 4 inch sphere pass through at any point of the fence or all openings from the dwelling that provide direct access to the pool or spa to include doors, windows with window sill height less than 48", windows with locking or latching devices less than 54"shall have an alarm that shall sound continuously for 30 seconds when opened. The opening alarm shall be capable of providing 85 decibels and shall be permanently secured to a surface. Rear yard access-gates shall be self-closing, gate latches shall be more that 48" off the ground, gate latches shall have 20" of protection away from the gate latch from outside access, Large or doubled gates shall be locked or pin closed to prevent access.

## APPENDIX 2—LICENSE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND CONDITIONS

1. Pay, in advance, an annual fee of five hundred dollars for each residential unit. (LVMC 6.75.030)
2. Only the property owner may hold a short-term residential rental license. “Owner” includes any person who is listed as an owner by a trust or other corporate or legal entity, a trustee or principal of that trust or entity. (LVMC 6.75.020)
3. Each application shall contain or include the following information and documentation (LVMC 6.75.040):
  - a. The name, signature, address, and telephone number of the owner of the residential dwelling to be associated with the license.
  - b. The name, address, and telephone number of any property manager or property management firm that will be operating the short-term residential rental. If a short-term residential unit is managed by a person other than the licensee or a principal of the licensee for that unit, that person must possess a valid license from the State of Nevada and City to manage the property. Provide a signed copy of the contract between property owner and the Nevada State licensed property manager to operate the residence as a short-term rental.
  - c. The name, address, and telephone number (including a telephone number that provides for communication twenty-four hours a day) of the local contact person who will respond to complaints regarding the condition, operation, or conduct of the occupants of the short-term residential rental unit.
  - d. The address of the residential dwelling proposed to be used as a short-term residential rental. Where there are multiple units on the same property, each unit must be licensed individually.
  - e. The number of bedrooms, per the documentation listed with the Clark County Assessor. The Clark County Assessor’s records can be updated by updating the building records with the City of Las Vegas Building and Safety Department (333 North Rancho Dr., 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 702-229-6251).
  - f. If the short-term residential rental unit is located within a gated subdivision or controlled-access building that is governed by an owners’ association, a letter or other documentation from the association acknowledging the purpose use and, if necessary, granting access to occupants of the rental unit.
  - g. Provide a completed and notarized Short Term Rentals Affidavit form.
  - h. Provide proof of liability insurance coverage in a minimum amount of \$500,000.
  - i. Provide all hosting platforms (i.e. AirBNB, VRBO) on which you will advertise your rental.
  - j. Provide a copy of the approved City Conditional Use Verification (CUV) Permit.
  - k. Applicant will need to provide a valid copy of their driver’s license or government issued identification.
  - l. If applicable, corporation/LLC/Trust documentation will be required
  - m. A floor plan identifying the bedrooms and living spaces must be provided to include the bedroom being occupied by the property owner during the rental periods.
4. The maximum occupancy is two adults per bedroom or the maximum occupancy in the Uniform Housing Code. See page 2 of this handout for further clarification.
5. The operator of a short-term residential rental shall comply with all provisions of LVMC Chapter 6.46 and 4.20 that pertain to the collection of room taxes, as well as the associated record keeping requirements. (LVMC 6.75.060)
6. An evacuation map and list of procedures shall be placed within each guest room used for sleeping. (LVMC 6.75.080)

7. It is unlawful and a public nuisance for a person to create or permit to exist upon a residential property an unruly gathering. Such conduct includes without limitation any of the following, or a combination thereof (LVMC 9.04.015):
  - a. Traffic to or from the property, or the parking of vehicles in the neighborhood, to extent or of a character that represents an undue burden on the neighborhood.
  - b. The obstruction of public rights-of-way by vehicles or persons.
  - c. The service of alcoholic beverages to minors, or the possession or consumption thereof by minors.
  - d. The illegal possession or consumption of controlled substances.
  - e. Violence or other disturbances of the peace.
  - f. Noise disturbances in violation of LVMC Chapter 9.16.
  - g. Vandalism.
  - h. Litter upon public rights-of-way.
  - i. Urinating or defecating in areas visible to the public.
8. The operator shall post a copy of the license along with a copy of the following operating requirements for a short-term residential rental unit. (LVMC 6.75.090)
  - a. Post a valid City license for the short-term residential rental unit.
  - b. While unit is being rented, the operator must display a placard on the exterior of the building listing the allowable occupancy and 24-hour phone number for complaints. The placard shall be in plain view for the general public at all times the short-term residential rental unit is occupied. The placard shall be a minimum of 8 ½ inches by 11 inches in size, clearly depicting the 24 -hour contact information. Contact information shall include the full name and telephone number and must be in a minimum legible font 72 point or a minimum of 1 ½ inches in height
  - c. All occupant vehicles shall be parked on site, and shall not be parked in the adjacent public right-of-way. No commercial vehicles shall be permitted on the short-term residential rental unit property or parked in the adjacent public right-of-way, except where otherwise permitted in commercial zoning districts.
  - d. Notwithstanding the provisions of LVMC Chapter 9.16, the use of any radio receiver, stereo, musical instrument, sound amplifier or similar device, which produces, reproduces or amplifies sound shall take place only within an enclosed short-term residential rental unit. The property owner or operator of a short-term residential unit shall use reasonably prudent business practices to ensure that the occupants or guests of the rental unit do not create unreasonable noise disturbances.
  - e. The owner of the property unit shall be responsible for notifying occupants of trash disposal procedures and for maintaining compliance with the requirements of LVMC Chapter 9.08.
  - f. Accessory structures including but not limited to casitas, tents, trailers, or other mobile units may not be rented out.
  - g. No short-term residential rental unit may be rented for the purpose of holding weddings, parties, receptions or similar events that typically are held at a banquet facility or other facility that is made available for the holding of events on a commercial basis. Any use of the short-term residential rental unit is limited to activities that are incidental to its use for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purpose

**CITY OF LAS VEGAS  
BUSINESS LICENSING DIVISION  
SHORT TERM RENTAL AFFIDAVIT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn, deposed and states:  
Print Name

I am the licensee for \_\_\_\_\_, located at:

Business Name Rental Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Hosting Platform(s) where property will be advertised: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 24-Hour Rental Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of bedrooms: \_\_\_\_\_ Conditional Use Verification Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

1. I attest that I have read [Las Vegas Municipal Code 6.75](#) and agree to abide by all requirements therein.
2. I attest this is my primary residence, and I will be staying at the property during all rental periods. The following documents have been attached to this affidavit:
  - a. A copy of my photo identification confirming my primary residence.
  - b. A floor plan identifying my bedroom and all living spaces.
3. I understand that if the proposed short term residential rental unit is located within a gated subdivision or controlled-access building that is governed by an owner's association, a letter or other documentation from the association acknowledging the proposed use and, if necessary, granting access to occupants of the proposed rental unit must be obtained prior to applying for this license. A copy of the letter or document has been attached to this affidavit.
4. I attest that there are no delinquent room tax liabilities or liens regarding the property to be used as a short-term residential rental.
5. I acknowledge that I must maintain liability insurance coverage with a \$500,000 minimum amount and have attached a copy of the proof of insurance that lists the property address.
6. I have provided the corporation/LLC/trust documentation if the ownership structure of my entity consist of other entities.
7. I understand that failure to be truthful as required may result in my Short Term Rental Business License and/or renewal being denied.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Affiant's Printed  
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Affiant's Signature

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY

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**FIRST AMENDMENT**

**BILL NO. 2017-16**

**ORDINANCE NO. 6585**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY'S LICENSING AND ZONING REGULATIONS TO DELETE CATEGORIES FOR "BED AND BREAKFAST INN" AND "BOARDING OR ROOMING HOUSE," REVISE REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS PERTAINING TO SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL RENTALS, AND PROVIDE FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

Sponsored by: Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian  
Councilman Bob Beers

Summary: Amends the City's licensing and zoning regulations to delete categories for "bed and breakfast inn" and "boarding or rooming house," and to revise regulations and requirements pertaining to short-term residential rentals.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS  
FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: Title 6, Chapter 46, Section 20, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

**6.46.020:** (A) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (B), [No] no person shall engage in the business of operating a hotel, motel, [roominghouse, bed and breakfast establishment] or other establishment that rents or holds out for rent rooms or other temporary accommodations on a daily basis or for a period of thirty days or less, with or without meals included in the rental rate, without first obtaining and thereafter maintaining a valid unexpired license pursuant to this Chapter.

(B) The provisions of Subsection (A) do not apply to a short-term residential rental subject to licensing under LVMC Chapter 6.75.

SECTION 2: Title 6, Chapter 46, Section 140, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

**6.46.140:** (A) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (B), [Persons] persons operating a hotel, motel, [roominghouse] or other establishment wherein rooms or other temporary accommodations are rented on a daily basis or for a period of thirty days or less, with or without meals included in the rental

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1 rate, shall [provided,] provide, keep and maintain a public register and shall require every person who rents  
2 or occupies a room or other temporary accommodation in such hotel, motel, roominghouse or  
3 establishment to write in such register his or her name and place of residence. Such registration shall be  
4 made on a page of the register properly dated with reference to the day of the year, month and week and the  
5 time of day the person rents or arranges to occupy a room or temporary accommodation shall also be  
6 therein entered. Such register shall be permanently and firmly bound and shall not be of a loose-leaf  
7 nature.

8 (B) The provisions of Subsection (A) do not apply to a short-term residential rental  
9 subject to licensing under LVMC Chapter 6.75.

10 SECTION 3: Title 6, Chapter 75, Section 10, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las  
11 Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 **6.75.010:** "Commercial vehicle" means a vehicle customarily used as part of a business for the  
13 transportation of goods or people.

14 ["Daytime" means the period of time between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. on a given day.

15 "Nighttime" means the period of time between 10:00 p.m. on one day and 9:00 a.m. on the  
16 next succeeding day.]

17 "Hosting platform" means any electronic or other operating system, functioning in the  
18 nature of a marketplace, by which an operator markets, advertises, offers, solicits customers for, or makes  
19 available for commercial use a short-term residential rental.

20 "Operator" means any person who owns, leases, controls, manages or operates a short-term  
21 residential rental unit or property.

22 "Short-term residential rental" means the commercial use, or the making available for  
23 commercial use, of a residential dwelling unit for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes, wherein any  
24 individual guest rents or occupies the entire dwelling unit or one or more individual rooms within the unit  
25 for a period of less than thirty-one consecutive calendar days. The term does not include a "community  
26 residence," "facility for transitional living for released offenders," or any other facility with dwelling units

1 that is specifically defined in LVMC Chapter 19.18.

2 SECTION 4: Title 6, Chapter 75, Section 20, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las  
3 Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **6.75.020:** (A) No person shall engage in the business of offering or operating a short-term  
5 residential rental without first obtaining and thereafter maintaining a valid unexpired license pursuant to  
6 this Chapter for each short-term residential rental unit. Where there are multiple dwelling units on the  
7 same property, each unit must be licensed individually.

8 (B) If a short-term residential unit is managed by a person other than the licensee or a  
9 principal of the licensee for that unit, that person must possess a valid license from the State of Nevada and  
10 the City to manage property.

11 (C) The holder of a license under this Chapter is the person primarily responsible for  
12 compliance with the obligations that are imposed on an operator by this Chapter, whether or not that person  
13 owns the real property on which the short-term residential rental is located. In the case of a short-term  
14 residential rental whose affiliated licensee is not the property owner, the property owner is secondarily  
15 responsible for compliance.

16 (D) Commencing on July 1, 2017, no person is eligible for a new license for a short-  
17 term residential rental under this Chapter unless the person qualifies as an owner of the parcel on which the  
18 short-term residential unit is located. For purposes of the preceding sentence, "owner" includes any person  
19 who is listed as an owner of record of the unit in the records of the Clark County Assessor or, in the case of  
20 a unit that is owned by a trust or other corporate or legal entity, a trustee or principal of that trust or entity.  
21 Short-term residential rentals that are licensed as of July 1, 2017, shall have two years from that date within  
22 which to terminate operations or achieve licensing by an owner.

23 SECTION 5: Title 6, Chapter 75, Section 40, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las  
24 Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

25 **6.75.040:** Each application for a short-term residential rental license shall contain or include the  
26 following information and documentation:

1 (A) The name, signature, address and telephone number of the owner of the residential  
2 dwelling to be associated with the license.

3 (B) The name, address and telephone number of any property manager or property  
4 management firm that will be operating the short-term residential rental.

5 (C) The name, address and telephone number (including a telephone number that  
6 provides for communication twenty-four hours a day) of the local contact person who will respond to  
7 complaints regarding the condition, operation, or conduct of the occupants of the short-term residential  
8 rental unit.

9 (D) The address of the residential dwelling proposed to be used as a short-term  
10 residential rental.

11 (E) The number of bedrooms, [per the documentation listed with the Clark County  
12 Assessor, and the applicable nighttime and daytime occupancy limit of the residential dwelling.] as  
13 determined by the City pursuant to the conditional use verification process described in LVMC  
14 19.12.040(C).

15 (F) If the proposed short-term residential rental unit is located within a gated  
16 subdivision or controlled-access building that is governed by an owners' association, a letter or other  
17 documentation from the association acknowledging the proposed use and, if necessary, granting access to  
18 occupants of the proposed rental unit.

19 (G) A list of all hosting platforms that the applicant proposes to use to market,  
20 advertise, offer, solicit customers for, or make available for commercial use the short-term residential rental  
21 applied for.

22 (H) Proof of current, valid liability insurance coverage in a minimum amount of  
23 \$500,000.

24 (I) An affidavit attesting that there are no delinquent room tax liabilities or liens  
25 regarding the property to be used as a short-term residential rental.

26 SECTION 6: Title 6, Chapter 75, Section 80, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las

1 Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 **6.75.080:** (A) An evacuation map and list of procedures shall be placed within each guest room  
3 used for sleeping. Maps and lists of procedures shall be mounted on a wall or door in a horizontal position,  
4 either made of a durable material or encased within a durable frame or enclosure. Each map and list shall  
5 have a minimum size of ten inches by eight inches, with the color of text contrasting to the background.  
6 Maps shall have a "you are here" star with a directional arrow to the nearest exit, and shall also indicate the  
7 location of all available fire extinguishers.

8 (B) At a minimum, there must be at least one fire extinguisher:

9 (1) In the kitchen area, located under the sink;

10 (2) In any garage, mounted on the wall no higher than forty-eight inches  
11 above the finished floor; and

12 (3) Located on each floor level of the short-term residential rental unit, to the  
13 extent not otherwise covered by Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Subsection (B).

14 →Each fire extinguisher shall have a current service tag from a State of Nevada Fire Marshal-certified  
15 contractor.

16 (C) All sleeping rooms shall be equipped with smoke alarms and shall be installed in  
17 accordance with applicable codes. A record of monthly testing and battery replacement shall be available  
18 for verification by the Fire Prevention Division.

19 (D) Carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in accordance with applicable codes.

20 (E) Each short-term residential rental shall be maintained in accordance with all  
21 applicable provisions of City building-related and technical codes adopted pursuant to LVMC Title 16.

22 SECTION 7: Title 6, Chapter 75, Section 90, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las  
23 Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 **6.75.090:** (A) The operator shall post a copy of the license along with a copy of this Section  
25 6.75.090 in a conspicuous place within the short-term residential rental unit.

26 (B) The maximum [nighttime] occupancy of a short-term residential rental unit shall

1 [comply with the maximum occupancy limits for residential dwellings established by the Uniform Housing  
2 Code, as adopted in LVMC Chapter 16.20. The total daytime occupancy of the unit shall be limited to a  
3 maximum of one and one-half times the nighttime occupancy limit.] not exceed either of the following  
4 limits:

5 (1) Two persons per bedroom (but excluding children under the age of  
6 twelve); or

7 (2) The maximum occupancy limits for residential dwellings established by  
8 the Uniform Housing Code, as adopted in LVMC Chapter 16.20.

9 (C) All occupant vehicles shall be parked on site, and shall not be parked in the  
10 adjacent public right-of-way. No commercial vehicles shall be permitted on the short-term residential rental  
11 unit property or parked in the adjacent public right-of-way, except where otherwise permitted in  
12 commercial zoning districts.

13 (D) Notwithstanding the provisions of LVMC Chapter 9.16, the use of any radio  
14 receiver, stereo, musical instrument, sound amplifier or similar device which produces, reproduces or  
15 amplifies sound shall take place only within an enclosed short-term residential rental unit. The property  
16 owner or operator of a short-term residential rental unit shall use reasonably prudent business practices to  
17 ensure that the occupants or guests of the rental unit do not create unreasonable noise or disturbances.

18 (E) The operator shall make available a local twenty-four-hour phone number that  
19 provides the capability of producing a response within two hours to complaints regarding the condition,  
20 operation, or conduct of the occupants of the short-term residential rental unit. Failure of the operator or an  
21 employee or agent to respond [or provide for a response] to the complainant within two hours shall  
22 constitute a violation of [these regulations.] this Chapter. In the case of a short-term residential rental unit  
23 with more than five bedrooms, compliance with this Subsection (E) requires the operator to engage as its  
24 agent for the purpose of responding to complaints a company licensed to provide security pursuant to NRS  
25 Chapter 648. For purposes of the preceding sentence, a dwelling unit is presumed to have the number of  
26 bedrooms indicated in the records of the Clark County Assessor's Office that pertain to that unit, but that

1 presumption may be rebutted by inspection or other competent evidence.

2 (F) [With respect to any short-term residential rental unit with more than four  
3 bedrooms, a placard shall be displayed on the exterior of the unit listing the twenty-four-hour contact  
4 information for complaints regarding the operation or conduct of the occupants of the unit. The placard  
5 shall be in plain view for the general public at all times the short-term residential rental unit is occupied.  
6 The placard shall be a minimum of eight and one-half inches by eleven inches in size, clearly depicting the  
7 twenty-four-hour contact information. Contact information shall include the full name and telephone  
8 number and must be in a minimum legible font of seventy-two-point or a minimum of one and one-half  
9 inches in height.] A placard shall be displayed on the exterior of each short-term residential rental unit  
10 listing the information set forth below in this Subsection (F). The placard shall be in plain view of the  
11 general public at all times the short-term residential rental unit is occupied and shall be a minimum of eight  
12 and one-half inches by eleven inches in size. The placard must specify the maximum occupancy allowed  
13 pursuant to this Section, as well as the twenty-four-hour contact information required by Subsection (E) of  
14 this Section. The information required by the preceding sentence must be in a minimum legible font of  
15 seventy-two-point or a minimum of one and one-half inches in height. The required contact information  
16 shall include a full name and telephone number of the contact.

17 (G) Trash and refuse shall not be left or stored in public view, except in proper  
18 containers for the purpose of collection in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 9.08. The owner of  
19 the property or manager of the short-term residential rental unit shall be responsible for notifying occupants  
20 of trash disposal procedures and for maintaining compliance with the requirements of Chapter 9.08.

21 (H) Consistent with and as a reflection of the definition of the term "short-term  
22 residential rental" set forth in this Chapter, no short-term residential rental unit may be rented for the  
23 purpose of holding weddings, parties, receptions or similar events that typically are held at a banquet  
24 facility or other facility that is made available for the holding of events on a commercial basis. Any use of  
25 the short-term residential rental unit is limited to activities that are incidental to its use for dwelling,  
26 lodging or sleeping purposes.

1           (I)     All written or visual advertising for the short-term residential rental must include  
2 the business license number assigned to the rental unit.

3           SECTION 8: Title 6, Chapter 75, Section 110, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las  
4 Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 **6.75.110:** In addition to any other remedy available for a violation of this Chapter, the Director may  
6 suspend or revoke a license issued under this Chapter in connection with a particular short-term residential  
7 unit for the [third] second or subsequent violation of this Chapter regarding that unit within any twenty-four  
8 month period. Such action is appealable to the City Council or the Council's designee. In addition, the  
9 renewal of a license issued under this Chapter or an application for a new license under this Chapter may be  
10 denied if the licensee or applicant has been found guilty of any provision of this Chapter or has been  
11 determined to be in violation of any provision of this Chapter in connection with a civil proceeding.

12           SECTION 9: Ordinance No. 6289 and the Unified Development Code adopted as Title  
13 19 of the Municipal Code of the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, are hereby amended as set forth  
14 in Sections 10 to 15, inclusive, of this Ordinance. The amendments are deemed to be amendments to both  
15 Ordinance No. 6289 and the Unified Development Code adopted as Title 19.

16           SECTION 10: Table 2 of the Land Use Tables adopted in Title 19, Chapter 12, Section  
17 10, is hereby amended by deleting the entries for the uses "Bed & Breakfast Inn" and "Boarding or  
18 Rooming House."

19           SECTION 11: Table 2 of the Land Use Tables adopted in Title 19, Chapter 12, Section  
20 10, is hereby amended by amending the entry for the use "Short-Term Residential Rental" to indicate that  
21 the use is not allowed in the R-MH District and to add the P-O, O, C-1, C-2 and C-PB Zoning Districts to  
22 the list of districts in which the use is allowed as a conditional use. In order to reflect the amendments:

23           (A) The letter "C" shall be removed from the box that represents the intersection of the  
24 row for the use "Short-Term Residential Rental" and the column for the R-MH Zoning District.

25           (B) The letter "C" shall be inserted in the box that represents the intersection of the  
26 row for the use "Short-Term Residential Rental" and the column for each of the P-O, O, C-1, C-2 and C-PB

1 Zoning Districts.

2 SECTION 12: Title 19, Chapter 12, Section 70, is hereby amended by deleting in their  
3 entirety the entries for the uses “Bed & Breakfast Inn” and “Boarding or Rooming House.”

4 SECTION 13: Title 19, Chapter 12, Section 70, is hereby amended by amending the entry  
5 for the use “Short-Term Residential Rental” to read as follows:

6 **Short-Term Residential Rental**

7 **Description:** The commercial use, or the making available for commercial use, of a residential dwelling  
8 unit for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes, wherein any individual guest rents or occupies the entire  
9 dwelling unit or one or more individual rooms within the unit for a period of less than 31 consecutive  
10 calendar days. This use does not include a “Community Residence,” “Facility for Transitional Living for  
11 Released Offenders,” or any other facility with dwelling units that is specifically defined in Chapter 19.18.  
12 For purposes of this Title, this use does not include the rental or occupancy of an accessory structure (Class  
13 I or II), a tent, a trailer or a mobile unit. In the case of a single parcel containing more than one dwelling  
14 unit, each dwelling unit constitutes a separate short-term residential rental use.

15 **Conditional Use Regulations:**

- 16 1. The operator must obtain a business license to operate the use.
- 17 2. The use must comply on an ongoing basis with all governmental licensing and regulatory  
18 requirements, including the payment of applicable room taxes and licensing fees.
- 19 3. The use must comply with the City’s noise regulations as they apply to residential uses.
- 20 4. The use may not be located closer than 660 feet to any other Short-Term Residential Rental use  
21 (measured from property line to property line).
- 22 5. Vehicle parking associated with the use shall comply with applicable parking regulations, and vehicles  
23 of guests and invitees shall not obstruct traffic or access to other properties in the area.
- 24 6. In addition to and independent of any enforcement authority or remedy described in this Title, the  
25 failure to comply with a Conditional Use Regulation associated with this use may be enforced as in the case  
26 of a violation of Title 6 by means of a civil proceeding pursuant to LVMC 6.02.400 to 6.02.460, inclusive.

1 7. On any particular parcel, the use is limited to a single residential dwelling unit that is occupied by its  
2 owner during each period the unit is rented and that has no more than [four] three bedrooms, with a  
3 maximum occupancy not to exceed the limits set forth in LVMC 6.75.090. For purposes of the preceding  
4 sentence, "owner" includes any person who is listed as an owner of record of the unit in the records of the  
5 Clark County Assessor or, in the case of a unit that is owned by a trust or other corporate or legal entity, a  
6 trustee or principal of that trust or entity. The dwelling unit is presumed to have the number of bedrooms  
7 indicated in the records of the Clark County Assessor's Office that pertain to that unit, but that presumption  
8 may be rebutted by inspection or other competent evidence.

9 8. The use is allowed in the P-O, O, C-1, C-2 and C-PB Zoning Districts only in connection with the  
10 residential component of a mixed-use development or in a dwelling unit permitted as a legal  
11 nonconforming use.

12 **Minimum Special Use Permit Requirements:**

13 \*1. The operator must obtain a business license to operate the use.

14 \*2. The use must comply on an ongoing basis with all governmental licensing and regulatory  
15 requirements, including the payment of applicable room taxes and licensing fees.

16 \*3. The use must comply with the City's noise regulations as they apply to residential uses[.], as well as  
17 any applicable provisions of the Municipal Code that may pertain to odor nuisances,

18 \*4. Vehicle parking associated with the use shall comply with applicable parking regulations, and vehicles  
19 of guests and invitees shall not obstruct traffic or access to other properties in the area

20 \*5. In addition to and independent of any enforcement authority or remedy described in this Title, the  
21 failure to comply with a Minimum Special Use Permit Requirement or other condition of approval  
22 associated with this use may be enforced as in the case of a violation of Title 6 by means of a civil  
23 proceeding pursuant to LVMC 6.02.400 to 6.02.460, inclusive.

24 \*6. [The use may not be located closer than 660 feet to any other Short-Term Residential Rental use  
25 (measured from property line to property line).] The use is allowed in the P-O, O, C-1, C-2 and C-PB  
26 Zoning Districts only in connection with the residential component of a mixed-use development or in a

1 dwelling unit permitted as a legal nonconforming use.

2 \*7. The maximum occupancy of the residential dwelling unit shall not exceed the limits provided for in  
3 LVMC 6.75.090.

4 8. The use may not be located closer than 660 feet to any other Short-Term Residential Rental use  
5 (measured from property line to property line).

6 **On-site Parking Requirement:** [No] For any short-term residential rental that has no more than 5  
7 bedrooms, no additional parking is required beyond that which is required for the principal use on the site.  
8 For units with more than 5 bedrooms, 1 additional space shall be required for every 2 additional bedrooms  
9 or fractional portion thereof.

10 SECTION 14: Title 19, Chapter 18, Section 20, is hereby amended by deleting in their  
11 entirety the definitions for the uses “Bed & Breakfast Inn” and “Boarding or Rooming House.”

12 SECTION 15: Title 19, Chapter 18, Section 20, is hereby amended by amending the  
13 definition of the term “Short-Term Residential Rental” to read as follows:

14 **Short-Term Residential Rental:** The commercial use, or the making available for commercial use, of a  
15 residential dwelling unit for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes, wherein any individual guest rents or  
16 occupies the entire dwelling unit or one or more individual rooms within the unit for a period of less than  
17 31 consecutive calendar days. The term does not include a “Community Residence,” “Facility for  
18 Transitional Living for Released Offenders,” or any other facility with dwelling units that is specifically  
19 defined in Chapter 19.18. For purposes of this Title, the term does not include the rental or occupancy of  
20 an accessory structure (Class I or II), a tent, a trailer or a mobile unit. In the case of a single parcel  
21 containing more than one dwelling unit, each dwelling unit constitutes a separate short-term residential  
22 rental use.

23 SECTION 16: For purposes of Section 2.100(3) of the City Charter, Sections 19.12.010,  
24 19.12.070 and 19.18.020 are deemed to be subchapters rather than sections.

25 SECTION 17: The Department of Planning is authorized and directed to incorporate into  
26 the Unified Development Code the amendments set forth in Sections 10 to 15, inclusive, of this Ordinance.

1           SECTION 18: Short-term residential rental uses that are existing on the effective date of  
2 this Ordinance, that would require a special use permit under this Ordinance in order to be established as a  
3 new use, and that were not approved by means of special use permit shall have two years from the effective  
4 date of this Ordinance within which to apply for and obtain a special use permit. If by that date special use  
5 permit approval has not been obtained, the use must terminate as of that date.

6           SECTION 19: If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or  
7 phrase in this ordinance or any part thereof is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid or  
8 ineffective by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity or  
9 effectiveness of the remaining portions of this ordinance or any part thereof. The City Council of the City  
10 of Las Vegas hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph,  
11 sentence, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections,  
12 subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional, invalid or ineffective.

13           SECTION 20: Whenever in this ordinance any act is prohibited or is made or declared to  
14 be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, or whenever in this ordinance the doing of any act is required  
15 or the failure to do any act is made or declared to be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, the doing of  
16 such prohibited act or the failure to do any such required act shall constitute a misdemeanor and upon  
17 conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 or by imprisonment for a term of  
18 not more than six months, or by any combination of such fine and imprisonment. Any day of any violation  
19 of this ordinance shall constitute a separate offense.

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26 ...

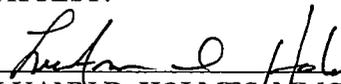
1 SECTION 21: All ordinances or parts of ordinances or sections, subsections, phrases,  
2 sentences, clauses or paragraphs contained in the Municipal Code of the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, 1983  
3 Edition, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

4 PASSED, ADOPTED and APPROVED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2017.

5 APPROVED:

6 By   
7 CAROLYN G. GOODMAN, Mayor

8 ATTEST:

9   
10 LUANN D. HOLMES, MMC  
City Clerk

11 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

12  6-21-17  
13 Val Steed, Date  
Deputy City Attorney

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1 The above and foregoing ordinance was first proposed and read by title to the City Council  
2 on the 3rd day of May, 2017, and referred to a committee for recommendation; thereafter  
3 the said committee reported favorably on said ordinance on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2017,  
4 which was a regular meeting of said Council; that at said regular meeting, the proposed  
5 ordinance was read by title to the City Council as amended and adopted by the following  
6 vote:

7 VOTING "AYE": Mayor Goodman and Councilmembers Tarkanian, Barlow and  
Coffin

8 VOTING "NAY": Anthony, Beers and Ross

9 EXCUSED: None

10 ABSTAINED: None

11 DID NOT VOTE: None

12 APPROVED:

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14 \_\_\_\_\_  
15 CAROLYN G. GOODMAN, Mayor

16 ATTEST:

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18 \_\_\_\_\_  
19 LUANN D. HOLMES, MMC City Clerk

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AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF NEVADA)  
COUNTY OF CLARK) SS:

RECEIVED  
CITY CLERK

2017 MAY 30 P 3:55

LV CITY CLERK  
495 S MAIN ST  
LAS VEGAS NV 89101

Account # 22515  
Ad Number 0000912990

Leslie McCormick, being 1st duly sworn, deposes and says: That she is the Legal Clerk for the Las Vegas Review-Journal and the Las Vegas Sun, daily newspapers regularly issued, published and circulated in the City of Las Vegas, County of Clark, State of Nevada, and that the advertisement, a true copy attached for, was continuously published in said Las Vegas Review-Journal and / or Las Vegas Sun in 1 edition(s) of said newspaper issued from 05/25/2017 to 05/25/2017, on the following days:

05 / 25 / 17

BILL NO. 2017-16

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY'S LICENSING AND ZONING REGULATIONS TO DELETE CATEGORIES FOR "BED AND BREAKFAST INN" AND "BOARDING OR ROOMING HOUSE," REVISE REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS PERTAINING TO SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL RENTALS, AND PROVIDE FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

Sponsored by: Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian

Summary: Amends the City's licensing and zoning regulations to delete categories for "bed and breakfast inn" and "boarding or rooming house," and to revise regulations and requirements pertaining to short-term residential rentals.

At the City Council meeting of  
May 3, 2017

BILL NO. 2017-16 WAS READ BY TITLE AND REFERRED TO A RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE

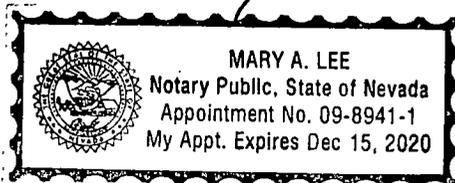
COPIES OF THE COMPLETE ORDINANCE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, 2ND FLOOR, 495 SOUTH MAIN STREET, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

PUB: May 25, 2017  
LV Review-Journal

  
/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT REPRESENTATIVE

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 25th day of May, 2017

Notary 



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF NEVADA)  
COUNTY OF CLARK) SS:

RECEIVED  
CITY CLERK

2017 JUN 29 P 12:02

LV CITY CLERK  
495 S MAIN ST  
LAS VEGAS NV 89101

Account # 22515  
Ad Number 0000921000

Leslie McCormick, being 1st duly sworn, deposes and says: That she is the Legal Clerk for the Las Vegas Review-Journal and the Las Vegas Sun, daily newspapers regularly issued, published and circulated in the City of Las Vegas, County of Clark, State of Nevada, and that the advertisement, a true copy attached for, was continuously published in said Las Vegas Review-Journal and / or Las Vegas Sun in 1 edition(s) of said newspaper issued from 06/24/2017 to 06/24/2017, on the following dates:

06 / 24 / 17

FIRST AMENDMENT

BILL NO. 2017-16  
ORDINANCE NO. 6585

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY'S LICENSING AND ZONING REGULATIONS TO DELETE CATEGORIES FOR "BED AND BREAKFAST INN" AND "BOARDING OR ROOMING HOUSE," REVISE REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS PERTAINING TO SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL RENTALS, AND PROVIDE FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

Sponsored by:  
Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian  
Councilman Bob Beers

Summary: Amends the City's licensing and zoning regulations to delete categories for "bed and breakfast inn" and "boarding or rooming house," and to revise regulations and requirements pertaining to short-term residential rentals.

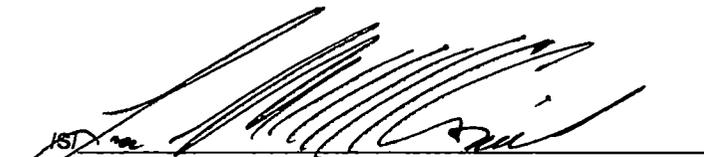
The above and foregoing ordinance was first proposed and read by title to the City Council on the 3rd day of May, 2017, and referred to a committee for recommendation; thereafter the committee reported favorably on said ordinance on the 21st day of June, 2017, which was a regular meeting of said City Council; and that at said regular meeting the proposed ordinance was read by title to the City Council as amended and adopted by the following vote:

VOTING "AYE": Mayor Goodman and Councilmembers Tarkanian, Coffin, and Barlow

VOTING "NAY": Councilmen Ross, Anthony and Beers

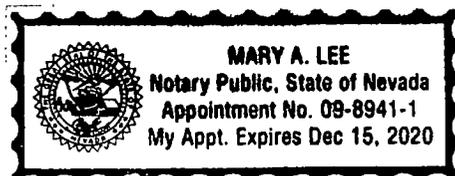
EXCUSED: NONE

COPIES OF THE COMPLETE ORDINANCE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, 2ND FLOOR, 495 SOUTH MAIN STREET, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
PUB: June 24, 2017  
LV Review-Journal

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT REPRESENTATIVE

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 26th day of June, 2017

Notary 



Thank you, Commissioners for your willingness to take on this very difficult ordinance. As you may recall, I live next to a 6000 sq. ft., year round short term rental party house. I have been writing the property owners, Cynthia and John Hunter, for many months without any response. To me, this demonstrates their lack care or concern for neighbors; they appear only to care about their STR income. They don't live here; they don't care.

Rather than repeat the comments of many other community members, I'll share the STR cleaning crew perspective. The people cleaning the homes know there are no minimum standards. There isn't even a requirement to change the sheets. Last weekend I observed a 12 person bachelor party. They trashed the entire backyard, were cited for disturbing the peace, and upon their departure I inquired with the housecleaner. She said they completely trashed the house, that she was the only cleaner and had only 4 hours to clean a 6000 square foot home occupied by 12. When the next renters appeared and I inquired with them regarding the condition of the home. I was told of bloody bedding, bedding covered in semen, and general filth. Upon their departure, I spoke with the next two-person cleaning crew. They shared their frustration. They told me there are no cleaning standards and that sheets regularly go unchanged. Bedding that is covered with semen is just flipped over since there is no time or requirement to have them cleaned. They told me hot tubs are checked for water level, but no chemical testing or cleaning is done.

Given our new normal, this is completely unacceptable. If owners are allowed to run their "essential business" during this time of pandemic, they must be required to have sanitary requirements and 72 hours between guests, just like hotels. To clean and monitor hot-tubs, just like hotels. The local property manager should be 'signing off' on the checklist of cleaning requirements and have them posted at the property and on-line so renters can have faith there are going to be safe.

I understand many want STR's banned. I feel this isn't realistic, but having permitting, a local person responsible and available to neighbors along with health and safety standards are bare minimums to be included in our first implementation of an ordinance.

I also understand the issue of property rights. Owners have the right to rent their home, just as neighbors have the right to enjoy their property in peace. This ordinance must assure all property owners' rights are respected.

Some of the Commissioners may be concerned that by placing requirements on Short Term rentals that it may reduce the Transient Occupancy Tax collected (TOT). I think the opposite. You have no idea how many properties are operating under the radar, not paying the fees they are expected to pay.

We can **not** let this unregulated, unsupervised, uncontrolled situation continue. It is detrimental to the life and safety of our community AND those unsuspecting renters.

Sara Schmitz

Incline Village

## Mullin, Kelly

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**From:** rondatycer@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 5:15 PM  
**To:** Mullin, Kelly  
**Cc:** Washoe311; Brown, Eric P.; Berkbigler, Marsha; Lucey, Robert (Bob) L; Herman, Jeanne; Hartung, Vaughn; Jung, Kitty  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting 8/25/20 - Agenda Item #21

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Kelly,

Sorry to send another "final version." Somehow in transferring from one file to another the important second tier permitting implications were omitted. Thanks. - Ronda

Subject: Final-Final Version: Public Comment for Meeting 8/25/20 - Agenda Item #21

Dear Kelly,

I believe you had the best of intentions when you developed your idea of a "three-tiered system" for short-term rentals.

### **YOUR RATIONALE FOR USING OCCUPANCY TO CREATE PERMITTING TIERS**

You recognized that STRs differ by size and made the reasonable assumption that STRs with more sleeping space will be occupied by more renters, which increases the likelihood of nuisance problems (noise, disturbance, criminal activity), car and RV parking problems, and trash and safety issues.

You made the further assumption that you could use size (the square footage) to differentiate among three levels of occupancy—1-10 persons, 11-20, 20+.

And you decided different permitting requirements would be based on size/occupancy. The 11-20 tier may needs a discretionary permit to operate, and the 20+ tier needs a discretionary permit (requiring commercial standards).

“Washoe County Commission Meeting of August 25, 2020 Page 7- 8 of 14

Three permitting tiers are proposed. These tiers are intended to recognize that below certain thresholds, and with appropriate standards in place, an STR is expected to reasonably function similarly to other residential uses. However, as occupancy increases, impacts to surrounding properties have the potential to increase. In these cases, further scrutiny may be needed to determine if the scale of the proposed STR is appropriate on the specific property and if additional mitigation can reduce impacts to a reasonable level. <sup>[1]</sup><sub>SEP</sub>

- o **Tier 1:** STRs with a maximum occupancy of 10 persons or less; standard STR permit required. (*Note:* 10 or fewer is a common break point for uses like group homes and within the International Building Code’s “R” occupancies.)
- o **Tier 2:** STRs with a maximum occupancy of 11-20 persons; discretionary permit required in most regulatory zones.
- o **Tier3:**STRs with a maximum occupancy of 21 or more persons; only allowed in areas where hotels/motels allowed; with discretionary permit; requires commercial standards.”

Your intention to distinguish between and among different types of STRs was excellent because a huge problem with the Ordinance is that it uses the term “short-term-rental” to cover different types of transient lodging.

**But somehow the purpose of your tier system got lost. The overarching rationale for distinguishing among different STRs is to control their impacts on neighboring residents.** You selected size of the STR as the best factor to distinguish among STRs, but that distinction is not the most effective way to control impacts.

### **THE RATIONALE FOR USING OWNERSHIP/RESIDENCY TO CREATE PERMITTING TIERS**

The most critical factor to control negative impacts of STRs is not size or occupancy but rather *the level of responsibility of the property owner*. Property owners are more or less responsible depending on (a) whether they live in the property and (b) whether their residency is permanent or not.

### **The Three Tiers of Ownership/Residency**

- Tier 1 - a permanent resident who lives in the unit full time,
- Tier 2 - a part-time resident who lives in the unit less than half time
- Tier 3 - an investor who never lives in the unit

The control of problematic impacts of occupancy, nuisances, parking, trash and safety varies directly with these three types of residency/ownership.

#### **TIER 1 - Full-Time Resident Owner**

• A homeowner who lives in the home full time and rents out a part of it while still occupying the house—no matter the size of the house—will make sure the renters are parking where they should, carrying out only legal activities, following good safety rules, and not disturbing neighbors. Additionally, the homeowner will feel a responsibility to the neighborhood; and will be a voting/contributing member of the community.

#### **TIER 2 - Part-Time Resident Owner**

A property owner who lives in the home part-time as a second home, and rents it out when absent will also be a conscientious landlord. The homeowner will be highly selective in choosing a property manager to manage the rental. The owner will want only renters who take care of the property and adhere to safety and other rules. Additionally, this property owner will feel responsible to the neighbors, and whenever in residence, be a more-or-less contributing member of the community (in proportion to time in residence).

#### **TIER 3 - Real Estate Investor**

A real-estate investor who purchases the property to rent out differs dramatically from the other two owners. This investor is solely concerned about return-on-investment. This owner has the least stake in preventing negative impacts of renters on neighbors' quality of life. And most importantly, this owner contributes nothing to the community at large.

**Impacts are not a function of the size and occupancy of the property.** As our members have pointed out repeatedly, disturbance of the neighbors' peace happens as easily in a condo as a mansion. A permanent resident owning a 6000 square foot house and renting out a portion of it on a short-term basis will make sure there are fewer impacts than an out-of-town investor who owns a 1000 square foot condo.

The permanent resident will limit occupancy, minimize nuisances, ensure adequate parking on site, and maintain the safety of the property at all times. The absentee investor employing an absentee property manager will simply not care about impacts unless they affect the bottom line. This owner will promote more renters in a smaller space, more cars parked in the right-of-way, more deferred maintenance, and vote for looser controls of STRs at every step—locally and regionally.

#### **Major Implications for Negative Impact, Enforcement, and Legal Action:**

Enforcement of occupancy, nuisance, parking, trash, and safety can only be really controlled at the permitting process. Making a permit conditional upon residency requirements puts the responsibility for enforcement clearly on the STR property owner where it should be, and minimizes the need for neighbor enforcement, which is ineffective in control and an unfair burden to residents.

- The permanent resident homeowner who lives in the home full time will already have the required safety inspections (carbon monoxide alarms, fire extinguishers, Defensible Space, BMPs, etc.)
- The full-time homeowner will already know the summer/winter parking rules and make sure renters' cars don't impede the right of way.
- The full-time homeowner will be available to inspect cleaners/maintenance crews to ensure COVID standards, and ensure trash is properly contained and put out on schedule.
- The full-time homeowner will be first to take care of nuisances.
- The full-time homeowner will be a source of information for the renters in case of emergency evacuation.
- Knowing the owner is on the property, renters will be more responsible for their behavior.
- The full-time homeowner has insurance that covers legal action brought by a renter who (a) catches COVID, (b) stumbles and breaks a leg, (c) suffers injury by a bear break-in.

#### **Permitting Implications:**

Distinguishing among permits based on ownership/residency clarifies the responsibilities that go with property rights.

STRs owned and operated by permanent resident homeowners should

- pay the lowest permit fees
- be allowed throughout the village
- be subject to the same regulations as B&Bs

STRs owned and operated by part-time resident homeowners should

- pay a higher permit fee
- be restricted to the commercial core
- be subject to the same regulations as B&Bs

STRs owned and operated by real estate investors should

- pay the highest permit fees
- be required to get a business license; and adhere to all other licensing requirements
- be allowed only in the commercial core
- be subject to the same regulations as hotels/motels

By making ownership/residency the critical criterion for different tiers, you not only resolve the problems with other aspects of the Ordinance, you save the community for its residents.

Please reconsider your tiers and permitting process.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ronda Tycer, PhD  
Incline Village Resident 29 years  
Co-Chair Incline Village STR Citizen Advisory Group

PO Box 4698  
Incline Village, NV 89450

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**From:** [gbarbarita@aol.com](mailto:gbarbarita@aol.com)  
**To:** [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Formal request for revision to the Washoe County Short Term Rental ordinances  
**Date:** Saturday, August 29, 2020 1:25:49 PM

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Kelly,

I am requesting that my letter be read as public input during the Short Term Rental agenda item discussion at the next Washoe County Commissioners' meeting.



This is a photo below of what regularly happens at homes in Incline Village that are used as Short Term rentals.

This house is 2 doors down from ours and regularly rented short term. Short Term renters have no idea how important the garbage ordinances are in our community. Even if the property owners leave the strict garbage rules written for their renters, most the time renters don't read or abide by them. Bears quickly learn which houses don't properly dispose of garbage so, of course they frequently break into those houses. This photo is of a mother with her 2 cubs. At the time of this photo, the mother bear had 1 yellow tag in her ear because she broke into a house. She subsequently received a 2nd Yellow tag in her other ear. After her third documented break in, likely due to garbage rule violations, this mother bear was euthanized by law enforcement and we believe it was due to problems with this specific house and the several other short term rentals in our neighborhood.

The owners of the house directly across the street from ours regularly leave for extended periods ( 6-12 months at a time) and rent their house short term while they're gone. That house sleeps 16 people. Last summer, when that house was rented short term, we often had 10+ cars parked illegally right across the street from our house. If there was a fire, there would not have been adequate room for fire trucks to properly gain access to protect us and our neighborhoods' lives and homes.

The house directly adjacent to ours (and the house in this photo) is scheduled to close escrow next week.

We're told the people who bought it are from New York. We are praying that these new owners do not choose to rent that house short term, but due to the current Washoe County short term rental ordinances we have we have no way to prevent that house from being rented short term or from preventing the quiet, clean and safe neighborhood we bought into from being quickly stolen from us.

If 3 houses on the street where YOU live suddenly transitioned to become Short Term Rentals, you would immediately experience a dramatic increase in noise at all hours of the day and night. The amount of cars parked on your street and in front of your house would suddenly skyrocket. You would likely see a dramatic increase in wild life (raccoons, rats, coyotes, mice) raiding the rental houses' garbage cans because garbage would inappropriately be left outside and Your neighborhood community would decline. As a result, I feel confident that you too would be very upset and come to the same conclusion that we have- the current STR Ordinances must be completely revised to protect the full time residents of our Incline Village community.

We have been very adversely affected by the current STR guidelines and need the Washoe County/Incline Village STR guidelines to be completely revised to match those of Las Vegas.

Just as in Las Vegas,

- \* Short terms rentals must be required to hold a commercial business license. Short term rentals are Businesses.
  - \* Houses that have more than 3 bedrooms very likely reside in residential neighborhoods and should not be allowed as short term rentals.
  - \* The floor plan, and number of bedrooms must be documented on the property's short term rental business license permit
  - \* Short term rental occupancy must limited be to 2 people (over the age of 12) per bedroom + 2 adults
  - \* Maximum daytime occupancy must limited to 1 ½ times nighttime occupancy
  - \* STRs in HOAs must possess and provide a letter documenting approved STR use from their HOA
  - \* STRs must list have listed on their permit every online hosting platforms on which the STR is advertised
  - \* Short Term renters' vehicles must be parked ONLY in the driveway or designated spaces for that property and not allowed offsite or in the right of way or adjacent property are in huge danger of not being able to exercise neighborhood fire evacuation plans.
  - \* Short term renters' vehicles must be limited to 2 per household
  - \* No Sound producing devices should be allowed outside
  - \* No Weddings, receptions, large parties or events should be allowed at an STR
  - \* Noise ordinances must be written that stipulate no loud noise before 7am or after 10pm Monday through Sunday.
  - \* There must be a stipulation that limits how many STR business licenses are granted in our community
  - \* STRs in Incline Village must be distanced a minimum of 800 feet apart and only a maximum number of 2 allowed per street block
  - \* Short term rentals in Incline Village MUST be forced to abide by the same strict garbage rules by which we residents are forced to comply.
- Even the very first STR garbage rule infraction must receive a \$1000 fine to be paid by the property owner.
- \* STRs that violate any of the ordinance provisions for the 2nd time must have their permit immediately revoked for 1 year
  - \* Business permits for Short term rentals must only be granted to owners who occupy the residence when it is not being used as as short term rental.

I expect you are familiar with HOA CC&Rs- most of which stipulate that rentals in that HOA community are limited to a specific percentage. This is done to protect the integrity of the community because is a widely known truth that renters do not take care of property as well as owners do. If the current ordinances are not completely revised and mandatory limits are not enforced on the number of short term rentals allowed in our community, especially given the huge number of Californians fleeing their largely populated cities due to Covid 19, you as our elected commissioner and not protecting our rights and will be writing a death sentence for this Incline Village community that we call home.

Why are Las Vegas STR ordinances written and enforced to protect the quality of their residential neighborhoods while ours in Washoe County are not?

We are begging you, our elected commissioner. to please make it your priority to completely revise our Short Term Rental ordinances, as stipulated above, in order to protect us and our Incline Village Community.

Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation and attention to this very important issue.  
Gina  
Full time resident, Incline Village

**From:** [rondatyce@aol.com](mailto:rondatyce@aol.com)  
**To:** [iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com](mailto:iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Summary of STR Categories of IV Resident Input  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 08, 2020 12:59:18 PM  
**Attachments:** [CommercialVsResidentialUse.docx](#)  
[NeighborhoodCommunityLake.docx](#)

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear IV STR Group,

Our chess game with the Washoe County Commissioners continues. In response to the request to give public input to the Commissioners for their August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting, Incline residents sent in over 75 emails, which were to be read in the meeting and included in the official record. We addressed our emails to the County Manager Eric Brown and the five Commissioners as well as Planner Kelly Mullin and the County Clerk.

Two days before the meeting, we learned the Clerk told Mullin there were too many emails to be read during the meeting. Several members contacted the Commissioners to complain that Open Meeting law required our public input be heard.

The Commissioners cancelled the meeting, supposedly because of problems with Zoom. At the follow-up meeting, the STR Ordinance was removed from the agenda until further notice. The reason given was that our input had convinced County Manager Brown the Ordinance needed revision before being heard by the Commissioners.

By their removing the item from the agenda, all of our public input to the Commissioners was effectively buried in County records—never to be heard in a meeting. Although we addressed input to both the County Manager and the Commissioners, we now know most of the Commissioners did not read our input. During last Friday's IV Community Forum, our Commissioner Marsha Berkbigler admitted that some of the other Commissioners most likely did not read any—and certainly not all—of our emails.

Berkbigler went on to suggest we should give new input when the STR Ordinance is put back on the Commissioners' meeting agenda. The Commissioners are opening the Chamber this week so that citizens can appear in person to make 3-minute statements directly to Commissioners. The problem with this is (a) many Incline residents cannot make it over the mountain to the 10am Tuesday meeting in Reno, (b) many elderly residents are still sheltering in place, and (c) we only get 3 minutes each ... much less input than our detailed emails.

The good news is our input convinced County Manager Brown the STR Ordinance needed revisions. The bad news—heard via the unconfirmed grapevine—is that Commission Chair Bob Lucey will be overseeing the revisions. Mr. Lucey is also Chair of the Board of Directors of the Reno Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA), which collects the transient-occupancy tax from Washoe County STRs.

So, what is our next move?

If you took time to read through all the public comment, you know how useful it could be in revising the STR Ordinance.

[The public comments received through 8/24/20 are available online at [www.washoecounty.us/csd/planning\\_and\\_development/board\\_commission/planning\\_commission/2020/Files/2020-01-07/BCC-082520-STR-sr-w-new-comments.pdf](http://www.washoecounty.us/csd/planning_and_development/board_commission/planning_commission/2020/Files/2020-01-07/BCC-082520-STR-sr-w-new-comments.pdf) (the ones received after publication start at p. 353); this link is also accessible from just below the highlighted section on [www.washoecounty.us/str](http://www.washoecounty.us/str).]

However, the only way our input will have a chance to affect revisions to the Ordinance is if it is made into useful, easily understood data. Consequently, I've taken time to summarize the input from about 70 of our residents to identify the issues most important to us. (I excluded the emails from the few IV STR owners who were against regulations.)

- Step 1 – Create categories of issues identified by residents
- Step 2 – Copy each resident statement pertaining to that issue into a separate file
- Step 3 – For categories with too few responses, combine with an associated category
- Step 4 – Identify and rank order categories by frequency of mention
- Step 5 – Make summary statements capturing the essence of each issue

The final 12 categories ranked by frequency of mention are as follows. It is evident that some issues are nearly tied in importance, so there are basically four groups of importance.

Commercial versus Residential Use, Deeds & CC&Rs = 33  
Impacts to Neighborhood-Community-Lake = 31

Noise-Nuisances-Disturbances = 19  
Trash-Garbage = 18  
Fire Safety - Evacuation = 17  
Parking -Vehicles = 17  
Number of STRs = 16

Occupancy = 12  
Health and Cleanliness = 11  
Enforcement = 11

Property Management = 6  
Density of STRs = 4

For each of these four groups of categories, I attach the files containing the residents' exact words. You can thus verify my categorizations and also benefit from reading the input of your fellow residents.

[When a sentence referred to more than one category, I split the sentence and put each part in the appropriate category. If you read your input and disagree with any categorization, please let me know.]

I'll send out these emails in four groups over the next few days. In my final email I'll provide my inferences from the data for revisions to the Ordinance, and ask for yours as well.

**Game on!**

Best regards,

Ronda

## COMMERCIAL VS. RESIDENTIAL USE = 33

- Coral Amende

Ideally limiting these short-term and vacation rentals to city centers and high-density areas and prohibiting them in neighborhoods that have no businesses.

- Carole Black

Zoning/Use Classifications are changed. Washoe County's on-going effort to de facto implement a zoning and development classification change for STRs/Vacation Rentals through this Ordinance— without comprehensively processing this as the massive code change that it is— appears possibly illegal. Currently STRs are not listed in the WC Development Code and are therefore not categorized for zoning/use. Further, Residential use is currently defined in a manner inconsistent with STR's/Vacation Rentals in existing WCC: WCC 110.304.15 Residential Use Types. Residential Use Types include "the occupancy of living accommodations on a wholly or primarily non-transient basis ... "

Additional proposed code changes include adding the newly defined STR use ... to residential zones/permitting regulations. Open public airing of the proposed embedded code changes related to STRs/Vacation rentals simply has not occurred.

- Jill Brandin

This is a residential community - and our deeds reflect that fact. <sup>[SEP]</sup> The Nevada law allowing short-term commercial use can be restricted by local ordinance as enacted by Las Vegas. We urge you to adopt similar restrictions on short-term rentals as done in Las Vegas. We deserve nothing less from you.

- Shawn Cardinal

In addition, Las Vegas requires a business license for operators of short-term rentals. Essentially, STRs are treated as "hotels" and have to adhere to many of the same rules & regulations. ... Las Vegas is an example of a community getting it right; it wouldn't hurt for us to follow that lead.

- Lynette Cardinale

Residents' lives and well being are now put at risk with fire dangers, noise pollution, heavy trash deposits, no security and peace, with almost daily turnarounds of tourists in residential areas that were not intended for the element that STR'S bring to it.

- Derek Casari

I think having the property being owned by a resident would be a good idea.

- Jack Dalton, MD

STRs are a business with more than 70% owned by corporations. Incline has at least one corporation owning 15 houses.

- Scott Daulton

I think that short-term vacation rentals should not only be limited in total number in Washoe County, but also be confined to areas of like commercial activity and prohibited in purely residential neighborhoods.

- \* David Dreyer

What is Washoe County going to do about zoning the STRs because after buying a lot and building a home 31 years ago in a residential zone in Incline Village, I didn't realize that I was going to be living next to a hotel room. Save IV!

- Edie Farrell

I want to encourage you to continue to push restrictions and enforcement of strict rules concerning STR. Also I think it is important to have no less than 14 day rentals, preferably 30. Anything less is a hotel stay... A longer stay is more of a vacation stay with people settling in and living more reasonably.

- Joe Farrell

In addition... the excessive noise and drunken partying is significantly disturbing the peace of our quiet neighborhoods. Incline Village has turned into party central and many residents have turned their homes into hotels in a residential zone. Residents have the RIGHT to peace and quiet!!

Unfortunately many investors have bought homes in Incline Village to rent out for significant profit. They are operating a business in a residential area, which is suspect; essentially running a hotel in residential neighborhoods.

Define STR as a property owner renting their home for a minimum of 28 days. This has worked in Hawaii and I believe an outdated Washoe Co. ordinance also had a 28-day<sup>[SEP]</sup> minimal-rental timeframe. <sup>[SEP]</sup>

Bottom line: if we can not achieve a ban on STRs. let's attempt to make the regulations so stringent that home owners will not want the hassle or expense of become a STR property.

- Will Ferrall

The Board of Commissioners is proposing a scheme that is basically issuing permission through a permit to homeowners to violate the CC&R's the property resides in.

The activity here will ultimately generate legal action against homeowners violating deed restrictions. I can only assume these homeowners will turn back to the County for issuing a permit to operate in a capacity that is restricted.

... the definition proposed makes little sense to me:

*"Short-term rentals are distinguishable from commercial lodging use types in that no meals may be provided within short-term rentals as part of the rental agreement and the home may only be rented out for short-term rental use to one group at a time."*

The above sentence appears to be a carve out from a Bed and Breakfast—the only allowable lodging use of property—and further confuses STRs with homes renting individual rooms to multiple parties in the Air B&B platform with no owner present. Not very clear.

These are plain and simple hotel operations, and should require a business license. A business license applicant would be required to meet zoning, municipality, fire and building codes.

- \* Cindy Ferrell

Short-term rentals are essentially operating hotels in residential neighborhoods, which were by their nature intended as residences not commercial hotels.

- Wayne Ford

STR ownership is not being a neighbor. It means you are not a neighbor—you are a business owner that operates a home like a franchise. ... What are you selling? Rooms, and in most cases a place to come and party and have access to entertainment in the area of Lake Tahoe.

A neighbor = You live full time in the area even if it is seasonal. You get to know your neighbors for in many cases they can support you and the property you own... Neighbors... work together... to help each other out.

The STR use of a home is not compatible with the character of the neighborhood. This use is a violation of the zoning... Stop the use. I will be moving this to the State Legislature for TRPA has passed on their environmental responsibility to the County. The County has gone along with the use that is detrimental to the lake and to my right as a property owner who bought my home some 40 years ago as a single-family residence. My zoning has not been changed, yet the County and TRPA have allowed a zoning violation by approving the STR use of a home two parcels away. Not right and not legal.

- Joy Gumz

How do the Commissioners propose to compensate property owners for the loss of their peace and tranquility when they are trying to change the zoning of all residential areas subdivisions of Incline Village to Transient Commercial Use?

Why are Commissioners ignoring Nevada law NRS 116.340, which states vacation rentals are a “transient commercial use”, while Las Vegas has recognized the commercial nature of STRs?

When I purchased my home decades ago, STRs were allowed ONLY in “central” Incline Village: the IV Commercial, IV Tourist, and North Stateline (Crystal Bay) TRPA Plan Area Statements. These PASs are still in place although Washoe County is trying to remove them. It does not matter; these facts remain: Declaration of Restrictions limit residential subdivisions to single-family residential use. STRs are a transient commercial use per NEVADA LAW. See NRS 116.340.

Washoe County is in Nevada and subject to Nevada Law. The solution is to allow STRs only in central Incline Village and central Crystal Bay - not in the “residential” subdivisions.

Is the County willing to risk litigation for its trampling of property rights? At least 19 subdivisions of Incline Village have *Declaration of Restrictions* with “Exclusive Residential Use” and limiting each lot to a “single-family residence dwelling.” The Restrictions state, “No noxious or offensive activities shall be carried on any lot nor shall anything be done on any lot that shall be or become an unreasonable annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood.” STRs are both an unreasonable annoyance and a nuisance.

These DoRs were accepted by Washoe County and recorded by the WC recorder in the 1960s and 1970s. “All of the Restrictions shall run with the land and shall be binding on all parties”. Washoe County cannot remove them with its ordinance. The County risks litigation as it attempts to trample the “mutual and reciprocal benefits” of the DoRs.

How does the RSCVA issue a tax license without verifying (a) if the STR is properly zoned per NRS 116.340 and (b) the property is not subject to a recorded Declaration of Restrictions limiting lot use?

- Diane Heirshberg

There are no requirements that the Owner be a Resident rather than a Business Owned STR. The TRPA Guidelines included at Residential Compatibility Best Practices #2: “allow STR use in residential areas only if the home is occupied by a primary resident the majority of the year (i.e. make STRS an accessory use).” The rationale for this is to protect the neighbors, because an owner who is also a primary resident will be less likely to allow renters to disturb neighbors in the owner’s absence. Also, the entire basis for approval of STRs around Lake Tahoe by TRPA in or about 2007, was that the STRs would only be an accessory use by an owner who owned and lived in a home, and that such use would not be a burden on residential neighborhoods, and that is why each local jurisdiction, including Washoe County, are even allowed to have STRs. Washoe County even signed a Memorandum of Understanding with TRPA that its noise, parking, trash, nuisance and other local ordinances would be enforced to protect the quality of the neighborhoods. If you would like a copy of that MOU or a history of the basis for TRPA’s decision to allow STRs around Lake Tahoe, I can provide these.

One thought for Staff is that perhaps, STRs that are an “accessory use” by a resident could be treated differently than an STR that is owned by people who do not ever or rarely live in the STR house or by LLCs formed solely to own and rent STRs. One way to consider these limitations to protect communities is to apply the limitations as to density, etc. to STRs that are not owned and operated by people who primarily reside in their home in IVCB. I have not researched this issue, but TRPA’s in-house attorney who is a Nevada attorney approved the TRPA Guidelines on these subjects.

While several types of limitation are recommended in the TRPA Guidelines (limiting distance between STRs; limiting the number of days per month or times per month or per year that a rental is allowed, requiring that the home be a primary resident and not a business), etc.), the County has repeatedly stated that such limitations are illegal in Nevada, and that is the reason that they were never considered by the County.

Under the current draft ordinance, STR permits could be issued to condominium and PUDs that have express provisions disallowing STRs, in violation of Nevada Law NRS 116.340.

For your information, the City of Henderson requires the confirmation by an applicant described above and the City of Las Vegas requires that an applicant provide the City with a document signed by the HOA approving the short-term rental. Other local jurisdictions at the Lake are allowing HOAs to send letters to the County's STR-permitting staff, including copies of their CC&Rs saying that no short-term rentals are allowed, and then the jurisdiction does not issue an STR permit under NRS 116.340. Washoe County has taken the position that the County is not bound by NRS 116.340, and further that it will not recognize letters from HOAs enclosing CC&Rs with restrictions on short-term renting, stating that HOAs and neighbors will have to sue the owner who breach the CC&Rs in Court. This will lead to a multiplicity of actions (an unnecessary burden on the Courts) and an unfair financial burden on the HOAs and non-breaching owners.

NRS 116.340 states, in pertinent part:

*"1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a person who owns or directly or indirectly has an interest in, one or more units within a planned community that are restricted to residential use by the declaration may use that unit or one of those units for a transient commercial use only if:*

- (a) The governing documents of the association and any master association do not prohibit such use;*
- (b) The executive board of the association and any master association approve the transient commercial use of the unit...; and*
- (c) The unit is properly zoned for the transient commercial use and any license required by the local government for the transient commercial use is obtained.*

...

4. *As used in this section:*

...

*(b) Transient commercial use means the use of a unit, for remuneration, as a hostel, hotel, inn, motel, resort, vacation rental or other form of transient lodging if the term of the occupancy, possession or use of the unit is for less than 30 consecutive calendar days."*

NRS 116.340 only applies to "planned communities" as defined in the NRS, and that is a community that has an HOA that is a condominium or PUD, which has CC&Rs that prohibit short-term renting.

- Ken Hubbart

The influx of short-term rentals that you have allowed in Incline Village, has been excessive and indicates a disdain you possess for the permanent residents of this community. You have an opportunity to right your wrong by adopting restrictions that were enacted by Las Vegas, a copy of which you have in your possession. The Nevada law allowing short-term commercial use can be restricted by local ordinance as evidenced by the actions taken in Las Vegas.

- Kathie Julian

However, for many of us who call Incline Village our full-time home, the draft code language disregards the fundamental concern that STRs are commercial businesses. STRs are not residences that house community members. They are transient lodging.

Again, it is not only about noise, waste and parking altering the "character of existing residential neighborhoods." The draft code takes an exceedingly narrow view of the STR issue—a view focused solely on property rights. It assumes that the replacement of homes and families with transients/tourists/customers does not alter the "character of existing residential neighborhoods." It ignores the concept of residential versus commercial zoning.

Residential and commercial zoning has been established for a reason—to support a healthy social and economic community. The draft regulation in treating STRs as residential undermines the purpose of zoning.

The draft turns a blind eye to permit applications that are in violation of HOA restrictions, thus forcing neighbors to police this aspect. All the while the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority collect access fees, directly benefiting from such non-compliance.

We need an ordinance that supports sound zoning practices and addresses both the number and the density of STRs in various areas of Incline Village.

- Clas Karlberg

STRs should not be allowed in residential communities.

- Mary Lou Kennedy

Governor Sisolak has deemed STRs as "Essential Businesses" during the COVID lock down and phased reopening. My question is: If STRs are "Essential Businesses", how can they be allowed in residential areas?

- Sara Lafrance

In many places around the country, short-term rental operators must obtain a business license and a short-term rental permit, as well as carry a liability insurance policy.

The fact is that short-term rentals are businesses. And requiring proper licensing and liability coverage is no different than what any other business is mandated to do.

In Nevada, Las Vegas has such an ordinance. It has proved to eliminate many of the problems that impacted local residents and ensured short-term rental users understand the rules regarding noise, parking, trash and occupancy.

Enforcing licensing will not only minimize the impact of short-term rentals on local residents, it will provide the county with a source of tax revenue.

Hosts who are part of a homeowners association must also have written permission to have a short-term rental in the neighborhood.

- Keli Maiocco

Building codes and definitions of "transient housing" and "business" are not clear. Plus the ordinance does not require any sort of residency to obtain a permit.

- Nick Maiocco

The Washoe County Commissioners could have put in policies many years ago but chose not to, making STR's as residential property by adopting the IRC residential code. At that time they could have included the IBC, which defines Use and Occupancy Classification Chapter 3. The Washoe County Planners and Building Department gave recommendations to this board and the recommendations were ignored and push for polices that left Planners with a tough job to write and enforce.

*Commissioner Lucey emphasized, "... he did not want to see any kind of ban on rental properties in the County. He pointed out Lake Tahoe was a good draw for people to visit the community and homeowners should not be excluded from sharing their homes. He indicated short-term rentals improved air quality and sacrificing short-term rentals could have a negative impact on tourism, resulting in financial suffering. He pointed out there was only one hotel in the area and, without short-term rentals, people would not have a place to stay. He summarized the discussion should be about the Board drafting good policy which laid out how the County would interact with owners and renters."*

We have not seen any studies supporting any of these statements. Our community is not a business that should be supporting the main tax revenue for RSVCA and Commissioner Lucey who also sits on the RSCVA Board—which is a conflict of interest. Our neighborhoods are not a commercial area for STRs to be run. We are part of a community that deserves to be protected and heard. <sup>[SEP]</sup> We raise our families here and this is our home. We live in a tourist area not a tourist town. We have residents that are year-round.

The question would be when does the STR become commercial? Some homeowners rent out their houses to cover costs for owning their vacation home. As soon as there is positive cash flow then it should be considered under the IBC section 310 as Residential Group R. When individuals or entities buy more than 2 or more properties then it should be

considered a business. What would keep a company from buying up real estate and renting those properties out turning them into Real Estate Investment Trust. This is already happening across our neighborhood and all other resort areas throughout the world.<sup>[REDACTED]</sup> Ways to control this practice is to issue only one permit to an individual or group, restrict multiple permits if you own more than one house, have the STR occupied by the home owner for a portion of the year, require 5 day or longer minimum stays.<sup>[REDACTED]</sup> Incline Village and Crystal Bay permanent residents should be benefiting from permitted STR's which make an impact on our resources, infrastructure, and environmental concerns in our community.

- Margaret Martini

Considered a commercial use, requiring a business license.

Dwelling must be occupied by owner during rental period.<sup>[REDACTED]</sup>

Floor plan identifying bedrooms and living spaces including bedroom occupied by owner during rentals.

Must list on permit all hosting platforms on which the STR is advertised on line.

<sup>[REDACTED]</sup> STR's in HOA's must show a letter from the HOA documenting approved use as an STR.

- Beth Minick

As long-time residents in Incline Village, we recently purchased and moved into a new home here in Incline. We have hired an architect, engineer, designer and contractor to update this house. However, we just learned that a house in our neighborhood is going into short-term rental and we have immediately ceased our construction project until Washoe County institutes regulations substantially restricting short-term rentals. In talking to our neighbors, many feel the same way and are putting plans on hold. Clearly this is having a major impact on local businesses.

When we purchased our single-family home in a quiet residential neighborhood, there were specific binding Declarations of Restrictions included with our deed about how homes here can be used that were an important part of our decision to buy here. These included that the house had to be owner-occupied, that it could not be used for business, etc. It was clear that the homes in our residential community were highly restricted and could not be used as a short-term rental tantamount to a hotel. We would never have purchased a home in a neighborhood that didn't prohibit short-term rentals and neither would our neighbors.

In looking at the draft staff recommendations, it appears that you are considering taking away those existing restrictions and that would substantially diminish the value and take away the use of our property.

We and our neighbors strongly object to you taking away our property rights in order to enrich short-term rental property owners who are violating the terms under which they purchased their property.

We and our neighbors are prepared to fight any such action in court, which will only increase costs for the County to defend itself from such an ill-considered action. We urge you to put the people who live here first before greedy property owners who only want to make money and damage our community.

- Judith Miller

in 2014 I asked why the County had no regulations to back up its ordinance that declared occupancy in residential use types should be "wholly or primarily non-transient". Now you're going to throw out that concept. And unless limits are enacted, transient occupancy equates to too many tourists.

And as to our County counsel's opinion that STR's are not businesses, please ask why the City of Las Vegas requires a business license. Why do they require a special use permit and restrict STR's to owner-hosted operations?

- Linda Newman

Please implement the same uniform protections for our short-term vacation renters from the hosts of these "residential" businesses that you demand of hotel/motel and other lodging businesses. Here in Incline Village/Crystal Bay the proliferation of unsupervised and unregulated vacation rentals have unfairly disadvantaged licensed lodging businesses...

- Kate Pearce

I used to be a fan of Airbnb as a way to access family-centric accommodations in the home of a caring host. However Airbnb has evolved into a money-making commercial machine, attracting greedy owners and inconsiderate party goers who should be staying in resorts. Hotels in private residential homes should be treated as the commercial enterprises they are and subject to the same planning restrictions and regulations as setting up a nightclub in the middle of a peaceful, residential area. For these reasons I am against STRs, and while I can see the proposed STR ordinance will be cash generator for Washoe County, I don't see how it will improve the lives of the many resident in our town who are the victims of this uncontrolled greed. ... Make a ban on STRs of less than 30 days. Manage STRs as a commercial rather than residential operation. Limit the number of days a property can be rented each year to less than 90, making this a less attractive option for greedy investors.

- Stephen Pearce

Other parts of the world also limit the number of days per year that a property can be treated as an STR or have a minimum stay length. Does Washoe plan on imposing something like that?

- Judith Simon

Additionally the Ordinance does not require that STR property owners actually reside in Incline, nor be present when the rentals occur.

I urge you to require STRs to list hosting platforms. I urge you to verify that applicants owning dwellings that are part of a HOA document, that the HOA approves of the STR.

- Pamela Tsigdinos

I have been a homeowner in Incline Village since 2004. I understood -- then and now -- that Washoe County's Development Code (page 92, attached) states "lodging services" are a commercial use and that lodging services (page 148, attached) in medium density suburban zones are *not* allowed. Period. Furthermore, Washoe County's Master Plan zoning plan map (attached) specifically *prohibits* tourism commercial uses in suburban zones.

In the years since becoming a homeowner, I have watched Washoe County officials willfully ignore their responsibility to the residents of Incline Village. This dereliction of duty over more than a decade has allowed businesses like AirBNB, VRBO and nearly a dozen other online property-management companies to turn quiet residential zones into unruly commercial districts.

- Ronda Tycer

Permitting Implications:

Distinguishing among permits based on ownership/residency clarifies the responsibilities that go with property rights.

STRs owned and operated by permanent resident homeowners should

- pay the lowest permit fees
- be allowed throughout the village
- be subject to the same regulations as B&Bs

STRs owned and operated by part-time resident homeowners should

- pay a higher permit fee
- be restricted to the commercial core
- be subject to the same regulations as B&Bs

STRs owned and operated by real estate investors should

- pay the highest permit fees
- be required to get a business license; and adhere to all other licensing requirements
- be allowed only in the commercial core
- be subject to the same regulations as hotels/motels

By making ownership/residency the critical criterion for different tiers, you not only resolve the problems with other aspects of the Ordinance, you save the community for its residents.

- Heather Williams

Require Incline Village residency in order to be issued an STR permit. And limit those permits by number, location or density.

## IMPACTS TO NEIGHBORHOODS, COMMUNITIES, AND LAKE TAHOE = 31

- Gina Apker

Due to the current Washoe County short term rental ordinance, we have no way to prevent a house from being rented short term or from preventing the quiet, clean and safe neighborhood we bought into from being quickly stolen from us.

- Robyn Barnes

The advent of STRs has destroyed our once quite and respectful community. We need to ban them entirely, but how?

- Lynette Cardinale

In addition, in reading the STRs for Las Vegas—in comparison—what you are proposing for Incline is shamefully inadequate and is a blatant disrespect to Incline residents and their well being. ... Many are seniors that did not sign up for this when they chose Incline to be their destination home for their senior years. They deserve better!! ... Please consider the Las Vegas model for the Incline Village STR Ordinance...Let's not have Las Vegas, Do better!

As commissioners of a very large County, that is inclusive of one of the most treasured assets of our nation—Lake Tahoe—many decisions made, have sorely abused this privilege of overseeing this responsibly both towards sustaining and safeguarding the Lake for years to come.

- Jack Dalton, MD

The STRs in Incline affect a significant number of people and their quality of life.

- \* Steve Dolan

I am a 28 year resident. A 5-year moratorium and halt on STR rentals in Incline Village and Crystal Bay is a must. We need to allow other communities who are solving this problem to clarify for us the way in which we can have a fair and equitable balance of community and commercialization of homes.

- Joe Farrell

In addition... the excessive noise and drunken partying is significantly disturbing the peace of our quiet neighborhoods. .... Residents have the RIGHT to peace and quiet!! ... Our community is NOT a tourist resort to the residents since many of us moved to Incline Village to retire peacefully and to enjoy the amenities of N. Lake Tahoe.

- Bill Ferrall

This trend has made workforce housing in Incline Village and other areas not only scarce, but unobtainable.

- \* Cynthia Ferrell

... as a 36-year resident. I own a single family home in Incline Village and have observed significant and steady deterioration of the community in Incline Village and surrounding areas throughout Tahoe over the years and short-term visitors have inundated the parks, beaches, roads, etc. ... This increases the parking problems, trash problems with high occupancy and constant turnover, and lack of respect for the surrounding nature and environment and wildlife due to constant turnover with tourists who don't live in the area but are just passing through for a day or two.... Short-term rental owners are not prioritizing community desirability or livability... NOBODY wants to live next door to a short-term rental. There is no neighborhood environment while you have a hotel next door. Many other communities limit rentals to 30-days minimum this would help tremendously. Please let me know how this problem is allowed to continue and worsen year after year? Soon there won't be many locals left who care about community they'll be driven out by reduced quality of life and lack of affordability and pollution of our great natural wonders.<sup>[1]</sup> Let's make community decisions with community in mind over and above cash flow.

- Dema Herrera

As a business owner in our community, there is a "HUGE" problem with lack of housing and employable persons. This goes hand in hand with the STR situation. We no longer have any affordable housing in our town for our local teachers,

officers, firemen and women, as well as health care providers. For the most part, if you work here you don't live here unless you share a house with mates or spend your wages on housing. Again, no community ...

In closing, our quality of life has been deeply impacted by the allowance of STR's. We no longer feel as if we live in a safe environment... The \$\$ do not replace the loss of our community.

\* Diane Higgins

We have used VRBO and AirB&B many times for our vacations. However, we are responsible and respectful renters. What is happening in Incline Village is ruining our town and is a danger to our environment. ... We live in our neighborhoods. The weekend renters are partiers with no care about anyone who actually lives here. When they are loud all day and their dog barks incessantly, they don't care, because they are leaving the next day. I realize this is extra income for Washoe County, however, WE, the local residents of Washoe County are paying the price.

Many other resort towns have had to put into place some enforceable restrictions, fines and limits, in order to maintain the integrity and origin of their town. The time has come for Washoe County to please honor and respect OUR real estate purchase and taxes, and do the same.

• Adam Hirsh

Because of a year-round STR on our street, there are lots of strangers in our previously residential neighborhood. We have serious safety concerns. The bottom line is that the STR has changed everything for the worse. There are countless numbers of strangers in our cul-de-sac, many cars driving up and down, parking on the street, lots of noise which didn't exist before.

The owner, who does not reside on the property at all, has at times attempted to cooperate, but it's basically an unsupervised motel. Some "guests" might not disturb, while others present major problems. We never know who or what is coming tomorrow, so we live on edge.

• Kathie Julian

Incline Village is a genuine community, with residents of all ethnicities and socio-economic classes. Our arguments here are not "elitist".

Again, it is not only about noise, waste and parking altering the "character of existing residential neighborhoods." The draft code takes an exceedingly narrow view of the STR issue—a view focused solely on property rights.

Many of us writing on this issue speak out on behalf of a broad array of community members, including teachers, medical workers, first responders, local government employees, and service workers who find it impossible to live where they work because areas zoned residential are being used commercially with no limits on numbers or density. And make no mistake, not living where you work is a problem given weather and road conditions that affect Incline Village.

The draft code does not address serious concerns that Incline Village residents have about the ever-increasing number and density of STRs, and how this unregulated aspect of the tourism industry adversely impacts our residential neighborhoods and the fabric of our community. Their very existence removes housing for full-time and seasonal workers who are dependent on longer-term rentals. The unfettered growth in the number of STRs, irrespective of their size, changes the nature of our community because it replaces housing for community members with tourist lodging and vacant houses in the off-season.

The draft benefits the real-estate and property-management industry in Incline, but unfettered growth of STRs undermines the ability of our community to provide workforce housing for our business, schools, and local government.

• Clas Karlberg

STRs are not good for IV. STRs destroy the community fabric.

\* Barbara Kendziorski

We did not buy our house 30 years ago to have MOTELS in our backyards. The speeding cars from renters, the hooting, hollering, loud music during the day and night are aggravating and disturb our tranquility. The atmosphere of our town has changed. There are too many people here; parking at beaches is a huge problem.

- Leonard Lafrance

Please help preserve Incline's residential character. Please find a way to limit the impact of short-term rentals on Incline Village.

STRs consume real-estate that could be rented long-term. Because of our geographical isolation from major metropolitan areas, without local housing, most Incline employees commute from Reno or Carson through snow in winter and construction in summer. Employees who have other options refuse to do the commute. That means local businesses, services, and even agencies like IVGID can't recruit the best employees. Employee turnover from year to year means rehiring and retraining; and that affects the bottom line. Local businesses don't last when they can't find good employees.

- Helene Larson

In addition to that, it reduces the number of rentals available to the community of non-homeowners. Subsequently, due to the law of supply and demand, the rents that are available tend to have inflated costs. Personally, my rent has increased 42% in less than 2 years. You can well correctly imagine that my income has not increased to meet that need.

STRs reduce the number of residences available to locals, increasing the possibility of our local small businesses having to close doors here.

It is time to recognize that if the STR rentals continue to flourish here, that there is a possibility of a lessening of value of Incline properties. The realtors seem to perhaps be looking only at the short-term increases; eventually, the nature of Incline Village will change dramatically, and, instead of the town it was chartered to be, it will become a mecca for STRs, and quite unlivable by locals.

- \* Chrystie Lowden

... Please help those of us who now have mini motels operating next to us. We are trying to raise our families just like you. We need aggressive regulations and restrictions for safety and sanity. The realtors and short term rental/motel owners are making a fortune at our expense.

- Keli Maiocco

I have been a resident in the same neighborhood in Incline Village since 1995.... All of these events (and more) are cause for anxiety and stress with EVERY tenant change, which could happen anywhere from 4-8 times per month (possibly more). As I write, a new group has checked in next door and I am already "on alert" as I see the open wood-burning stove on the deck and hear the voices of several young men with 4 cars in the drive. That is only on one side of my home. The other side I can see the cleaning crew getting ready for yet another check-in, which fills me with dread.

- Judith Miller

Unless some type of limit is included in the regulations, your legacy will be to make Incline Village unsuitable as a place to live, raise families or retire. Is that what you want? I hope you will reconsider the proposed STR regulations and allow staff to come back with suggestions on how to better protect Lake Tahoe, our residents and our visitors.

- Beth Minick

One day I drove home to find a man trespassing my property. I asked him if he was renting the home next door. He said yes. I asked him to get off my property immediately. He said, " I just took my glove off on your property" in a threatening way. I was alone and did not want to provoke him so I asked very nicely if he could get off my property. I took a photo of him and checked my bear box and sure enough, he was on my property dumping his trash in my bear box. The next day he left trash in the street. I called the management company to report the incident. It was VERY disturbing in our clean quiet neighborhood to have trespassing, using our garbage and leaving dangerous trash on our roads. Not to mention being threatened by this man. This is a health and safety issue. This impacts the enjoyment of my home and the health

and safety of our neighborhood and must stop.

... In addition, that will drive away the people who contribute to our community and are major supporters of local charitable institutions such as the Tahoe Fund, Tahoe Safe Alliance, Sierra Nevada College and many others. What would be the gain from such an action?

- Diane Morrison

We are a child-rich neighborhood. There are 5 young (13) and pre-teen girls within a 4-house radius of this STR. We parents no longer feel safe letting our children walk our dogs, ride their bikes, or generally play unsupervised while these large groups are present.

Finally, the tax dollars generated from short term rentals should directly benefit the community in which the taxes were earned.

- Linda Newman

The negative impacts of short-term rentals have plagued cities across the nation. Here in Incline Village/Crystal Bay the proliferation of unsupervised and unregulated vacation rentals have disrupted our neighborhoods, ... strained our local government, our local resources and County infrastructure, and threatened the clarity of Lake Tahoe.... Please set the foundation for a future that allows our property owners and residents to restore their neighborhoods and protect our Lake...

- \* Kate Pearce

We bought our home in Incline Village to enjoy the beauty and tranquility of living on the shores of Lake Tahoe, with its wonderful amenities and community spirit. We love to take our 7-year-old son to the beaches, hiking on the many trails and skiing at Diamond Peak resort. All that changed recently, when the house next door to us was sold to a couple living in downtown San Francisco who styled the home as a party venue with accommodation for 10-15 people, a hot tub and indoor and outdoor games, and now rent it out via Airbnb for \$1550 per night. This implication of this is that multiple families are sharing the property to afford the high price tag and a huge party ensues.

This is a 3200 sq ft structure, a mere 20 ft from our home. The main issues are noise, aggression, parking and trash. July 4th week was particularly tough as we were subjected to 9 days of drunken partying with constant loud music and yelling from early morning until late evening. It's tough to explain to a 7-year-old why he's having rap music blasted into his bedroom, where every other word is "MF". When I asked the renters to quiet down a bit because after many late nights, my son really needed to get to bed on time, I was told by an obnoxious, loud mouthed drunk that I was an old fart and that they had every right to make as much noise as they liked until 10pm. They then proceeded to make even more noise and yell abuse at me in front of my son for 2 hours until 10pm sharp, when they killed the noise completely.

Since then, I've become very much aware of how big a problem short-term rentals are in the area, sure I'd seen them in the town causing problems and heard stories of revelers starting fires and driving their cars off the cliffs, putting the entire neighborhood at risk, but I am only just beginning to understand the misery they are subjecting the residents of our lovely neighborhood to.

- Sara Schmitz

I also understand the issue of property rights. Owners have the right to rent their home, just as neighbors have the right to enjoy their property in peace. This ordinance must assure all property owners' rights are respected.

- Joseph Shaefer

... The first false narrative is that those protesting the depredations of short-term renters in residential neighborhoods (STRs) are just a few whiny rich folks up the hill. This falsehood disparages the thousands of hard-working service workers in home health-care, hotel and home housekeeping, teaching, landscaping, and running small businesses, all of whom pay either primarily or secondarily into Washoe County and State of Nevada coffers....

No one from the Nevada side of Stateline in the south to Crystal Bay in the north is asking for a ban on STRs. We Washoe

County residents merely ask that intelligent regulation be instituted for the protection of Washoe County citizens, Washoe County property, and the beautiful lake that defines Washoe County's western boundary. ... Please advise how you plan to address the dangerous issues being promulgated on one of the most vulnerable neighborhoods in Washoe County.

\* Julia Simens

Having bought in Incline in 1998, we love it here. We do not like the impact that short-term rentals have had in our neighborhood. As a full time owner in Incline Village, I would like to see the STR's have a much better way to deal with these irresponsible renters.

• Pamela Tsigdinos

By turning a blind eye, congestion, garbage, noise, and water pollution have damaged our fragile environment. In short, the Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority and Washoe County focus on turning North Lake Tahoe into a tourist destination 'cash cow' has trashed Incline Village and Crystal Bay.

• Aaron Vanderpool

My family has resided in Incline Village for 4 decades and we are against short-term rentals. Upper-class gentrification is KILLING Lake Tahoe environmentally and culturally. The evidence is surrounding us both anecdotally/subjectively (TRPA Thresholds) and scientifically/objectively (*Lake Tahoe State of the Lake Report*) as invasive species increase and as over-development continues (shrinking the quality of life).

When you don't live in a place, it's easier to pollute it with the dumping of aquariums (e.g. invasive species), litter, light, noise pollution and fire threats. It's growingly unaffordable to those who grew up here. People are destroying the very thing they seek when they come here.

I urge you to enact strict rules regarding short-term rentals to reduce unnecessary development, reduce incentive for (often vacant) investment homes (that could be used instead for local renters), reduce crime (not knowing your neighbors with people coming and going), reduce pollution, and open up our economy to a stronger and more sustainable local community—one which can help balance out many of the problems created by too many short-term rentals.

• Andrew Whyman, MD

In brief, my wife and I have lived in Incline for some 20 years. Gradually, nearly imperceptibly, Paradise has drifted towards purgatory. The erosion of community is at the core of this transformation: More tourists, fewer full-time residents, a decline in enjoyable public space and civic-mindedness, the deterioration of comity between neighbors, particularly in our increasingly mislabeled "residential areas," failing businesses, roadways littered with out-of-state vehicles, garbage everywhere. Each of these factors contributes to a gradually corrosive decline in the quality of life in our small Mountain Home. With all due respect, this ordinance, as written, is about politics, power, grievance, and greed. A small number of people, many though certainly not all from out of the area, purchase real estate to profit at the expense of the rest of us. Wondrous places have been decimated through overuse and rapacious greed. Will IVCB become another such place?

• Heather Williams

Without being dramatic, we are under siege in Incline. It used to be just the summer. Now it is year round and only getting worse year by year. I now live on Hotel Row – not a neighborhood. We used to go for walks without fear of being mowed down. We used to watch out for each other – summer and winter. We knew our neighbors. Now, it is all professional investors and property management services. There is no respect for the residents, the wildlife, or the lake. And that is my biggest concern.

By not limiting and placing restrictions on STRs, we are going to lose this beautiful lake, and Washoe County is going to kill its Golden Goose. We have already lost our community and our quality of life. ... Many, many, many other communities have effectively shut down STR abuses. Since our "guests" are not going to respect the lake or our community, it's time we take the initiative and preserve our lake and restore our quality of life.

\* Jean Zambik

Incline Village Resident for 45 years. Please make Washoe County short-term rentals stricter than Las Vegas. Incline Village is a tiny town that can't handle the problems created by short-term rentals. We increasingly struggle to find places to live here.

**From:** [rondatyce@aol.com](mailto:rondatyce@aol.com)  
**To:** [iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com](mailto:iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** 2nd Summary of IV Resident STR Input  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 09, 2020 4:20:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [Trash-GarbageBears.docx](#)  
[FireSafety&Evacuation.docx](#)  
[Parking-Vehicles.docx](#)  
[NumberOfSTRs.docx](#)  
[NoiseNuisanceDisturbance.docx](#)

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear IV STR Advisory Group,

#### **SUMMARY OF TODAY'S INPUT**

As mentioned in yesterday's email, my categorization of public comment from IV residents for the cancelled Aug 25th Washoe County Commissioners meeting resulted in the following rankings of concern (frequency of mention):

**Commercial versus Residential Use, Deeds & CC&Rs = 33**

**Impacts to Neighborhood-Community-Lake = 31**

**Noise-Nuisances-Disturbances = 19**

**Trash-Garbage = 18**

**Fire Safety - Evacuation = 17**

**Parking -Vehicles = 17**

**Number of STRs = 16**

**Occupancy = 12**

**Health and Cleanliness = 11**

**Enforcement = 11**

**Property Management = 6**

**Density of STRs = 4**

Yesterday I sent attached files containing residents' exact words for the first grouping. Today I attach the comments for the next grouping—Noise, Trash, Fire Safety, Parking, and Number of STRs. I will send the two other small attachments during the next few days.

[The public comments received through 8/24/20 are available online at [www.washoecounty.us/csd/planning\\_and\\_development/board\\_commission/planning\\_commission/2020/Files/2020-01-07/BCC-082520-STR-sr-w-new-comments.pdf](http://www.washoecounty.us/csd/planning_and_development/board_commission/planning_commission/2020/Files/2020-01-07/BCC-082520-STR-sr-w-new-comments.pdf)

(The ones received after publication start at p. 353); this link is also accessible from just below the highlighted section on [www.washoecounty.us/str](http://www.washoecounty.us/str).]

#### **WASHOE STAFF SUMMARY OF INPUT**

One of our group members asked Washoe County for their summary of our input for the August 25th meeting. They responded with the following:

"Below is the summary prepared by Office of the County Manager staff:  
All of these communications were submitted to Kelly Mullin, Eric Brown, Washoe311, or a combination of all three.  
BCC Agenda, 8/25/20, Item 21:

Written communications received:

• **In Opposition as written: 33**

- **In Support as written: 14**
- **Oppose short term rentals, in general: 16**
- **Support an ordinance, but NOT the one submitted for item 21: 34**
- **STR comments, in general: 7"**

The Staff of the County Manager's office reduced our hundreds of pages of input into those 5 categories.

My questions to Staff are:

1. Who decided these 5 categories? How will this information help the Planners revise the Ordinance?
2. Where are the actual categorizations? How can we see whose emails were put into each of these 5 categories?
3. The total of the 5 categories adds to 104. The number of emails included in the Staff Report in Attachment G is 93 (some residents sent more than one email, so about 75 different individuals). Why are the other 11 emails not included in Staff Report Attachment G?
4. The tally for "In Support, as written: = 14" does not reflect my tally. Who sent the 14 emails categorized as "in support of the Ordinance as written"?
5. Have other emails been received by the County that are not included in this summary? If so, how can we get copies of these emails?

Best regards,

Ronda

## FIRE SAFETY AND EVACUATION = 17

- Mike & Helen Abel

The proposed STR regulations will pack IV/CB during peak fire season with thousands of visitors. Tourist visitors will be on their own with no signs or people to guide them to a safe exit from the area. Locals will be blocked by confused visitors not knowing escape routes. This ill-planned and defective STR legislation is a safety disaster for our community. The number of STR's must be capped at a reasonable number like 200-300 with a maximum number of years before going back into the pool to be drawn again for a permit. Regulations like that adopted in Las Vegas should be the model.

- Lynette Cardinale

Although, I can appreciate the effort you have made in addressing a very serious issue the Incline Community is facing concerning the eroding factors that the STR'S are contributing to the well-being of residents and the dangers they create for the perseverance of Incline in general, the concerns are of a most grievous nature and desperately need your attention. The fire danger in Incline is paramount as we are situated in a hole with only a few ways out for evacuation, fire trucks, and first responders.

- \* A. G. Diancin

There have been STRs where houses have caught on fire because of the recklessness of the renter and or the landlord.

- Joe Farrell

[We have experienced] short-term renters allowing sparks from charcoal-grill fires blown into the air necessitating the Fire Department to put out the grill fire.... We have a significant short-term rental problem, which has significantly affected our communities, ambience, safety and the safety of short-term renters. There is significant risk for forest fires.

Additionally, a house burnt down 3-4 years ago (on Spencer) when STR renters built a fire on the deck, which if the Fire Department had not arrived rapidly, would likely have caused a major forest fire and burned down our town. A similar incident with fire occurred on 7/9/2020 on Len Way.

Joy Gumz

As STRs dramatically increase fire risk, how do the Commissioners propose to payfor the increased risk and compensate property owners [in case of fire]?

- Diane Heirshberg

Annual (at permit renewal) and unscheduled health and safety inspections are needed.... If you review Ordinances from other areas and the TRPA Guidelines, annual inspections at permit renewal and unscheduled inspections are included for life-safety issues.

One example of how important these inspections are, is a recent red-tagging of a home on Lakeshore, where an STR owner, in order to maximize revenues, had illegally and without permits converted the garage into a large, dormitory-style sleeping room to maximize revenue; and had illegally run a gas line and put a unpermitted, illegal heater in the garage, which could have led to carbon monoxide poisoning of STR visitors sleeping in the garage. The Fire District did an inspection ... and the home was red-tagged as uninhabitable. The red tagging by the Fire District potentially saved lives of visitors and neighbors!

The Douglas County Fire Chief spoke at one of the TRPA meetings and urged that all jurisdictions at the Lake include strong mandatory pre-permit and annual fire-safety inspection provisions in their STR Ordinances, because Douglas County Fire Department had found serious fire threats in 90% of its STR inspections, many requiring substantial remedial action before STR permits could be issued.

Additionally, inspections for all fire issues should be done by qualified North Lake Tahoe Fire District personnel and Washoe County Code Enforcement personnel— not by unqualified individual owners and their property personnel who have the incentive to save money and avoid making needed repairs.

\* Dema Herrera

Our local emergency services are small and inadequate to meet the demands of the influx of people to our area. In the event of an actual Forest Fire, a large percentage of us would not be able to evacuate. Example: From the hours of 8:00-10:00 a.m. on any Friday-Sun it takes me a minimum of 45 minutes to go 3 miles due to the Sand Harbor Traffic situation. It is unacceptable and no one seems to know how to fix it or is unwilling.

\* Diane Higgins

Fire and Guest Safety: (ex. defensible space, smoke detectors, structures meeting code standards, etc.). This is a huge concern! I have seen fires started in back yards and on decks. We do not want our town burned down due to ignorant and irresponsible renters.<sup>[1]</sup><sub>SEP</sub>

• Adam Hirsh

There is a year-round STR on our same street, which is listed in the property record as a 3100 SF, 3-bedroom house. The owner bills it as a 5-bedroom accommodating 14 people. No sprinkler system. A house fire was started by guests. Lighted cigarettes were tossed into the bushes.

• Clas Karlberg

STR should have sprinklers and fire escapes.

\* Barbara Kendziorski

Educate how we must be very careful in the Tahoe Basin because of the huge FIRE THREAT.

• Nick Maiocco

Just in July we called the Fire Department for a fire that was started on the deck... Back in Feb 2018 an STR caught on fire on Spencer with about 18 occupants inside barely getting out alive.

• Margaret Martini

Incline Village is located in one of the most susceptible areas for fire! We are in a basin surrounded by uphill slopes. A perfect firestorm. Even worse than the Paradise aka Camp fire as far as spread of fire is concerned. Your proposed STR regulations will pack our Village with perhaps thousands (that is NOT an exaggeration based on the number of homes and condos here) during PEAK FIRE SEASON. The road capacity just will not handle the exodus if a fire starts. STR's bring multiple cars adding to the resident cars all vying for the same 3 inadequate escape routes. There is already gridlock on all roads with no fire! Local residents will be blocked by a plethora of confused visitors not knowing escape routes. We do not have the number of police/fire personnel to handle the mass exodus trying to escape fire.

Your inadequate and ill planned STR proposal is a safety disaster for our community residents. Evacuation map and emergency numbers permanently must be listed in all bedrooms.

This is possible because it is already being done and in place in the second largest tourist area in our State. Doesn't Incline village deserve the same protections and safety that Las Vegas has? If they can protect their neighborhoods, then so should you protect ours. We have much more risk of a catastrophic fire and for sure STR renters have not shown much respect for fire hazards and evacuation.

• Diane Morrison

This 4th of July I personally asked 3 groups of VRBO renters to cease their firework igniting. While my requests were met with a barrage of name-calling and threats, what many, not familiar with the area, don't realize is one errant spark, could set the Basin ablaze. They don't understand the dryness of the climate, nor that there is essentially one road in and out of town. The number of people, animals and homes that would perish is unimaginable.

[In the ad for this property, the owners mention] an outside/open flame/uncovered fire-pit. Just last weekend a group of 17 men had an outside fire, uncovered, on their deck during HIGH fire season.

• Linda Newman

As we face more than a triad of new challenges from the economic and financial fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic along with the unrelenting threat to our community and our visitors' health and safety, we also face the season of virulent wildfires. The evacuation plans in place to support our year-round population of under 10,000 do not appear to have the elasticity to also support those who visit for the day or the unknown number of short-term renters that arrive at any given time. There must be a plan in place to accommodate the evacuation of an additional 2,000, 5,000 or 10,000 vacationers. There must also be a budget and workforce for the additional first responders ... –not only for emergencies, but for the expanded daily population base.

- Judith Simon

I urge you to require emergency/evacuation maps, with emergency <sup>[1]</sup><sub>SEP</sub> telephone numbers affixed in each bedroom.

- Pamela Tsigdinos

Beyond the very real inconvenience of competing for space in overcrowded grocery store parking lots, paths, beaches and other facilities, many of us have pleaded with you to do something to help our overworked First Responders, and to mitigate the very real danger of forest fires and overcrowded two-lane roadways. These are life-or-death evacuation routes.

When many residents did not think it could get any worse, Washoe County officials ignored requests to institute a temporary ban on all short-term rentals during the pandemic to prevent community transmission of a deadly virus. Inaction has jeopardized the health and safety of residents and First Responders.

## NOISE, NUISANCES, and DISTURBANCES = 19

- Coral Amende

Beginning about 6 or 7 years ago, one of our neighbors, a Realtor who lives in Los Angeles, began renting out his large house, which is advertised on VRBO as sleeping 14 people. We began seeing (and hearing) large groups of young people hanging out on the property—drinking, smoking, yelling, laughing, and playing loud music—often starting in late afternoon and continuing into the middle of the night, sometimes into the morning. This often happens for days at a time, occasionally a week or more. I have spoken via phone and text numerous times to the owner of the property, but he continues to rent to large groups of young people with no adult supervision.

Yelling and laughing loudly into the wee hours of the morning. Drinking and drug-taking. Driving repeatedly up and down the street (at least a dozen times) with 6 or 7 people standing in the bed of a pickup truck, yelling at the top of their lungs. Some kind of skateboard contest where about 15 people stood out in the street, yelling and laughing at full volume, for 6 or 7 hours (until I finally stopped them).

The kids of the cleaning service employees using the property every single night as a party house and crash pad (this is no longer happening, but did for several months).

- Derek Casari

Also, I think having no parties would be a good idea.

- \* Debra Delfer

We live one street below Cole Circle where unfortunately there have been some disturbances from Airbnb rentals. Please reference both emails from Kate Pearce and Joe Farrell. We totally agree with their views and recommendations.

- \* Penny Dupin

I have been a resident of Incline Village for the past 24 years, living on Cole Circle, which has remained very peaceful until this summer. The reason: new home buyers have turned their house into a STR. Without going into detail, renters must pay \$1550.00 per night for the privilege of tormenting all neighbors with loud music, foul language, intoxicated behavior, exposed garbage, and multiple automobiles. Evidently we are not alone! Residents living on two streets above mine are encountering similar situations as well as other multiple locations in Incline Village.

- Edie Farrell

... with the often weekend-long loud, drunken and disruptive behavior that we see all around the neighborhoods of Incline. ... This was all precipitated by a house next to us that recently sold to a couple who told us they bought it to rent.... One party was significantly drunk for several days in a row and only got louder, more aggressive, and belligerent.

- Joe Farrell

... Over the past 5-6 years we have experienced excessive noise (all day) and numerous times late into the night from drunk and obnoxious renters on streets above our home (Len Way and Spencer), which have resulted in numerous calls to the Sheriff's Department.

Recently we experienced short-term renters whose drunken behavior led to significant disturbance of the peace from 10 AM to 10 PM for over a week during the Fourth of July holiday.... We experienced constant noise (e.g. loud rap music, yelling drunk and dope-smoking parties) .... Until you have experienced out of control STR's, you really can not appreciate the nuisance and aggravation a STR can be to a quiet neighborhood and community. Short-Term Renters using foul language directed toward neighbors attempting to quiet the partying down is quite alarming.

- \* Colin Harris

The current STR ordinance falls way short of protecting our neighborhood. Just the other day, there was an STR in our

neighborhood (lower Tyner) where a huge party was held and disturbing the peace until 3-4am! Even the Sheriff here won't intervene. Why can't you follow the guidelines of Las Vegas? Makes so much more sense!

\* Dema Herrera

We who actually live in these communities have to get up and go to work and to school. No, we are not on permanent vacation as some would like to think. The noise factor disturbs all of us whether or not we have a day job, swing shift, or night job. I repeatedly let STR vacation renters know of the noise ordinance to no avail. I have called the Sheriff's Office on several occasions (non-emergency) to complain of STR noise. By the time they were able to respond I had given up.

Our daughter, who lives between two STR's, never knows who is going to be her neighbor for the week, weekend etc. They have even witnessed sex-trafficking in the unit next to them.

\* Diane Higgins

We had a huge VRBO group drinking and partying in our street and they actually drove a car off the cliff! Other than the obnoxious noise, my concern was the car starting a fire in the brush. This is NOT acceptable!

\* Adam Hirsh

At a year-round STR on our street much late night noise is a regular and continual problem. [There was] a party with strippers and a drug overdose for which ambulance and fire department were called.

• Kathie Julian

On noise, it is not clear what constitutes a confirmed STR noise violation? What is the confirmation process, and how long does it take? How cumbersome to implement? How reasonable is it that a neighbor would get redress for a party-house disturbance on their block?

• Nick Maiocco

Within the past 6 months we have called the police several time for large parties with up to 30 people. Just in July we called police dispatch 5 times for noise from parties with more than 10 people.

• Margaret Martini

Prohibit sound producing devices on the exterior of the property.

• Diane Morrison

[In the STR next to my home] Loud and boisterous renters; drinking and screaming until early morning hours. Unsafe, unwelcome behavior. Drinking, smoking and all night partying.

\* Kate Pearce

Assess hefty and enforceable repercussions for noise, aggression, parking and trash. The current 10pm-7am quiet hours proposal doesn't go far enough and seems to act as permission to make as much noise as possible during the day.

• Sara Schmitz

[I sent the following letter to the STR owners next to me.]

"On the night of August 13, the Sheriff's deputies issued your renters—a large group of young men—a citation for disturbing the peace. As the photos show, on August 12<sup>th</sup> they were partying hard all day in the back yard—lots of drinking, smoking, shouting, yelling, and cheering for hours. I was hopeful they would just pass out at some point, but they continued into the evening. The renters don't seem to understand or care that this is a residential neighborhood, with neighbors. Unfortunately, once again the Sheriff had to send resources at the County Taxpayer's expense to 'educate' them.

"When speaking with the Deputies issuing the citation, they knew of all of the issues at your property. They know it well. People around Incline Village know it well, they all comment to me about the number of cars, people and observed misbehavior. When speaking with new neighbors, they were in disbelief and horrified to also observe and understand your home is a short-term rental party house.

“As I’ve written you before, your unmanaged short-term rental is consuming taxpayer resources, is disturbing the peace of the neighborhood, and is a nuisance. Nevada State statutes (NRS 40.140) has language about homes that are a nuisance and disrupting the peaceful use of neighboring homes.

“If this behavior continues and you continue to ignore our documented complaints, the surrounding neighbors will have no choice but to start legal proceedings. We’d prefer to work together as ‘neighbors’, however you have yet to show your interest or willingness to do so.”

\* Julia Simens

In the past we have had to call the Sheriff a few times for loud parties and way too many people in one unit. This was when we only had one STR in our 24 units. This summer alone we have had 7+ units converted to STRs.

• Judith Simon

I urge you to prohibit sound-producing devices outdoors as well as prohibiting large parties, receptions, and similar events.

• Svata Trossen

There are 5 homes in our cul de sac, one of them being a short-term rental. The constant comings-and-goings of strange people and cars cause noise and traffic issues. At times there are up to 4 vehicles for this one residence in addition to all the extra cars with snow or water toys.... It appears that there are several families sharing the house judging by the number of extra vehicles parked in our already crowded cul de sac.

I am particularly concerned in the winter, when often only a small area has been cleared because most of the snow has to be moved out of the cul de sac after the storms have subsided and the main roads in our Village have been cleared. Many of these renters are unaccustomed to driving in snow, and often do not have snow tires or chains. I have observed some cars sliding dangerously on our narrow, steep roads. One evening two vehicles arrived at about 11 p.m., and not seeing an open parking area, simply left their cars in the middle of the single cleared lane and did not come out to move them until after 10 a.m. the next morning. Most of the owners on our Court are seniors. Emergency vehicles would not have been able to reach these residents if they needed help!

**NUMBER OF STRS = 16**

- Gina Apker

I expect you are familiar with HOA CC&Rs most of which stipulate that rentals in the HOA community are limited to a specific percentage. This is done to protect the integrity of the community because is a widely known truth that renters do not take care of property as well as owners do. If the current ordinances are not completely revised and mandatory limits are not enforced on the number of short-term rentals allowed in our community—especially given the huge number of Californians fleeing their largely populated cities due to Covid 19—you as our elected commissioner are not protecting our rights and will be writing a death sentence for this Incline Village community that we call home.

Why are Las Vegas STR ordinances written and enforced to protect the quality of their residential neighborhoods while ours in Washoe County are not?

- Jill Brandin

The number of short-term rentals you have allowed in Incline Village is a disaster.

- Scott Daulton

I think that short-term vacation rentals should be not only be limited in total number in Washoe County...

- Edie Farrell

Something needs to be done about the number of rentals.

- Joe Farrell

I am for a BAN of STR in Incline Village; however, do we as residents need to contribute to your political campaigns to get ACTION on our complaints???

From my summary ..., you likely will understand why I favor a ban on STRs. It is evident the current STR Ordinance does not protect me from future problems since the Ordinance does not limit STRs in IVCB by number, location or density...

- Will Ferrall

There needs to be limits on the allowable maximum number of these permits issued.

- Diane Heirshberg

There are no limitations on the total number of STRs in a neighborhood...

- Kathie Julian

We need an ordinance that supports sound zoning practices, and addresses the number ... of STRs in ... Incline Village.

- Keli Maiocco

While acknowledging the many hours multiple staff members have spent on the proposed STR ordinances, they do not protect our residents since the number, location, and density is not limited. ... Other communities have banned STRs successfully and continue to host visitors in a safe and enjoyable environment—South Lake Tahoe and Hawaii just to name a few popular tourist areas. Longer-term rentals can still bring in revenue while keeping our environment, residents, and visitors safe.

- Margaret Martini

Your inadequate and ill-planned STR proposal is a safety disaster for our community residents. The number of STR's must be limited to a reasonable number like perhaps 200-300 with a maximum time period of years to be then going at the bottom of the list for permits in a rotation manner. This is a reasonable solution for safety.

- Scott Daulton

I think that short-term vacation rentals should be ... be limited in total number in Washoe County...

- Judith Simon

I object to several provisions in the Ordinance; briefly, the Ordinance does not limit the number of STRs in Incline Village nor outline their locations. Unlimited STRs lead to long-term, far-reaching problems, both in public safety and in the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

- Svata Trossen

Please, please take these dangerous situations into consideration, and limit the number of STRs allowed to rent, not only in Tyrolian Village, but in the entire town of Incline Village.

- Pamela Tsigdinos

Weak attempts to 'rein in' short-term rentals by Washoe County through public workshops and online surveys has been a charade. The refusal—announced at the beginning of the public workshop I attended—to consider a ban (in accordance with your own code) only reinforced that Washoe County officials have no intention of listening to residents' concerns.

Even knowing the process was biased against residents, we still showed good faith in asking for STR limitations, quotas, and hard enforcement of rightly tough new code requirements. Instead, the latest version of the proposed plan reads like it was written by the property-management companies. Self-certification? Really? That is like giving burglars the keys to the house and telling them not to take anything.

Please do your duty: enforce what is already on the books and stop pandering to scofflaws and outside business interests.

- Alex Tsigdinos

As an Incline Village homeowner since 2004, I've seen firsthand the dramatic increase in sustained tourism here over the last 5 years in particular. Given the persistent crowds, traffic congestion, dangerous illegal parking and what's best described as just generally uncivil behavior, it seems as if the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend now lasts all summer.

The surge in visitors is directly linked to the proliferation of STRs, enabled and commercialized on an industrial scale, by online platforms such as VRBO, Air B&B and Vacasa. Over time, the increasingly negative impacts SRTs have on communities favored by tourism is universal, be it in Lisbon, Venice Berlin, Dublin, Seattle, Las Vegas, South Lake Tahoe or Incline. One only need Google terms such as "communities banning short-term rentals" for examples.

The basic progression is as follows.

- **First**, local primary residents make additive income by occasional renting a room or their apartment/condo/house while they are out of town. This worked in Tahoe for decades.

- **Second**, affluent individuals, real estate groups, and companies get into the SRT business by buying up multiple properties solely for financial return and effectively inserting commercial lodging into residential-zoned neighborhoods. (Ask yourself, would it be OK if someone effectively turned the residence next door to yours into a hotel that hosted one nightly bacchanalia after another? And if such a conversion of a residence into a commercial enterprise is acceptable in defiance of zoning laws, would then conversions of residences into stores, restaurants, dance clubs or other commercial enterprises also be acceptable?)

- **Third**, communities come under growing pressure as available housing units for local residents are removed from the market (directly competing with other government initiatives to increase affordable housing); first-responders, public facilities and local infrastructure become overtaxed; and the community and environment frays.

- **Fourth** and finally, a boiling point is reached when the community loses its identity to become a sort of "Disneyland" (e.g., Disney-Tahoe) resulting in severe political backlash in which SRTs are banned outright and/or heavily taxed – but

only after real and lasting damage has already been done. Everyone loses.

- Heather Williams

Require Incline Village residency in order to be issued an STR permit. And limit those permits by number, location or density.

## PARKING AND VEHICLES = 17

- Gina Apker

The owners of the house directly across the street from ours regularly leave for extended periods (6-12 months at a time) and rent their house short term while they're gone. That house sleeps 16 people. Last summer, when that house was rented short term, we often had 10+ cars parked illegally right across the street from our house. If there was a fire, there would not have been adequate room for fire trucks to properly gain access to protect us and our neighborhoods' lives and homes.

- Carole Black

Incline Village area occupancy and the resulting traffic and parking situation has changed dramatically particularly with the growth in STRs in recent years. ... In addition, in some spots parking is somewhat improved, in others dramatically worsened as a result of both the recent surge in STR and day-visitors and the recent requested and well-intentioned parking restriction changes.

- \* A. G. Diancin

...[We] cannot restrict the amount of cars these tourists bring in, therefore overcrowding the streets and blocking garbage trucks and deliveries as well as snow plows (important during winter time in Tahoe).

- Wayne Ford

Renters brought 8 cars, a boat, and jet skis to the home and blocked driveways.... Just recently renters brought 8 cars and there were at least 18 people with kids. Renters brought a 50-foot RV and blocked driveways... Renters have parked on the dirt in the front yard that has now caused ... compaction... resulted in erosion and uncontrolled runoff.... Driving in the street ... do not slow down... drive on the wrong side coming into the street and going out of it. ... In June two cars parked on the paved driveway and one on the dirt in the front yard.

- \* Dema Herrera

I cannot stress enough the lack of parking in our community. Which agency is going to be here on an hourly basis monitoring the parking situation and making sure that the limit on cars is being met? My guess is no one. Our complex has one parking bay per household for those of us who own our units. Parking is stretched to the limit every single day during a normal summer.

- Diane Heirshberg

It is crucial that parking for STR visitors be limited to actual available parking spaces on site, and that the STR visitors be advised as to the number of cars and vehicles (boats, etc.) they can bring. The requirement of one parking space for every four proposed occupants does not limit the number of cars and additional vehicles (boats, trailers, etc.) that visitors can bring to the home to actual available onsite parking spaces. There needs to be a limitation on the total number of cars that can be brought to an STR home based on available on-site parking, based on a parking map. This is common in other STR Ordinances around the Lake, and was recommended in the TRPA Guidelines, due to the particular issues that impact IVCB and other Lake communities. STR visitors bring RVs and boats and boat trailers with no place to park them and then park illegally around IVCB.

There is a tremendous shortage of parking spaces in IVCB, due to the many narrow streets with insufficient room for any street parking at all, the lack of onsite parking provided for in the older developments, and the fact that public streets in IVCB are used for snow storage during the winter. Effective November 1 – May 1 of each year, to allow for snow storage and removal of snow from the roads, street parking is prohibited under Washoe County Snow Removal Regulations, Chapter 70.425 and 70.437.

Please consider speaking with Rich Thomsen about the problems encountered by the County when the snowplows hit cars illegally parked on public streets. When cars are illegally parked on public streets during snow plowing, this can and has caused the plows to be disabled, and I assume could lead to potential claims against the County for damage to individual's cars as there are no signs posted with this requirement.

Finally, local residents have requested that the STR Ordinance require that garages be made available for parking ... if the garages are counted as ... on-site parking. In IVCB, many ... garages are locked with the personal belongings and the owner's car.... A garage retained for the owner's private use should not be counted towards on-site parking in the permit.

\* Diane Higgins

Limit parking to 2 cars per property. When they come with more than 2 cars, it's always a problem. They had the nerve to park in our driveway and then cuss us out when we told them they could not park there. In the winter, we cannot have cars on the road inhibiting the snowplows and causing danger

• Adam Hirsh

At the year-round STR on our street, up to 14 cars parked on the street/increased traffic. Recently had 5 cars and a bus. Cars parked illegally on the street in winter.

• Kathie Julian

On parking, the draft code is unclear. Is off-site street parking prohibited? If so, what is the mechanism for enforcement? And what are the implications of the provision that allows the Planning and Building Division Director to "relocate" the required parking location at the property owner's request? That provision demands further clarification. It appears to give undue authority to individual County staff in consultation with STR property owners/investors.

\* Barbara Kendzioriski

Require all cars from renters to be parked on the rental property.

• Margaret Martini

Vehicles must be parked on site—not in adjacent right-of-ways. This is a must in snow country where street parking is illegal during plowing.

• Diane Morrison

[In the STR next to my home] upwards of 15 cars have been parked on the street. In winter, although we are on a school-bus route, the plows often could not plow because of parked cars.

• Joseph Shaefer

Their vehicles are not inherently evil. But parking so many cars in so small a space, overflowing into the middle of both sides of many residential avenues, means paramedics, police and fire personnel are unable to traverse many streets. Is a life- and-death situation to the few outweighed by the greater distribution to the many?

\* Julia Simens

[In our STRs we have] loud parties and unbelievable parking issues. Many of the renters did not know about the CC&R's and rules. Our CC&R's clearly outline where you can park and how recreation vehicles, trailers, and RVs are not allowed to park. Renters have even parked in the fire lane. When we call the Sheriff Department, they are wonderful to try and help with these situations. The Fire Department even came out to help us get a huge RV out of the fire lane.

• Judith Simon

I urge you to limit vehicle parking to on-site, not in adjacent public right-of-way.

• Heather Williams

NO on-street parking. Our streets are too narrow, and emergency vehicles and snowplows cannot get through.

• Ron Young

Several of the houses in Incline Village were built before the current standards for driveway slope. While full time owners are probably aware that their property is nonconforming, licensing of these properties by Washoe County could leave unsuspecting renters exposed to unknown hazards... Add the following sentence to Section 110.319.15(b)(2):<sup>[1]</sup>TRPA section 34.3.2.E. Slope of Driveways states that driveways shall not exceed 10 percent slope.

This would make the permitting process clearer and reduce the exposure of Washoe County for licensing an unsafe facility that does not meet current safety standards.

## TRASH AND GARBAGE = 18

- Coral Amende

Trash all over our property and adjacent parcels (bottles, cans, condoms, etc.) Trash left in open bags on the street, which the bears got into.

- Gina Apker

This house is 2 doors down from ours and regularly rented short-term. Short-Term renters have no idea how important the garbage ordinances are in our community. Even if the property owners leave the strict garbage rules written for their renters, most the time renters don't read or abide by them. Bears quickly learn which houses don't properly dispose of garbage so, of course they frequently break into those houses.

This photo is of a mother with her 2 cubs. At the time of this photo, the mother bear had 1 yellow tag in her ear because she broke into a house. She subsequently received a 2nd Yellow tag in her other ear. After her third documented break in—likely due to garbage rule violation—this mother bear was euthanized by law enforcement, and we believe it was due to problems with this specific house and the several other short-term rentals in our neighborhood.

You would likely see a dramatic increase in wild life (raccoons, rats, coyotes, mice) raiding the rental houses' garbage cans because garbage would inappropriately be left outside.

- \* A. G. Diancin

Bear problems: STR are not educated to know that bears can break into their garages or homes where food is present. Therefore, they automatically call the Sheriff and NDOW to trap the bear(s) to be killed. Residents of Incline are opposed to this and will not stand for killing innocent animals because STR renters could not prevent this from happening.... STR owners [need] to pay HIGH fees for bear break-ins and have STR brokers/landlords educate renters when checking in.

- Joe Farrell

My neighbors have experienced issues with garbage attracting bears, bears entering a short-term-rental home and the renter scaring a cub into an upstairs bedroom, where the cub was hanging from a window for 15 minutes prior to a neighbor from the Bear League helping the bear to safety. ... There is significant risk from ... bear mauling, and even death of short-term renters who have no idea how to handle the wildlife in our area.

Mandate bear boxes. However, some STRs house up to 12 people who generate a lot of garbage. Over the 4th of July Weekend our neighbors STR's left a number of garbage bags in an open garage since the Bear Box had reached capacity. A gift to bears. How can we police this?

- Wayne Ford

a. Within the first year (of being bought by Mr. Barkhordarian in 2016), a bear got into the home because a renter left the front door unlocked... After the first bear event, there were two more where a bear got into the home. This resulted from IVGID violations... with cans overfilled and put out after the pickup times. One event tied up 4 sheriffs for 2 hours to get the bear out of the home.

- Dema Herrera

The burden of cleaning up and lack of education in regards to proper trash disposal is exhausting. In my small complex we have added 2 additional 4-yd dumpsters this summer and it is not enough. Ultimately, those of us who are full time residents end up paying out of our pockets for the additional services required to handle the STR traffic.

- Diane Higgins

Each property should be required to have a bear box and if that bear box is not used or there is excess trash, a fine of \$1000/day should be assessed. We do not need any more bears roaming around and breaking into garages

- \* Adam Hirsh

There is a year-round STR on our street with animals in the trash (which we clean up).

\* Barbara Kendziorski

There are two STRs that are pretty much in our "backyard." These two houses are rented almost nonstop year round with weekly rentals. Make a bear-box mandatory (a bear box big enough that it will hold two trash cans and a third trash can for recyclables) with information posted about how we live in bear country. Post information in the house telling renters to be careful with food, not to leave house windows, doors and garage doors open, and to lock cars—and use the bear box. We need to protect our bears from uneducated and irresponsible tourists (and residents). Review the Bear League Facebook posts about the bear incidents in Tahoe because of uneducated and irresponsible people. We used to never have a bear problem until STRs exploded.

• Keli Maiocco

If you are able to open this video, you will hear the cries of a bear cub that wandered through an open door at 3:30am this morning. The renters who arrived yesterday evening went to bed with the door open. The cub tried to exit from the top floor window and was there dangling by it's front paws for 10-15 minutes. Its mother circled my back yard distressed until a neighbor from the Bear League came with a ladder. It was finally coaxed down and both bears left the area. All the neighbors were awake from the screaming cub, crying mother bear, deputies, and the tenants. Luckily, there appeared to be no damage. The authorities have been involved with incidents at this STR for months.

Nick Maiocco

I have lived in Incline for 30 years and it was never this way with STR's.... Also garbage and coolers left outside for the bears.

• Beth Minick

I took a photo of him and checked my bear box and sure enough, he was on my property dumping his trash in my bear box. The next day he left trash in the street. Then it snowed and covered the trash, including a shovel. Someone could have gotten hurt by running over the shovel that was covered with snow.

• Diane Morrison

[In the STR next to my home] Trash - loads of it. You can imagine the amount of trash 20 people can accumulate.

• Joseph Shaefer

Not all short-term renters are bad people. But the trash they spew in every location is bad. Without intelligent regulation, 14-20 people in 6 or 8 cars can stay in a family home designed for 4-6. Of course their garbage overflows! And of course the bears and other wildlife that help make Lake Tahoe Washoe County's biggest tourism draw will be slaughtered as "dangerous." The danger comes from failure to act. Now.

\* Julia Simens

[In our condominium STRs] watermelons have been tossed off second floors, trash has been left in hallways. Trash has been left outside the bear trash bins. We have taken it upon ourselves to remove the trash or store the trash, as any responsible person would do in order to help [our] association.

\* Kip Tonking

This is what I come home to at the STR next door after work! [Photo of trash.] That should bring the bears in tonight. Hope they don't take out my garage door like they did last year. No one should have to live next to people like this with no respect of our neighborhood or wildlife. In the 25years of living here I have never seen thing like this, I don't know if I can stay in my home. <sup>[SEP]</sup>

• Aaron Vanderpool

Short-term rentals bring trash problems, which create bear problems.

• Heather Williams

Bear boxes should be mandatory – with instructions as to how to use them!



**From:** [Jeane Ryan](#)  
**To:** [Ronda Tyceer](#)  
**Cc:** [iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com](mailto:iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Re: 2nd Summary of IV Resident STR Input  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 09, 2020 7:12:17 PM

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**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Thank You Ronda for your fine summary and your questions, All very to the point on so many fronts to this topic.

I'm hoping that you can direct my input below regarding these topics as you will note from my input - they are not insulated from every other topic, they are intermingled and intertwined inseparably.

I can tell you from the perspective of Community/managers/Management by that I mean the whole of Incline Village as a Village composed of Residents and Businesses.  
For a subset of the larger Village then a Condo complex, Townhouse group or Apartments etc. For this I mean how does it affect you living in that residential subset (Multiple of them in Incline Village/Crystal Bay) within the Village. You have the same issues and problems the whole Village has. So while some make think well that is a small group I would ask them to note that whether a smaller subset of the whole, they are an entity of their own and this affects them differently, the same goes for the Apartment renter who lives here and works here and has a family here who also has to deal with STRs next door or just down the street.

In many instances those individual categories cross over and are not simple easily measured issues. Take the Trash/Garbage issue there are numerous problems:

1. Using the wrong receptacle trash in the recycle or vice versa! Oh big deal you might say! Well it is because it impacts many people and many issues:

a. Incline Village has a recycle program and it has waste management -

It affects their handling and processing of the recyclables and the trash:

They incur costs

They pass that cost on to their clients.

Their clients now have additional costs:

Their Management firm is now using part of the monthly fees to handle an issue that should not exist and should not have any costs.

Multiply that by Condos, Townhouse, Single homes, Apartments etc and you have a mess and when you add them all together it is no longer a "trash" problem, it is also a management problem, a business problem and a Village problem and the 'trash' has affect more than the category Trash, therefore that one issue should be counted numerous times because it does not merely cause a 'trash'.

Then add to that 'trash' problem a confrontation, people between people problem because not only was there a trash problem but his problem maker person has not just used the space for their trash but has used the space of several other neighbors and also left trash outside by the bear box. Your trash problem has mushroomed into many problems all with costs, some \$\$\$\$ , some emotional, some using your personal time to deal with an inconsiderate STR person who doesn't care about the environment (wildlife), thinks it's cool so leaves donuts to boot on the parking area retaining wall so they can see a bear!! They have also cat called at a person who told them they were using the wrong trash can because the person has a physical limitation. Now the 'trash' issue has touched not only the police, the management, the resident who pays taxes, the environment and used up everyone's time needlessly, repetitively and has no repercussions.

You can do this with every topic UP above:

Fire, Safety & Evacuation  
Parking  
Number of STRs  
Noise

I have even been put into a situation where a person was coming **Up** the **One Way Down** Road in our

complex. I stopped where I was which blocked their continuing up any further and advised him that it was a One Way Down. The Gentleman advised me, "STOP ME". I politely responded no problem and dialed 911 and simply said, "The Police will be here momentarily". Needless to say he turned around and took off.

Why should I be confronted in this manner in my home complex.  
Why should the 911 staff be necessary and taken away from a real emergency.  
These STRs pay no taxes and rake in the \$\$\$\$ , the STR Owner, Out of one side of their mouths are claiming they are trying to be caring neighbors, but I and You know they are lying.

Yes this could just also be a really ugly Owner Resident but that has not been my experience in 20 years living here it is the STR.

I have just heard of a gated retirement place for over 60s that requires you to have your dogs Poop analyzed. Therefore if any poop is not picked up by the dog owner at the time of pooping it is taken by the grounds staff, analyzed, the dog owner is contacted and charged \$175 for each Poop. Now that is putting some clout in your regulations.

Lets get some clout in these regulations that Is Not Bottom Line \$\$\$\$ in STR Owners pockets.

It is my understanding that these STR problems are not occurring in commercially zoned areas but in RESIDENTIAL! Why are they allowed there AT ALL?????

Perhaps we need to look at the designation "Single Family Home" Residential Zone and Commercial Zone. What are their definitions?

We have suffered 2-3 such horrors in our complex over far too many years and at costs - It robs you of your right to live happily, comfortably to pursue Life, Liberty and Justice for All.

Thank you and stay well and safe,  
Jeane

On Wed, Sep 9, 2020 at 4:17 PM <[rondatyce@aol.com](mailto:rondatyce@aol.com)> wrote:

Dear IV STR Advisory Group,

**SUMMARY OF TODAY'S INPUT**

As mentioned in yesterday's email, my categorization of public comment from IV residents for the cancelled Aug 25th Washoe County Commissioners meeting resulted in the following rankings of concern (frequency of mention):

**Commercial versus Residential Use, Deeds & CC&Rs = 33**

**Impacts to Neighborhood-Community-Lake = 31**

**Noise-Nuisances-Disturbances = 19**

**Trash-Garbage = 18**

**Fire Safety - Evacuation = 17**

**Parking -Vehicles = 17**

**Number of STRs = 16**

**Occupancy = 12**

**Health and Cleanliness = 11**

**Enforcement = 11**

**Property Management = 6**

**Density of STRs = 4**

Yesterday I sent attached files containing residents' exact words for the first grouping. Today I attach the comments for

the next grouping—Noise, Trash, Fire Safety, Parking, and Number of STRs. I will send the two other small attachments during the next few days.

[The public comments received through 8/24/20 are available online at [www.washoecounty.us/csd/planning\\_and\\_development/board\\_commission/planning\\_commission/2020/Files/2020-01-07/BCC-082520-STR-sr-w-new-comments.pdf](http://www.washoecounty.us/csd/planning_and_development/board_commission/planning_commission/2020/Files/2020-01-07/BCC-082520-STR-sr-w-new-comments.pdf)

(The ones received after publication start at p. 353); this link is also accessible from just below the highlighted section on [www.washoecounty.us/str](http://www.washoecounty.us/str).]

#### **WASHOE STAFF SUMMARY OF INPUT**

One of our group members asked Washoe County for their summary of our input for the August 25th meeting. They responded with the following:

"Below is the summary prepared by Office of the County Manager staff:  
All of these communications were submitted to Kelly Mullin, Eric Brown, Washoe311, or a combination of all three.  
BCC Agenda, 8/25/20, Item 21:

Written communications received:

- **In Opposition as written: 33**
- **In Support as written: 14**
- **Oppose short term rentals, in general: 16**
- **Support an ordinance, but NOT the one submitted for item 21: 34**
- **STR comments, in general: 7"**

The Staff of the County Manager's office reduced our hundreds of pages of input into those 5 categories.

My questions to Staff are:

1. Who decided these 5 categories? How will this information help the Planners revise the Ordinance?
2. Where are the actual categorizations? How can we see whose emails were put into each of these 5 categories?
3. The total of the 5 categories adds to 104. The number of emails included in the Staff Report in Attachment G is 93 (some residents sent more than one email, so about 75 different individuals). Why are the other 11 emails not included in Staff Report Attachment G?
4. The tally for "In Support, as written: = 14" does not reflect my tally. Who sent the 14 emails categorized as "in support of the Ordinance as written"?
5. Have other emails been received by the County that are not included in this summary? If so, how can we get copies of these emails?

Best regards,

Ronda

--

Jeane P Ryan  
PO Box 3290  
Incline Village, NV 89450  
Home 775-831-2665  
iPhone 775-813-5098

**From:** [Jeane Ryan](#)  
**To:** [iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com](mailto:iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com); [Mullin, Kelly](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Sara](#); [matthew.ivgid@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.ivgid@gmail.com); [wong\\_trustee@ivgid.org](mailto:wong_trustee@ivgid.org); [callicrate\\_trustee@ivgid.org](mailto:callicrate_trustee@ivgid.org); [pwmorris@hotmail.com](mailto:pwmorris@hotmail.com); [Herron, Susan](#)  
**Subject:** Put clout in your regulations that supports the Zoning - Residential is Residential, Commercial is Commercial.  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 09, 2020 8:04:53 PM

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

HI All,  
Perhaps this input is too late but nonetheless here it is.

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For a subset of the larger Village then a Condo complex, Townhouse group or Apartments etc. For this I mean how does it affect you living in that residential subset (Multiple of them in Incline Village/Crystal Bay) within the Village. You have the same issues and problems the whole Village has. So while some make think well that is a small group I would ask them to note that whether a smaller subset of the whole, they are an entity of their own and this affects them differently, the same goes for the Apartment renter who lives here and works here and has a family here who also has to deal with STRs next door or just down the street.

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What are their definitions?

We have suffered 2-3 such horrors in our complex over far too many years and at costs - It robs you of your right to live happily, comfortably to pursue Life, Liberty and Justice for All.

I did read Sara Schmitz comment about Owners rights and I would agree with her.  
I would add, however, that your Rights need to be tied to your property zoning and if after the fact when you bought in a Residential zoned area your Right would be to rent it just like you purchased it as a Single Family Residence, one family only to live there for a length of time you would be considered a 'Resident' perhaps as your State's Residency requirements to Vote are stated - Usually 6 months sometimes longer. This is of course totally separate from the ease at which American Citizens ought to be able to register and Vote.

There is not any reason why they couldn't rent their House for a longer period of time.

If they wanted to rent more frequently and didn't want a Residential piece of property then they would need to sell and buy commercial. Sara's statement was very short, perhaps she might offer further input to just what she was implying.

Thank you and stay well and safe,  
Jeane

--

Jeane P Ryan  
PO Box 3290  
Incline Village, NV 89450  
Home 775-831-2665  
iPhone 775-813-5098

**From:** [rondatyce@aol.com](mailto:rondatyce@aol.com)  
**To:** [iv.st.advisory.group@gmail.com](mailto:iv.st.advisory.group@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Mullin, Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Final Summaries of STR Input From IV Residents  
**Date:** Thursday, September 10, 2020 2:41:37 PM  
**Attachments:** [DensityofSTRs.docx](#)  
[Enforcement.docx](#)  
[Health&CleanlinessIssues.docx](#)  
[Occupancy.docx](#)  
[PropertyManagement.docx](#)

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**[NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear IV STR Advisory Group,

Today's attachments include the last 5 files of comment from IV residents given as public input for the cancelled Aug 25th Washoe County Commissioners meeting.

As mentioned previously, categorizing the emails resulted in the following rankings of concern (frequency of mention):

Commercial versus Residential Use, Deeds & CC&Rs = 33  
Impacts to Neighborhood-Community-Lake = 31

Noise-Nuisances-Disturbances = 19

Trash-Garbage = 18

Fire Safety - Evacuation = 17

Parking -Vehicles = 17

Number of STRs = 15

Occupancy = 12

Health and Cleanliness = 11

Enforcement = 11

Property Management = 6

Density of STRs = 4

Residents' exact words are included in today's attached files for Occupancy, Health & Cleanliness; Enforcement; and for Property Management and Density of STRs.

[The public comments received through 8/24/20 can be viewed online at [www.washoecounty.us/csd/planning\\_and\\_development/board\\_commission/planning\\_commission/2020/Files/2020-01-07/BCC-082520-STR-sr-w-new-comments.pdf](http://www.washoecounty.us/csd/planning_and_development/board_commission/planning_commission/2020/Files/2020-01-07/BCC-082520-STR-sr-w-new-comments.pdf)]

We've now provided County Manager Brown and Planner Kelly Mullin with all our comments categorized by topic so they can use them to revise the STR Ordinance with Incline Village residents' primary concerns at the forefront.

**1ST** - We have indicated we are *most concerned about the impacts of the commercial nature of STR businesses on our residential neighborhoods and our community*. That issue is first and foremost. And this relates not just to the STR Ordinance itself, but to the changes in the County Code 110 as indicated in the Staff Report.

These Code changes together with the STR Ordinance will strip IVCB residents of the protections given to us by our inherent property rights, our deeds, and our CC&Rs/Declarations of Restrictions, which separate commercial zoning from residential zoning, and distinguish between business use and residential use of property.

**2ND** - When in 2004 TRPA declared "vacation rentals" a "residential use" of property in the Tahoe Basin, they based their decision on the premise that "vacation rental" use is not distinguishable from "residential use."

With our input, we've provided ample evidence that many—if not most—STRs in IVCB do not reflect a "residential use" in terms of impacts to our neighborhoods and community, nor in terms of any of the other identified problematic issues

(noise, nuisance, trash, parking, etc.).

### **IN CONCLUSION**

Again we thank all of you who wrote emails to provide evidence that the STR Ordinance as drafted will not resolve IVCB's problems with STRs, and in fact, will allow them to continually increase.

We members of the IV STR Citizen Advisory Group are now informed of each others views about STRs. We have given insightful suggestions that show we are capable and caring citizens. We have joined forces to protect Incline Village as our home.

And also, we each have read what others in the group wrote to the Commissioners. This will allow us to be more effective going forward. Our next input will show how the STR Ordinance might be changed to resolve the 12 most critical issues we've identified.

Best regards,

Ronda

## DENSITY OF STRS = 4

- Carole Black

In the proposed ordinance there is to date a dearth of a variety of proposed density, intensity of use and permitting elements which are included in the TRPA best practices list and in many other jurisdiction STR regulations.

- Bill Ferrall

My biggest concern is the lack of density provision. The STR trend is gaining in popularity and further diluting neighborhoods where families are denied peaceful enjoyment of their home.

- Diane Heirshberg

While several types of limitations are recommended in the TRPA Guidelines (limiting distance between STRs; limiting the number of days per month—or times per month or per year—that a rental is allowed, requiring that the home be a primary resident and not a business, etc.), the County has repeatedly stated that such limitations are illegal in Nevada, and that is the reason that they were never considered by the County.

Also, the County has stated that there are no such limitations in any STR ordinance anywhere in Nevada. Both of those premises are not correct, and I ask that these protections be considered now or at least in the future, if the Ordinance that is adopted does not get rid of the party houses and their noise, the trash problems, the parking problems, etc., because these premises were incorrect.

The City of Las Vegas Ordinance, for example, provides that an STR must be at least “660 feet from any other short-term residential rental.” I recently called Steve Swaton, of the Las Vegas Planning Department (702-229-4714) who is the person who wrote most of the latest City of Las Vegas STR Ordinance. I asked him why he felt that the provision requiring STRs to be 660 feet apart in the Las Vegas Ordinance was legal in Nevada, and he said that it was clearly legal, and that the purpose of this provision is to discourage conglomeration of STR uses in one area, in order to lessen the adverse impacts to the neighborhoods, which in necessary to further public health and safety and avoid nuisances of noise, traffic and crime problems from STRs.

Mr. Swanton explained that the City of Las Vegas realized that short-term renters do not own the places they rent, and they come to party and do whatever they want to do, as they feel that they are not being watched. He said that this provision is lawful under the zoning regulation power and the power to promote health and safety.

Mr. Swaton said that he is willing to talk with anyone in Washoe County Planning, about the limitation to 660 feet, the Las Vegas Ordinance, the detrimental impacts of party-house STRs on a neighborhood, etc.

The City of Las Vegas’ attorney approved the STR Ordinance including this provision. Yet limitations were never even discussed in Washoe County because someone at the County said that such limitations on STRs were illegal in Nevada, which is apparently incorrect.

- Margaret Martini

No STR should be closer than 600 feet to any other STSR residence.

## ENFORCEMENT = 11

\* Diane Higgins

There need to be stiff and enforceable fines to the owners if any of their tenants violate any of the rules...

• Kathie Julian

[The Ordinance proposes] an opaque enforcement mechanism and timeframe putting undue reliance on the Washoe County Director of Planning and Building, or their agents. Confirming violations appears to be left to the Planning and Building Division Director or his agent. This is non-transparent and vague.

It is unclear why the inspection mechanism was rendered toothless by eliminating the prospect of unscheduled inspections where authorities suspect violation of occupancy rules or issues of health and safety. Unscheduled inspection capacity related to suspected health, safety, and occupancy violations is imperative.

\* Barbara Kendziorski

Cancel the license for 6 months after three “noise or non-compliance” violations of the rules.

• Helene Larson

This letter represents my concerns regarding the proliferation of STRs in Incline Village, without any limits imposed, and with very little, if any, enforceable regulation proposed. This invites, and then tolerates, inappropriate, and indeed sometimes illegal and dangerous use of housing here. Instances of untended garbage, parking violations, open fires, violations of the peace and quiet of the community with loud partying and music have resulted from unregulated short-term rental use. Self-regulation is obviously a failure.

• Keli Maiocco

The suggested “hotline” does nothing to help the level of frustration that is felt by residents when they are watching illegal wood-burning fire throw sparks in the air, or are woken in the middle of the night by noise and bright flashing Christmas lights, or are trying to pay for a new garage door after a bear break-in when STR garbage and coolers were left outside.

The STR ordinance cannot guarantee compliance, discipline, or removal of the STR—only fines. Fines do not benefit the residents. This raises the question of where the manpower will come from and how it will be paid for inspections, permits, patrolling, and disciplinary action. Most importantly to the residents, how long will we have to suffer as the ordinance’s due process plays out?

• Margaret Martini

The license should be suspended upon the 2<sup>nd</sup> violation within a 2-year period. The permit should be denied if the STR has violated any provision in the Ordinance.

• Judith Miller

No unscheduled inspections. So how will any violation ever be confirmed? A neighbor will have to present evidence. However it was suggested that evidence may not be sufficient because meta-data can be changed. Occupancy limits will be ignored since confirmation will not be possible. Kitchens (stoves) in illegal secondary dwelling units will appear in ads and magically disappear before an inspection.

• Beth Minick

The number one issue is that we understand the draft regulation does not include effective enforcement mechanisms to stop the problems our community encounters regarding STRs particularly during this life-threatening COVID pandemic. Without enforcement, we believe any regulations will be ineffective. Tahoe City is an example of where a single enforcement officer has been highly effective.

• Diane Morrison

Solution? HEAVILY regulate and HEAVILY fine the homeowners. A number of substantial fines will encourage homeowners to stop marketing their property inappropriately.

Fine the owner when a plow can't plow a street.

Fine the owner when the trash is overflowing and wildlife gets into it.

Fine the owner when cars are parked on the street.

Fine the owner when the police are called due to noise.

Fine the owner when illegal, unsafe activities are done (fires.)

Fine the owner when the number of people renting a house exceeds the allotted amount.

- Linda Newman

If money could fix these problems, there isn't enough of it that can be generated by increasing taxes, fees, and penalties. The same is true for adopting regulations without effective enforcement. Voluntary compliance is an oxymoron that will not render the required compliance to minimize the harms caused by short-term rentals.

- Heather Williams

Repeated violations – no! First violation gets a hefty fine (Monroe County in Florida imposes a \$15,000 fine per violation.) Second violation results in a permanent loss of any and all STR permits.

## HEALTH AND CLEANLINESS = 11

- Carole Black, MD

... Public Health/Safety risks to visiting tourists, servicing staff and other occupants (e.g., owners/guests staying in the same units immediately before or after a rental) are likely identical or potentially worse for those staying in STRs vs. other Transient Lodging.

The Public Accommodation Act regulations were designed to protect Public Health and Safety in these types of usage situations. Further, the State of Nevada has provided clear direction by specifically classifying STRs as “essential businesses,” and explicitly applying applicable regulation, enhanced for the current pandemic, to all essential and non-essential businesses. In addition, Washoe County has classified Vacation Rentals (STR’s) as Transient Lodging within WCC Chapter 25. It is thus an abrogation of the County’s responsibility to its citizens and the visiting public to not specify that standard Public Accommodation, and Public Health and Safety requirements are applicable to STRs at all times as for other Transient lodging.

I note that Public Accommodation Act regulation is listed as a “best practice” in the TRPA STR Neighborhood Compatibility Program.

- Joe Farrell

Cleaning requirements: Mandate certification by the Washoe County Health department that the STR meets CDC cleaning requirements AND that the home be vacant 72-hours post-cleaning prior to new renters coming into the STR.

- \* Wayne Ford

The STR [on our street] is active again. It is a 2348 square-foot two-story home, with 5 bedrooms/3 baths. It was used for 3 days by about 10 people, many adults with 4 or 5 kids and some teenagers... After they left, the cleaning people showed up: 2 ladies for about 30 minutes. Then a truck with one person for 30 minutes... To say that the home was properly cleaned for COVID19 would be a real stretch.... Maybe a week between renters may help the issue. Back-to-back use may lead to problems with COVID transfer.

- \* Nicole Gullixson

The Airbnb rental at 547 Lantern Court had a large group of guests leave today, 8/9 and another group of renters is entering the Airbnb rental right now, on the same day, 8/9. There was definitely less than 24 hours between tenants. I would say even less than 12 hours! This is NOT safe for us, the neighborhood, or the community.

- Diane Heirshberg

Sanitary provisions to protect the STR visitors and IVCB residents should be added. County Legal Staff has stated that Nevada Revised Statutes, Chapter 447, “Public Accommodations” does not apply to STRs because the STRs are “residential” and not hotels. Chapter 447 applies to “Hotels” and then defines Hotels at NRS 447.010: “Hotel” means every building or structure kept as, used as, maintained as, or held out to the public to be, a place where sleeping or rooming accommodations are furnished to the transient public, whether with or without meals, including without limitation, a lodging house or rooming house where transient trade is solicited.”

Please recall that when the request was made to close down STRs in IVCB—when we had the highest incidence of COVID 19 infection in April 2020 of any community at the Lake—and even though all other Lake communities had closed down STRs, you were told by County Legal Counsel that the STRs could not be shut down because Governor Sisolak had included STRs as “essential businesses” along with hotels, motels, etc. in his March, 2020 Emergency Orders. It seems contradictory to treat STRs as “essential businesses” on the one hand, and then, on the other, to say that cleanliness standards required of all “buildings .....held out to the public to be a place where sleeping...accommodations are furnished to the transient public...” are not applicable because an STR is not a business. Also, there are sanitary regulations in Washoe County for Bed and Breakfasts, which have more supervision because the B & B operator is present, which sanitary standards—at a minimum—should be imposed on STRs.

Even the TRPA Guidelines recommend that, “public accommodation requirements in state law be met” at page 3 under Example of Public Health and Safety Best Practices #5.

\* Barbara Kendziorski

How can these properties possibly be sanitized from COVID with the speed of maid services "cleaning" the rental properties?

• Mary Lou Kennedy

If they are considered “Essential Businesses,” shouldn't they have to follow CDC guidelines for cleaning and occupancy regulations? Especially now, during the COVID pandemic, I am very concerned about the spread of the virus with high occupancy numbers and multiple families and groups (often from multiple states) renting STRs and then utilizing the same essential services—such as food stores, pharmacies, Post Office, etc.—as residents.

• Denise Miller

It has come to our attention that a lot of people have come to stay at STRs in our community from San Francisco and places that have high rates of Covid-19 infections. It is a dangerous and unsafe policy to designate STRs homes as "essential businesses." We do not have the hospital and healthcare facilities to deal with potential higher infection rates. Having more people come here to expose us, since most of them will be going to our grocery stores, hardware stores, pharmacies or other essential businesses, is unacceptable!! Please reverse your decision to allow STRs to continue as "essential businesses."

• Linda Newman

The proliferation of ... vacation rentals has... endangered our community's health and safety... and placed the lives of visitors at risk with the absence of uniform sanitary and safety measures...

• Diane Schmenk

I live in Incline Village and have for 20 years.... The pandemic has surrounded and enveloped the globe since March 2020 and all worlds have changed. Incline Village has been inundated with visitors since. My small residential community—Tyrolian Village—consists of 226 units, 31 of which are short-term-rentals... We watch for visitors arriving with luggage and also watch for cleaning crews after their departure.

Cleaning crews are working overtime to try to keep up with the demand, and are also short-staffed. See the July 3rd post on Facebook from Kim Koschmann who repeatedly had to refuse a request from a San Francisco STR agent that wanted her to at least “wipe down the counters and change the sheets.”

Last week one of our residents observed a visiting group arriving at a unit in Tyrolian Village about 4 PM. The cleaning crew then arrived about 4:30 PM. I can't believe that unit got a “thorough COVID” cleaning.

• Sara Schmitz

Rather than repeat the comments of many other community members, I'll share the STR cleaning crew perspective. The people cleaning the homes know there are no minimum standards. There isn't even a requirement to change the sheets.

Last weekend I observed a 12-person bachelor party. They trashed the entire backyard and were cited for disturbing the peace. Upon their departure I inquired with the housecleaner. She said they completely trashed the house, and that she was the only cleaner and had only 4 hours to clean a 6000-square-foot home occupied by 12.

When the next renters appeared and I inquired with them regarding the condition of the home, I was told of bloody bedding, bedding covered in semen, and general filth. Upon their departure, I spoke with the next two-person cleaning crew. They shared their frustration. They told me there are no cleaning standards and that sheets regularly go unchanged. Bedding that is covered with semen is just flipped over since there is no time or requirement to have them cleaned. They told me hot tubs are checked for water level, but no chemical testing or cleaning is done.

Given our new normal, this is completely unacceptable. If owners are allowed to run their “essential business” during

this time of pandemic, they must be required to have sanitary requirements, and 72 hours between guests, just like hotels—and to clean and monitor hot-tubs, just like hotels. The local property manager should be ‘signing off’ on the checklist of cleaning requirements, and have them posted at the property and on-line so renters can have faith they are going to be safe.

I understand many want STR’s banned. I feel this isn’t realistic, but having permitting, a local person responsible and available to neighbors, along with health and safety standards are bare minimums to be included in our first implementation of an ordinance.

## OCCUPANCY = 12

- Carole Black, MD

... Occupancy limits and STR Tiers: As you may recall, residents have presented extensive analysis regarding the proposed STR Tier structure and related permit approval requirements. Specifically, the proposed STR Ordinance/Regulation threshold between Tier 1 and 2 STR Permit categories is excessively high, significantly exceeding average residential occupancy, which Tier 1 requirements are supposed to reflect.

- \* Louise Cooper

There should be only 2 in each bedroom, and 1 person sleeping on the sofa. A 3 bedroom should have only 7 people, and a 2 bedroom have 5. It is up to the owner if animals are allowed. The renter is responsible for the animal. There is a leash law in Washoe County. Remind owners there is a fine.

- \* Cindy Ferrell

Short-term rentals cause overcrowding. Most 3-bedroom units are advertised as 'able to sleep 9 or 10 occupants'. Tenants often bring more than the advertised maximum. Many more than a typical long-term renter or owner would occupy.

- Diane Heirshberg

Occupancy limits of the draft WC STR Ordinance are not consistent with STR ordinances of other local jurisdictions. The WC Ordinance Maximizes Occupancy in a way that will lead to excess noise, nuisance, and parking problems in IVCB residential neighborhoods, and adds increased risk of liability for injury and damages to STR visitors and IVCB neighborhoods.

Local residents urged that to reduce noise, parking, trash, crime and public nuisance problems, the County adopt protective provisions from the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Short-Term Rental Neighborhood Compatibility Guidelines for Local Jurisdictions.... The TRPA Guidelines recommend 2 persons per bedroom. Local residents urged the County to adopt the standard of 2 persons per bedroom + 2 persons, which is the current standard around the Lake and in Southern Nevada.

- Diane Higgins

There should be a minimum of 10-night stay, preferable 14 days. This would at least weed out the weekend parties that are causing most of the issues. Homes should be limited to 2 people per room, no more than 8 in a home. If they want a party venue, then they need to go to a hotel that accommodates that, not our neighborhoods. A hotel can at least kick them out. Many owners that rent do not care, as long as they are making money and will do nothing. Therefore, we are required to call the sheriff, which is a careless use of our Sheriff's time and resources.

- Kathie Julian

The draft code allows occupancy levels vastly in excess of the Incline Village average, crowding 16 adults into a residential home that would traditionally house a family of 5—even less if we took the Incline Village average occupancy rate.

- Clas Karlberg

Should meet occupancy regulations similar to hotels.

- Margaret Martini

STR can have no more than 3 bedrooms (this cuts down on parking issues also) . Occupancy is limited to 2 people over 12 years of age per bedroom +2. Maximum daytime occupancy is limited to 1 1/2 times night time occupancy. No weddings, parties or similar events allowed. Homes are not public venues.

- Judith Miller

Transient occupancy under the proposed regulations will continue to result in a much higher than normal household occupancy, and in many cases the disturbing and dangerous over-occupancy that contributes to so many problems.

- Diane Morrison

There is a house directly next door to my home which is a repeat offender in the short-term rental game. I have included a few photos to show an example of the renters' total disregard for the locals, laws which need to be followed or our region's general safety guidelines.

The owners of this home will provide you with empathetic lip-service, however continue to market their home to large parties. A quick visit to their VRBO and AirB&B site shows they offer the home to large parties: "sleeps 18 and is perfect for weddings, events and corporate retreats." This is a 4 bedroom, 3-bath home with a total of 4 parking spots.

- \* Stephen Pearce

<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>In using them to calculate maximum occupancy should 2 or 4 people per car be used? Presumably SUVs like mine with 7 seats would not be a valid calculation. In general how is occupancy calculated, for example number of bedrooms x2 or can rooms with large numbers of beds be counted?<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> How are minors counted in the calculation of maximum occupancy, presumably the same as adults? How do lavatories/bathrooms fit into the calculation; for example should a house have at least as many bathrooms as half the number of maximum occupants advertised? Can it be a violation for a renter to exceed the maximum occupancy limits? How are renters held accountable?

- Judith Simon

I urge you to limit the size and number of bedrooms, defining dwellings having more than 3 bedrooms as commercial use, requiring a business license. Limit occupancy to 1 person per 200 square feet.

## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT = 6

\* Diane Higgins

There should be an owner or someone who can respond to go to the property within 30 minutes. This is required in many vacation communities and keeps the owners responsible for any mayhem.

• Kathie Julian

The draft demonstrates bias for the property-management industry and against homeowner-occupied STRs. Onsite owner-managed STRs do not benefit from the reduction in fees accorded to individual and corporate property owners/investors in STRs who hire licensed, but offsite property managers—who may be outside Incline. The draft code also demonstrates its bias against owner-occupied STRs (with less benefit to the property-management industry) as it disallows rental to more than one party at the same time. I have stayed in STRs where a modest homeowner lives and rents out two spare rooms to sole travelers or couples who do not have the resources to rent a condo or house, or stay at the Hyatt. These onsite homeowners need STR revenue to help pay their mortgage, not use as an investment vehicle. Why the bias against such full-time residents and voters? Do they not have sufficient financial and lobbying might?

\* Barbara Kendziorski

Require a 24-hour property manager to be available 24 hours a day. Post a visible sign from the street with the property manager's name and phone number and require that the manager respond within one hour.

• Margaret Martini

In Incline due to our rural area it should be mandatory that all tenants intending to occupy must sign a form describing trash disposal, parking regulations, exiting the area in an emergency, protecting our bears and wildlife, and our noise ordinance. This is possible because it is already being done and in place in the second largest tourist area in our State.

• Judith Miller

I strongly believe that the best-managed STR's are those that are either owner hosted or have a manager within "shouting distance". My daughter lives on the other side of the lake and operates 2 such vacation rentals there. With an owner onsite or close by, there are rarely any problems. No self-respecting owner would allow guests to disturb neighbors, destroy property or ignore community rules. And no onsite or nearby owner/manager is going to allow over-occupancy to occur.

A licensed property manager who lives elsewhere is less qualified and less able to oversee an STR than a local resident. Proximity of a manager and knowledge of the community is more important than a license. I looked at the educational requirements for a Nevada licensed property manager. Most of these have no relation to avoiding the problems associated with short-term rentals advertised on a site like Airbnb. Discounts, if any, should be given to owner hosted rentals or those managed by someone who actually resides in close proximity, therefore much more likely to be familiar with local problems like trash, bears and parking.

If the regulations are passed as presented, it will look to the community that you commissioners have caved to the real estate interests. Almost every request that the proponents of short term rentals made was accommodated:<sup>[1]</sup><sub>SEP</sub>

1) No signs - so neighbors will not know if an STR is permitted, how many occupants are allowed and who to call when there is a problem.

• Svata Trossen

I also believe that you should include a condition that requires the owner to send renter information to the HOA manager so that we know when the property will be occupied, by how many people and for how long.

**From:** [rondatycer@aol.com](mailto:rondatycer@aol.com)  
**To:** [iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com](mailto:iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Incline's STRs Yesterday and Today  
**Date:** Sunday, September 13, 2020 5:53:27 PM

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**Short-Term Rentals**  
*September 2020 Hand-off Document*

**Project Files**

- Stored under P:\Community Development Department\STR

**Messaging**

- **Website:** Regular updates should be posted to [www.washoecounty.us/str](http://www.washoecounty.us/str)
  - I've done these myself in Cascade. Page date should be updated every time content is updated.
  - Include highlights about recent changes to proposed ordinance, hearing dates, link to staff reports, etc.
- **STR subscription list:** The sign-up for this is on [www.washoecounty.us/str](http://www.washoecounty.us/str). There should be several hundred subscribers at this point, including community members, STR owners, property managers, organizations, stakeholders, etc. It is critical that messages about upcoming STR hearings, report releases, etc. be provided to this group to keep them informed. Messages can be coordinated through Josh Andreasen and Bethany Drysdale in the Manager's Office.
- **News releases:** Coordinate with Bethany Drysdale and Nancy Leuenhagen on potential advance news releases for upcoming STR hearings and/or follow-ups. Also, just prior to each hearing, be prepared to provide them with a synopsis of what's happening that day, next steps, and other important key messages. They'll likely be including that in the meeting's news release. Examples can be found under the STR folder within "outreach/news releases."
- **Media contact:** A designated media contact for STRs will need to be provided to Bethany and Nancy for this topic. On-camera and phone interviews should be expected, generally around hearing dates.
- **Key messages:** I maintain a one-sheet on STR highlights and use it as a reference doc for media interviews. I generally update it for each hearing. These are under the "key messages" sub-folder.
- **Stakeholder agencies:**
  - When hearing dates are set, email the agency stakeholders to give them a heads up and ask if they can attend. Send them a copy of the staff report when it's out, and keep them up-to-date on time certain, expectations, etc. Email list: RSommers <[rsommers@nltfpd.net](mailto:rsommers@nltfpd.net)>; Jennifer Donohue <[jdonohue@nltfpd.net](mailto:jdonohue@nltfpd.net)>; Moore, Charles <[CMoore@tmfpd.us](mailto:CMoore@tmfpd.us)>; Way, Dale <[DWay@tmfpd.us](mailto:DWay@tmfpd.us)>; Edwards, Nathan <[nedwards@da.washoecounty.us](mailto:nedwards@da.washoecounty.us)>; Herrera, Greg <[GHerrera@washoecounty.us](mailto:GHerrera@washoecounty.us)>; Kinner, Mary-Sarah <[MKinner@washoecounty.us](mailto:MKinner@washoecounty.us)>; Holly, Dan <[DHolly@washoecounty.us](mailto:DHolly@washoecounty.us)>; English, James <[JEnglish@washoecounty.us](mailto:JEnglish@washoecounty.us)>; Searcy, Dana <[DSearcy@washoecounty.us](mailto:DSearcy@washoecounty.us)>; Robert Chisel <[rchisel@renotahoeusa.com](mailto:rchisel@renotahoeusa.com)>; Robert Douglas <[rdouglas@renotahoeusa.com](mailto:rdouglas@renotahoeusa.com)>; Winqwest, Indra <[isw@ivgid.org](mailto:isw@ivgid.org)>
  - Use the Teams group (includes outside agency reps, including RSCVA) to message them during the hearing, assuming it's not in person. Chad, Mojra and Trevor have all been added as owners of this group to add/delete users as needed.
- **STR@washoecounty.us:** This is intended to be the primary point of contact for STRs, although comments often come to me directly as well. This inbox should be checked and responded to at least 2-3 times per week. Peak messaging is in the week or two prior to hearings. This is also expected to transition to the primary POC for questions about STR permitting when that stage is reached.

**Short-Term Rentals**  
*September 2020 Hand-off Document*

**Actions to complete**

- **Staff report early release:** Work with Elizabeth Jourdin in the Manager’s Office to post the staff report approximately 2 weeks ahead of the hearing date. This should be coordinated in advance and a single consolidated PDF of the packet should be provided. IMPORTANT: To meet OML: Once it’s posted to the BCC site, add it to [www.washoecounty.us/str](http://www.washoecounty.us/str), send a note to all 5 commissioners with a link, and work with Josh/Bethany to send an update to the BCC agenda subscriber list and STR subscriber list (arrange for this in advance).
- **Arrange ongoing data transfer with:**
  - Sheriff’s Office: noise complaints and disturbing the peace citations
  - IVGID: trash complaints/citations (also provide them with STR permit data) [complaints can go to [solid\\_waste@ivgid.org](mailto:solid_waste@ivgid.org); work with Joe Pomroy on the coordination part]
  - RSCVA: STRs with TLT licenses
  - Assessor: notify when STR permit issued/renewed (owner can’t get a low cap on property taxes if home being rented)
- Further agency discussions with:
  - RSCVA & NLTFPD: re: potentially sharing of Host Compliance fees in exchange for direct data access
  - RSCVA: potential options for streamlining the 2 processes (ex. is there a way for someone to sign up for a free TLT license when they apply for an STR permit; i.e. provide their TLT # or fill out/submit the TLT form with STR application)
- Host Compliance
  - Contract is within the STR folder under “costs and vendors\vendors\host compliance.”
  - Negotiate contract extension off existing payment (??). Due to COVID and election delays, we essentially have not used the address ID module since February.
  - Determine whether to contract for letters assistance.
  - If they will not extend timeframe of existing contract, examine how next contract should be modified based on dates/funds available.
- Fees
  - Confirm with both Jennifer Donohue and Dale Way that they’re on-board with \$45 recertification fee when physical inspection is waived.
  - Get status on TMFPD fee changes (they were going to adopt these in 2020)
- Permitting
  - Work with TS on Accela permitting module(s) (all processes, costs, discounts, workflow, document uploads, confirmation sceens/emails, reports, user interface, internal and external user testing, etc.)
  - Work with 3<sup>rd</sup> party on mobile version
  - Create educational/overview docs for STR owners; work with Communication Team on outreach methods, news releases, etc.
  - Create template for in-unit educational material
  - Create STR permit applications, including affidavit
  - Update DADAR app to be general AR app; streamline version for STR+AR permit process
  - Train staff (internal and external) on requirements, processes, timeline expectations, etc.
  - Train code enforcement on Host Compliance
  - Create template letters for STR enforcement
  - Work with AHO on streamlining enforcement processes for STR cases
  - Provide training/primer to appeal boards; consider doing the same for AHO adjudicators

## **Short-Term Rentals**

### *September 2020 Hand-off Document*

- Create central point of contact for STR applicant questions
- Consider advance training/introduction for Incline property managers
- Work with DA on adequate forms of evidence from Host Compliance
- This is not a comprehensive list – it's just a start on to-dos for the permitting aspect.

### **Other info you may find useful**

- **IVGID is adamant about staying neutral on STRs.** General Manager Indra Winquest has made this very clear. They'd like to be kept in the loop on what's going on only. We will work with them directly primarily on trash issues.
- Assessor's Office (Lora Zimmer) has indicated an **STR would not qualify for a primary residence low cap on property taxes.** They would like to be updated when a property gets an STR permit.
- Before each presentation, **contact South Lake Tahoe for current status on the Measure T lawsuit.** It is likely Commissioner Jung will ask for this.
- Prior to the next hearing, it's recommended to **check in with Henderson** to see how their STR regs are changing. The BCC had originally made several comments about modeling our ordinance after theirs, and there are several components that we incorporated. It would be useful to find out from them what they're changing and why.
- The **Mountain Housing Council's white paper on STRs** is useful and includes a lot of good data about STRs around the Lake Tahoe area. I'd recommend reading through it.
- The **STR binder** on my desk is what I bring to each BCC meeting. It has reference/research material, demographics, TLT data, code snippets, select comments from other agencies, TRPA STR info, the STR survey data/report, staff reports, etc. It also includes the workshop collateral.

### **Contacts**

#### **Washoe County**

- **TMFPD:** Chief Charles Moore, Chief Dale Way
- **Health:** Jim English
- **Sheriff:** Chief Deputy Greg Herrera, Mary-Sarah Kinner
- **Assessor:** Lora Zimmer
- **Tech Services (for permitting software):** Lori Piccinini, Sharmin Kamal, John Wilkerson
- **DA:** Nate Edwards
- **CommTeam:** Nancy Leuenhagen, Bethany Drysdale, Josh Andreasen
- **Manager's Office (AHO):** Dana Searcy
- **Finance/budget:** Jennifer Hoekstra, Lori Cooke, Kari Estrada, Susan Dees

#### **External Agencies**

- **NLTFPD:** Jennifer Donohue ([JDonohue@nltfpd.net](mailto:JDonohue@nltfpd.net)), Chief Ryan Sommers ([rsommers@nltfpd.net](mailto:rsommers@nltfpd.net))
- **IVGID:** Indra Winquest ([isw@ivgid.org](mailto:isw@ivgid.org)), Joe Pomroy for trash issues ([Joe\\_Pomroy@ivgid.org](mailto:Joe_Pomroy@ivgid.org))
- **RSCVA:** Robert Chisel ([rchisel@renotahoeusa.com](mailto:rchisel@renotahoeusa.com))
- **TRPA:** Brandy McMahan ([bcmahan@trpa.org](mailto:bcmahan@trpa.org))
- **IVCB Visitors Bureau:** Andy Chapman ([andy@gotahoe.com](mailto:andy@gotahoe.com))
- **South Lake Tahoe STRs:** Maureen Stuhlman ([mstuhlman@cityofslt.us](mailto:mstuhlman@cityofslt.us)) (Commissioner Jung generally wants to know current status of the Measure T lawsuit)
- **Clark County STRs:** Katie Walpole ([Kathleen.Walpole@clarkcountynv.gov](mailto:Kathleen.Walpole@clarkcountynv.gov))
- **Las Vegas STRs:** Peter Lowenstein ([plowenstein@LasVegasNevada.GOV](mailto:plowenstein@LasVegasNevada.GOV))

## **Short-Term Rentals**

### *September 2020 Hand-off Document*

- **Placer County STRs:** Callie (530) 745-3034

#### **Organizations**

- **Host Compliance:** Stacy Pobatschnig ([stacy.pobatschnig@hostcompliance.com](mailto:stacy.pobatschnig@hostcompliance.com)), Will McClure ([william.mcclure@hostcompliance.com](mailto:william.mcclure@hostcompliance.com))
- **Airbnb:** Adam Thongsavat ([adam.thongsavat@airbnb.com](mailto:adam.thongsavat@airbnb.com))
- **Realtor Association:** Jim Nadeau ([jim@carraranv.com](mailto:jim@carraranv.com)) and Heather Lunsford ([heather@carraranv.com](mailto:heather@carraranv.com))

#### **Active Community Members**

- Pete Todoroff (IVCAB Chair; runs community forum; has newsletter to help get info out) ([ptodoroff1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ptodoroff1@sbcglobal.net))
- Sara Schmitz (IVGID trustee; has newsletter to help get info out) ([schmitz61@gmail.com](mailto:schmitz61@gmail.com))
- Diane Heirshberg (retired attorney, sits on CMAC) ([dbheirshberg@gmail.com](mailto:dbheirshberg@gmail.com))
- Carole Black (retired physician) ([cbwillb@charter.net](mailto:cbwillb@charter.net))
- Judy Miller (CAB member) ([pupfarm1@gmail.com](mailto:pupfarm1@gmail.com))
- Blane Johnson (property manager) ([blane@sunbearrealty.com](mailto:blane@sunbearrealty.com))
- Ronda Tycer (co-chair IV STR group) ([rondatycer@aol.com](mailto:rondatycer@aol.com))
- Nick Maiocco ([nickvine4@gmail.com](mailto:nickvine4@gmail.com))

**From:** [Pete Todoroff](#)  
**Subject:** IS THERE A WAY TO STOP VACASA SOLICITATIONS?  
**Date:** Saturday, October 17, 2020 3:45:11 PM

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IS THERE A WAY TO STOP VACASA SOLICITATIONS?

Ronda Tycer

Co-chair IV STR Citizen Advisory Group

Almost weekly, Incline Village-Crystal Bay residents receive from Vacasa a solicitation to transform their home into a short-term rental employing Vacasa's STR management services. I've continued to receive these solicitations even after writing to Vacasa and requesting I be removed from their mailing list. I received a letter of apology from Julie Coit at Vacasa who supposedly removed me, but I continue to get their unwanted mail.

It's easy to understand why Vacasa continues to solicit IVCB Residents. Vacasa began operating in 2009, shortly after AirBnB began. Having acquired 150 companies, Vacasa is the largest vacation management company in North America with 25,000 short-term rentals on its platform. Vacasa counts AirBnB as a partner, providing inventory for AirBnB's marketplace.

Vacasa's entire business plan is to convince investors to purchase "vacation homes" in resort areas to be used as STRs, which Vacasa then manages. Vacasa advertises itself as catering to families "who are seeking a place close to home where they can get away, work remotely if needed, and generate income when the home is not in use." At the same time their website says, "To maximize Return On Investment, consider investing in large vacation homes that make good family rentals but don't have much demand as primary residences. For example, seven-bedroom homes make great income-generating properties, but there's little demand for these homes because seven bedrooms is more than most families need as a primary residence."

Does the term "party house" come to mind?

In August 2020, Vacasa released its 2020 "top 25 places to buy a vacation home." They rank the best US destinations by average yearly rate of return. Fortunately, IVCB has never been listed, even though "this year's list reflects markets where single-family homes are the primary inventory type and opportunities for outdoor adventure are abundant."

Vacasa will not slow their marketing campaign in IVCB. Already they advertise 20+ IVCB addresses on their website for Nevada.

Perhaps if Vacasa received enough protest letters they might stop sending so many irritating requests. If you'd like to join the effort, send an email to:

Julie Coit

Business Development Representative

888 392-3421

[Julie.coit@vacasa.com](mailto:Julie.coit@vacasa.com)

If you don't want to protest and simply want off Vacasa's mailing list go to:

[Vacasa.com/donotmail](https://vacasa.com/donotmail)

iMac 2.5 GHz  
Pete Todoroff  
[ptodoroff1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ptodoroff1@sbcglobal.net)



~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

Have you thought about using your Incline Village home as vacation rental, but don't know where to start? A crucial step is figuring out how much you can charge for a night in your home. Easy, right? It's more complicated than you might think. At Vacasa Nevada LLC, we've put 10 years of experience, 25,000 homes, and over a billion data points to work on perfecting nightly pricing. Here's what we've learned.

**Dynamic pricing gets you more...**

Some vacation rental owners keep things simple. Their traditional approach is to have one flat rate, all year long. Our algorithm-driven dynamic pricing, on the other hand, adjusts every nightly rate according to real-time market conditions. And because our technology learns as it goes, we set you up to make the most out of next year and beyond. It's smart stuff.

**...But without local expertise, an algorithm isn't enough**

By now we all know that technology isn't perfect. So, at Vacasa Nevada we supplement our tech with experience and local knowledge—partnering a central rate management team with dedicated experts in your area.

The regional revenue specialists closely watch for unexpected fluctuations in demand, like rescheduled events or weather conditions. Then, they adjust pricing accordingly to maximize your returns on every night.

**There's no substitute for experience**

We've worked with everyone from individual homeowners to international property management companies. We've seen what works and what doesn't—and have integrated everything we've learned into our pricing model. So you get the best of what the industry has to offer.

We're proud that our rate-setting strategy can help homeowners earn more when compared to traditional pricing models. But dynamic tech is the tip of the iceberg.

There's vacation rental management, and then there's Vacasa Nevada. Our full-service program covers professional housekeeping, 24/7 customer support, maintenance, and much more.

Plus, you get a local team you can trust to treat your home with personalized, hands-on care.

**Want to learn how much you could earn with Vacasa Nevada?**

Contact us at 888.567.7679 or email [newhomes@vacasa.com](mailto:newhomes@vacasa.com) for a custom income estimate.

Talk soon,

Julie C. Coit  
Principal Broker  
NV Lic #B.1002159

P.S. We work with a network of over 3,000 licensed real estate experts who focus on buying and selling short-term rental properties to help our owners every step of the way.

This letter is not intended to solicit the breach of any exclusive agreement for rental property management. Vacasa Nevada LLC is a subsidiary of Vacasa LLC. If you do not wish to receive future marketing communications from Vacasa Nevada LLC, please visit [vacasa.com/notifyme](http://vacasa.com/notifyme)

**From:** [Art](#)  
**To:** [Nelson, Kate S.](#); [Donshick, Francine](#); [tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com](mailto:tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com); [Chvilicek, Sarah](#); [Chesney, Larry](#); [jib2424@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jib2424@sbcglobal.net); [Young, Eric](#); [Lloyd, Trevor](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [alexis@votealexishill.com](mailto:alexis@votealexishill.com); [Planning Counter](#)  
**Subject:** Enhanced STR Standards for Incline Village  
**Date:** Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:55:51 AM  
**Attachments:** [12\\_10\\_20 STR email.pdf](#)

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[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Washoe County Planners, Manager, and Commissioners,

*“When it comes to STRs, the number of occupants is generally expected to exceed Census averages for single-family dwellings – especially for STRs with multiple bedrooms.”*

- Washoe County Commission Meeting of August 25, 2020

Herein lies the problem. Our neighborhood occupancy per single family home is 3.8 with 2.3 cars. (I averaged this from estimates I made of full-time residents on North and South Dyer Circle.) Last summer alone, the STR across the street hosted approximately 150-180 people and over 50 vehicles.

When you introduce three times the number of people, twice the number of vehicles, and an “on vacation” mindset into this residential community model, it is a recipe for problems. This increased burden on a neighborhood detracts from the safety and quality of life of those who live there. I have highlighted both of these issues in my December 10 email to the Commissioners(attached).

My recommendation is to place the welfare of our

neighborhoods' residents above, or at least on equal footing to, commercial STRs. Residential neighborhoods are not designed to accommodate large groups, especially when they are unfamiliar with the local culture. The best way to incorporate an STR into an existing neighborhood is to make it similar in demographics to the surrounding community. As applied to the above model, our neighborhood could comfortably host 4 people and 2 cars. With that, the impact to a neighborhood's residents would be decreased to a similar level of what is considered status quo. If this model is followed, the impacts to our residential neighborhoods would be greatly lessened, allowing safe enjoyment for both its residents and visitors alike.

A demographic survey of each specific neighborhood, to include occupancy and number of vehicles, would set a standard for each residential area. This would allow an owner to use their property as a STR while maintaining the safety and quality of life for the community members.

Visitors would still pay the same amount to rent a place in Tahoe, our neighborhoods would remain safe and enjoyable for its residents to use, and the quality of a visitor's stay will only be enhanced.

As a property owner and full-time resident, I will not support any regulation regarding these commercial money-making operations at the expense of lessened neighborhood safety and quality of life.

STR occupancy and vehicle numbers must be in inline with the

demographic of each neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Art Cross

Incline Village, NV

sierrarat@sbcglobal.net

December 10, 2020

Dear Washoe County  
Commissioners,

Subject: short term rentals in Incline  
Village neighborhoods

I would like to share my perspective and firsthand experience regarding short term rentals (STR) in the residential neighborhoods of Incline Village. I have resided in my home for 28 years on a quiet side street of single family homes. Our area has many full time residents with families who's children play throughout our neighborhood, and many of the local

residents walk or ride bikes on our street with either their children or dogs. Everyone who lives here is aware of that and acts accordingly. On a personal level, our families quiet peaceful existence was destroyed when the owners of a second home across the street from me chose to use it as a STR. I saw first hand the negative impact STR's have on residential neighborhoods. Below is a list of several of the major issues we faced on a virtual nonstop basis.

1. Outdoor freestanding fireplace illegally used on multiple occasions during open fire ban. Burned coals found on the ground next to fireplace.

2. Visitors throwing cigarette butts on the ground during high fire summer season. Additional cigarette butts found in immediate vicinity of live gas meter.
3. Numerous violations of NRS regarding vehicle parking reported to WCSO.
4. Loud obnoxious outside behavior after 10pm to include, yelling, fighting, urinating in the yard, and smoking marijuana.
5. Excessive vehicle speed on our street by visitors staying at this STR.
6. Property not used as described by property manager. Advertised parking of 4 car maximum with two cars in garage and two in

driveway was not followed.  
Advertised occupancy was  
exceeded occasionally.

Those are just a few of the near nonstop ever-changing disruptions this STR caused our neighborhood and my family. Every few days it was something different. One week a weight bench is set up in the front yard and it was turned in to an impromptu gym. The next, maybe a quiet family, then the next, the burning man contingent complete with large RVs, and the following, lawn chairs set up in the driveway for an impromptu drinking and smoking sessions. Constant beeping of car locks and occasional car alarms sounding. Looking back and reading

this it sounds kind of funny, however trying to spend a peaceful summer afternoon and evening outside was constantly met with issues like this. Inconsistent, ever-changing, and with a general lack of respect for the residents. Fortunately, the owner sold, and the property will be occupied by full time residents, so the nightmare is over for us.

During the two years this single family home operated as a STR, I witnessed firsthand the negative impacts on our and the neighborhood's daily lives. A residential neighborhood is no place for vacation rentals. Due to the transient nature, number of vehicles,

and the “on-vacation” mentality many of these visitors bring, our safety and quality of life were significantly degraded.

Having lived this nightmare first hand, I believe STRs in their current form are incompatible with residential family neighborhoods and at an absolute minimum must conform to the demographics of each neighborhoods full time residents. STRs are much better suited for high density or multi family area, which by design are better suited for this activity. While this problem no longer effects our quiet street, it still is a problem for our town’s residential single family home

neighborhoods. Everyone's property rights needs to be respected, including those of our communities full time residents. The loss of quality of life and degradation neighborhood safety are two of the biggest reasons short term rentals are incompatible in single family residential neighborhoods. Further, I find it quite ironic that the owners of the STR across the street from me live in Santa Barbara, CA, a town which has banned STRs in their residential neighborhoods.

If you would like more detail on the issues I listed that our neighborhood specifically faced, please reach out. I have detailed documentation of the

events stated above. Thank you for your consideration and service.

Sincerely,

Art Cross

569 N Dyer Circle

Incline Village, NV 89451

[sierrarat@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sierrarat@sbcglobal.net)

775 846-0824

**From:** [Matt Vail](#)  
**To:** [Nelson, Kate S.](#); [Donshick, Francine](#); [tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com](mailto:tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com); [Chvilicek, Sarah](#); [Chesney, Larry](#); [jib2424@sbcgobal.net](mailto:jib2424@sbcgobal.net); [Young, Eric](#); [Lloyd, Trevor](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [alexis@votealexishill.com](mailto:alexis@votealexishill.com); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#)  
**Subject:** Short-Term Rentals in Washoe County  
**Date:** Sunday, December 13, 2020 8:57:33 PM

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Dear Washoe County Planning Commission:

Thank you for your time and service to our community. As a resident of Incline Village, I'm writing to share my opinion regarding short-term rentals in Incline Village Crystal Bay (IVCB).

I strongly believe that **no new short-term rental standards** should be implemented. Nearly all complaints that residents have voiced are regarding noise, littering, or illegal parking, all of which are already prohibited by existing Nevada statutes. The proposed regulations on short-term rentals are largely bureaucratic hurdles that will require additional resources to enforce and reduce our property values. Instead we should simply enforce the existing statutes.

Thank you for considering my perspective as a resident of Incline Village, and thank you again for your time and service to Washoe County.

Matt

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Matt Vail  
P: +1 (262) 210-1055

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**FIRST AMENDMENT**

**BILL NO. 2017-16**

**ORDINANCE NO. 6585**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY'S LICENSING AND ZONING REGULATIONS TO DELETE CATEGORIES FOR "BED AND BREAKFAST INN" AND "BOARDING OR ROOMING HOUSE," REVISE REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS PERTAINING TO SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL RENTALS, AND PROVIDE FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

Sponsored by: Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian  
Councilman Bob Beers

Summary: Amends the City's licensing and zoning regulations to delete categories for "bed and breakfast inn" and "boarding or rooming house," and to revise regulations and requirements pertaining to short-term residential rentals.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: Title 6, Chapter 46, Section 20, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

**6.46.020:** (A) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (B), [No] no person shall engage in the business of operating a hotel, motel, [roominghouse, bed and breakfast establishment] or other establishment that rents or holds out for rent rooms or other temporary accommodations on a daily basis or for a period of thirty days or less, with or without meals included in the rental rate, without first obtaining and thereafter maintaining a valid unexpired license pursuant to this Chapter.

(B) The provisions of Subsection (A) do not apply to a short-term residential rental subject to licensing under LVMC Chapter 6.75.

SECTION 2: Title 6, Chapter 46, Section 140, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

**6.46.140:** (A) Except as otherwise provided in Subsection (B), [Persons] persons operating a hotel, motel, [roominghouse] or other establishment wherein rooms or other temporary accommodations are rented on a daily basis or for a period of thirty days or less, with or without meals included in the rental

16✓

1 rate, shall [provided,] provide, keep and maintain a public register and shall require every person who rents  
2 or occupies a room or other temporary accommodation in such hotel, motel, roominghouse or  
3 establishment to write in such register his or her name and place of residence. Such registration shall be  
4 made on a page of the register properly dated with reference to the day of the year, month and week and the  
5 time of day the person rents or arranges to occupy a room or temporary accommodation shall also be  
6 therein entered. Such register shall be permanently and firmly bound and shall not be of a loose-leaf  
7 nature.

8 (B) The provisions of Subsection (A) do not apply to a short-term residential rental  
9 subject to licensing under LVMC Chapter 6.75.

10 SECTION 3: Title 6, Chapter 75, Section 10, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las  
11 Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 **6.75.010:** "Commercial vehicle" means a vehicle customarily used as part of a business for the  
13 transportation of goods or people.

14 ["Daytime" means the period of time between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. on a given day.

15 "Nighttime" means the period of time between 10:00 p.m. on one day and 9:00 a.m. on the  
16 next succeeding day.]

17 "Hosting platform" means any electronic or other operating system, functioning in the  
18 nature of a marketplace, by which an operator markets, advertises, offers, solicits customers for, or makes  
19 available for commercial use a short-term residential rental.

20 "Operator" means any person who owns, leases, controls, manages or operates a short-term  
21 residential rental unit or property.

22 "Short-term residential rental" means the commercial use, or the making available for  
23 commercial use, of a residential dwelling unit for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes, wherein any  
24 individual guest rents or occupies the entire dwelling unit or one or more individual rooms within the unit  
25 for a period of less than thirty-one consecutive calendar days. The term does not include a "community  
26 residence," "facility for transitional living for released offenders," or any other facility with dwelling units

1 that is specifically defined in LVMC Chapter 19.18.

2 SECTION 4: Title 6, Chapter 75, Section 20, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las  
3 Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **6.75.020:** (A) No person shall engage in the business of offering or operating a short-term  
5 residential rental without first obtaining and thereafter maintaining a valid unexpired license pursuant to  
6 this Chapter for each short-term residential rental unit. Where there are multiple dwelling units on the  
7 same property, each unit must be licensed individually.

8 (B) If a short-term residential unit is managed by a person other than the licensee or a  
9 principal of the licensee for that unit, that person must possess a valid license from the State of Nevada and  
10 the City to manage property.

11 (C) The holder of a license under this Chapter is the person primarily responsible for  
12 compliance with the obligations that are imposed on an operator by this Chapter, whether or not that person  
13 owns the real property on which the short-term residential rental is located. In the case of a short-term  
14 residential rental whose affiliated licensee is not the property owner, the property owner is secondarily  
15 responsible for compliance.

16 (D) Commencing on July 1, 2017, no person is eligible for a new license for a short-  
17 term residential rental under this Chapter unless the person qualifies as an owner of the parcel on which the  
18 short-term residential unit is located. For purposes of the preceding sentence, "owner" includes any person  
19 who is listed as an owner of record of the unit in the records of the Clark County Assessor or, in the case of  
20 a unit that is owned by a trust or other corporate or legal entity, a trustee or principal of that trust or entity.  
21 Short-term residential rentals that are licensed as of July 1, 2017, shall have two years from that date within  
22 which to terminate operations or achieve licensing by an owner.

23 SECTION 5: Title 6, Chapter 75, Section 40, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las  
24 Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

25 **6.75.040:** Each application for a short-term residential rental license shall contain or include the  
26 following information and documentation:

1 (A) The name, signature, address and telephone number of the owner of the residential  
2 dwelling to be associated with the license.

3 (B) The name, address and telephone number of any property manager or property  
4 management firm that will be operating the short-term residential rental.

5 (C) The name, address and telephone number (including a telephone number that  
6 provides for communication twenty-four hours a day) of the local contact person who will respond to  
7 complaints regarding the condition, operation, or conduct of the occupants of the short-term residential  
8 rental unit.

9 (D) The address of the residential dwelling proposed to be used as a short-term  
10 residential rental.

11 (E) The number of bedrooms, [per the documentation listed with the Clark County  
12 Assessor, and the applicable nighttime and daytime occupancy limit of the residential dwelling.] as  
13 determined by the City pursuant to the conditional use verification process described in LVMC  
14 19.12.040(C).

15 (F) If the proposed short-term residential rental unit is located within a gated  
16 subdivision or controlled-access building that is governed by an owners' association, a letter or other  
17 documentation from the association acknowledging the proposed use and, if necessary, granting access to  
18 occupants of the proposed rental unit.

19 (G) A list of all hosting platforms that the applicant proposes to use to market,  
20 advertise, offer, solicit customers for, or make available for commercial use the short-term residential rental  
21 applied for.

22 (H) Proof of current, valid liability insurance coverage in a minimum amount of  
23 \$500,000.

24 (I) An affidavit attesting that there are no delinquent room tax liabilities or liens  
25 regarding the property to be used as a short-term residential rental.

26 SECTION 6: Title 6, Chapter 75, Section 80, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las

1 Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 **6.75.080:** (A) An evacuation map and list of procedures shall be placed within each guest room  
3 used for sleeping. Maps and lists of procedures shall be mounted on a wall or door in a horizontal position,  
4 either made of a durable material or encased within a durable frame or enclosure. Each map and list shall  
5 have a minimum size of ten inches by eight inches, with the color of text contrasting to the background.  
6 Maps shall have a “you are here” star with a directional arrow to the nearest exit, and shall also indicate the  
7 location of all available fire extinguishers.

8 (B) At a minimum, there must be at least one fire extinguisher:

9 (1) In the kitchen area, located under the sink;

10 (2) In any garage, mounted on the wall no higher than forty-eight inches  
11 above the finished floor; and

12 (3) Located on each floor level of the short-term residential rental unit, to the  
13 extent not otherwise covered by Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Subsection (B).

14 →Each fire extinguisher shall have a current service tag from a State of Nevada Fire Marshal-certified  
15 contractor.

16 (C) All sleeping rooms shall be equipped with smoke alarms and shall be installed in  
17 accordance with applicable codes. A record of monthly testing and battery replacement shall be available  
18 for verification by the Fire Prevention Division.

19 (D) Carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in accordance with applicable codes.

20 (E) Each short-term residential rental shall be maintained in accordance with all  
21 applicable provisions of City building-related and technical codes adopted pursuant to LVMC Title 16.

22 SECTION 7: Title 6, Chapter 75, Section 90, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las  
23 Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 **6.75.090:** (A) The operator shall post a copy of the license along with a copy of this Section  
25 6.75.090 in a conspicuous place within the short-term residential rental unit.

26 (B) The maximum [nighttime] occupancy of a short-term residential rental unit shall

1 [comply with the maximum occupancy limits for residential dwellings established by the Uniform Housing  
2 Code, as adopted in LVMC Chapter 16.20. The total daytime occupancy of the unit shall be limited to a  
3 maximum of one and one-half times the nighttime occupancy limit.] not exceed either of the following  
4 limits:

5 (1) Two persons per bedroom (but excluding children under the age of  
6 twelve); or

7 (2) The maximum occupancy limits for residential dwellings established by  
8 the Uniform Housing Code, as adopted in LVMC Chapter 16.20.

9 (C) All occupant vehicles shall be parked on site, and shall not be parked in the  
10 adjacent public right-of-way. No commercial vehicles shall be permitted on the short-term residential rental  
11 unit property or parked in the adjacent public right-of-way, except where otherwise permitted in  
12 commercial zoning districts.

13 (D) Notwithstanding the provisions of LVMC Chapter 9.16, the use of any radio  
14 receiver, stereo, musical instrument, sound amplifier or similar device which produces, reproduces or  
15 amplifies sound shall take place only within an enclosed short-term residential rental unit. The property  
16 owner or operator of a short-term residential rental unit shall use reasonably prudent business practices to  
17 ensure that the occupants or guests of the rental unit do not create unreasonable noise or disturbances.

18 (E) The operator shall make available a local twenty-four-hour phone number that  
19 provides the capability of producing a response within two hours to complaints regarding the condition,  
20 operation, or conduct of the occupants of the short-term residential rental unit. Failure of the operator or an  
21 employee or agent to respond [or provide for a response] to the complainant within two hours shall  
22 constitute a violation of [these regulations.] this Chapter. In the case of a short-term residential rental unit  
23 with more than five bedrooms, compliance with this Subsection (E) requires the operator to engage as its  
24 agent for the purpose of responding to complaints a company licensed to provide security pursuant to NRS  
25 Chapter 648. For purposes of the preceding sentence, a dwelling unit is presumed to have the number of  
26 bedrooms indicated in the records of the Clark County Assessor's Office that pertain to that unit, but that

1 presumption may be rebutted by inspection or other competent evidence.

2 (F) [With respect to any short-term residential rental unit with more than four  
3 bedrooms, a placard shall be displayed on the exterior of the unit listing the twenty-four-hour contact  
4 information for complaints regarding the operation or conduct of the occupants of the unit. The placard  
5 shall be in plain view for the general public at all times the short-term residential rental unit is occupied.  
6 The placard shall be a minimum of eight and one-half inches by eleven inches in size, clearly depicting the  
7 twenty-four-hour contact information. Contact information shall include the full name and telephone  
8 number and must be in a minimum legible font of seventy-two-point or a minimum of one and one-half  
9 inches in height.] A placard shall be displayed on the exterior of each short-term residential rental unit  
10 listing the information set forth below in this Subsection (F). The placard shall be in plain view of the  
11 general public at all times the short-term residential rental unit is occupied and shall be a minimum of eight  
12 and one-half inches by eleven inches in size. The placard must specify the maximum occupancy allowed  
13 pursuant to this Section, as well as the twenty-four-hour contact information required by Subsection (E) of  
14 this Section. The information required by the preceding sentence must be in a minimum legible font of  
15 seventy-two-point or a minimum of one and one-half inches in height. The required contact information  
16 shall include a full name and telephone number of the contact.

17 (G) Trash and refuse shall not be left or stored in public view, except in proper  
18 containers for the purpose of collection in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 9.08. The owner of  
19 the property or manager of the short-term residential rental unit shall be responsible for notifying occupants  
20 of trash disposal procedures and for maintaining compliance with the requirements of Chapter 9.08.

21 (H) Consistent with and as a reflection of the definition of the term "short-term  
22 residential rental" set forth in this Chapter, no short-term residential rental unit may be rented for the  
23 purpose of holding weddings, parties, receptions or similar events that typically are held at a banquet  
24 facility or other facility that is made available for the holding of events on a commercial basis. Any use of  
25 the short-term residential rental unit is limited to activities that are incidental to its use for dwelling,  
26 lodging or sleeping purposes.

1           (I)     All written or visual advertising for the short-term residential rental must include  
2 the business license number assigned to the rental unit.

3           SECTION 8: Title 6, Chapter 75, Section 110, of the Municipal Code of the City of Las  
4 Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 **6.75.110:** In addition to any other remedy available for a violation of this Chapter, the Director may  
6 suspend or revoke a license issued under this Chapter in connection with a particular short-term residential  
7 unit for the [third] second or subsequent violation of this Chapter regarding that unit within any twenty-four  
8 month period. Such action is appealable to the City Council or the Council's designee. In addition, the  
9 renewal of a license issued under this Chapter or an application for a new license under this Chapter may be  
10 denied if the licensee or applicant has been found guilty of any provision of this Chapter or has been  
11 determined to be in violation of any provision of this Chapter in connection with a civil proceeding.

12           SECTION 9: Ordinance No. 6289 and the Unified Development Code adopted as Title  
13 19 of the Municipal Code of the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, 1983 Edition, are hereby amended as set forth  
14 in Sections 10 to 15, inclusive, of this Ordinance. The amendments are deemed to be amendments to both  
15 Ordinance No. 6289 and the Unified Development Code adopted as Title 19.

16           SECTION 10: Table 2 of the Land Use Tables adopted in Title 19, Chapter 12, Section  
17 10, is hereby amended by deleting the entries for the uses "Bed & Breakfast Inn" and "Boarding or  
18 Rooming House."

19           SECTION 11: Table 2 of the Land Use Tables adopted in Title 19, Chapter 12, Section  
20 10, is hereby amended by amending the entry for the use "Short-Term Residential Rental" to indicate that  
21 the use is not allowed in the R-MH District and to add the P-O, O, C-1, C-2 and C-PB Zoning Districts to  
22 the list of districts in which the use is allowed as a conditional use. In order to reflect the amendments:

23           (A) The letter "C" shall be removed from the box that represents the intersection of the  
24 row for the use "Short-Term Residential Rental" and the column for the R-MH Zoning District.

25           (B) The letter "C" shall be inserted in the box that represents the intersection of the  
26 row for the use "Short-Term Residential Rental" and the column for each of the P-O, O, C-1, C-2 and C-PB

1 Zoning Districts.

2 SECTION 12: Title 19, Chapter 12, Section 70, is hereby amended by deleting in their  
3 entirety the entries for the uses “Bed & Breakfast Inn” and “Boarding or Rooming House.”

4 SECTION 13: Title 19, Chapter 12, Section 70, is hereby amended by amending the entry  
5 for the use “Short-Term Residential Rental” to read as follows:

6 **Short-Term Residential Rental**

7 **Description:** The commercial use, or the making available for commercial use, of a residential dwelling  
8 unit for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes, wherein any individual guest rents or occupies the entire  
9 dwelling unit or one or more individual rooms within the unit for a period of less than 31 consecutive  
10 calendar days. This use does not include a “Community Residence,” “Facility for Transitional Living for  
11 Released Offenders,” or any other facility with dwelling units that is specifically defined in Chapter 19.18.  
12 For purposes of this Title, this use does not include the rental or occupancy of an accessory structure (Class  
13 I or II), a tent, a trailer or a mobile unit. In the case of a single parcel containing more than one dwelling  
14 unit, each dwelling unit constitutes a separate short-term residential rental use.

15 **Conditional Use Regulations:**

- 16 1. The operator must obtain a business license to operate the use.
- 17 2. The use must comply on an ongoing basis with all governmental licensing and regulatory  
18 requirements, including the payment of applicable room taxes and licensing fees.
- 19 3. The use must comply with the City’s noise regulations as they apply to residential uses.
- 20 4. The use may not be located closer than 660 feet to any other Short-Term Residential Rental use  
21 (measured from property line to property line).
- 22 5. Vehicle parking associated with the use shall comply with applicable parking regulations, and vehicles  
23 of guests and invitees shall not obstruct traffic or access to other properties in the area.
- 24 6. In addition to and independent of any enforcement authority or remedy described in this Title, the  
25 failure to comply with a Conditional Use Regulation associated with this use may be enforced as in the case  
26 of a violation of Title 6 by means of a civil proceeding pursuant to LVMC 6.02.400 to 6.02.460, inclusive.

1 7. On any particular parcel, the use is limited to a single residential dwelling unit that is occupied by its  
2 owner during each period the unit is rented and that has no more than [four] three bedrooms, with a  
3 maximum occupancy not to exceed the limits set forth in LVMC 6.75.090. For purposes of the preceding  
4 sentence, "owner" includes any person who is listed as an owner of record of the unit in the records of the  
5 Clark County Assessor or, in the case of a unit that is owned by a trust or other corporate or legal entity, a  
6 trustee or principal of that trust or entity. The dwelling unit is presumed to have the number of bedrooms  
7 indicated in the records of the Clark County Assessor's Office that pertain to that unit, but that presumption  
8 may be rebutted by inspection or other competent evidence.

9 8. The use is allowed in the P-O, O, C-1, C-2 and C-PB Zoning Districts only in connection with the  
10 residential component of a mixed-use development or in a dwelling unit permitted as a legal  
11 nonconforming use.

12 **Minimum Special Use Permit Requirements:**

13 \*1. The operator must obtain a business license to operate the use.

14 \*2. The use must comply on an ongoing basis with all governmental licensing and regulatory  
15 requirements, including the payment of applicable room taxes and licensing fees.

16 \*3. The use must comply with the City's noise regulations as they apply to residential uses[.], as well as  
17 any applicable provisions of the Municipal Code that may pertain to odor nuisances,

18 \*4. Vehicle parking associated with the use shall comply with applicable parking regulations, and vehicles  
19 of guests and invitees shall not obstruct traffic or access to other properties in the area

20 \*5. In addition to and independent of any enforcement authority or remedy described in this Title, the  
21 failure to comply with a Minimum Special Use Permit Requirement or other condition of approval  
22 associated with this use may be enforced as in the case of a violation of Title 6 by means of a civil  
23 proceeding pursuant to LVMC 6.02.400 to 6.02.460, inclusive.

24 \*6. [The use may not be located closer than 660 feet to any other Short-Term Residential Rental use  
25 (measured from property line to property line).] The use is allowed in the P-O, O, C-1, C-2 and C-PB  
26 Zoning Districts only in connection with the residential component of a mixed-use development or in a

1 dwelling unit permitted as a legal nonconforming use.

2 \*7. The maximum occupancy of the residential dwelling unit shall not exceed the limits provided for in  
3 LVMC 6.75.090.

4 8. The use may not be located closer than 660 feet to any other Short-Term Residential Rental use  
5 (measured from property line to property line).

6 **On-site Parking Requirement:** [No] For any short-term residential rental that has no more than 5  
7 bedrooms, no additional parking is required beyond that which is required for the principal use on the site.  
8 For units with more than 5 bedrooms, 1 additional space shall be required for every 2 additional bedrooms  
9 or fractional portion thereof.

10 SECTION 14: Title 19, Chapter 18, Section 20, is hereby amended by deleting in their  
11 entirety the definitions for the uses “Bed & Breakfast Inn” and “Boarding or Rooming House.”

12 SECTION 15: Title 19, Chapter 18, Section 20, is hereby amended by amending the  
13 definition of the term “Short-Term Residential Rental” to read as follows:

14 **Short-Term Residential Rental:** The commercial use, or the making available for commercial use, of a  
15 residential dwelling unit for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes, wherein any individual guest rents or  
16 occupies the entire dwelling unit or one or more individual rooms within the unit for a period of less than  
17 31 consecutive calendar days. The term does not include a “Community Residence,” “Facility for  
18 Transitional Living for Released Offenders,” or any other facility with dwelling units that is specifically  
19 defined in Chapter 19.18. For purposes of this Title, the term does not include the rental or occupancy of  
20 an accessory structure (Class I or II), a tent, a trailer or a mobile unit. In the case of a single parcel  
21 containing more than one dwelling unit, each dwelling unit constitutes a separate short-term residential  
22 rental use.

23 SECTION 16: For purposes of Section 2.100(3) of the City Charter, Sections 19.12.010,  
24 19.12.070 and 19.18.020 are deemed to be subchapters rather than sections.

25 SECTION 17: The Department of Planning is authorized and directed to incorporate into  
26 the Unified Development Code the amendments set forth in Sections 10 to 15, inclusive, of this Ordinance.

1           SECTION 18: Short-term residential rental uses that are existing on the effective date of  
2 this Ordinance, that would require a special use permit under this Ordinance in order to be established as a  
3 new use, and that were not approved by means of special use permit shall have two years from the effective  
4 date of this Ordinance within which to apply for and obtain a special use permit. If by that date special use  
5 permit approval has not been obtained, the use must terminate as of that date.

6           SECTION 19: If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or  
7 phrase in this ordinance or any part thereof is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid or  
8 ineffective by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity or  
9 effectiveness of the remaining portions of this ordinance or any part thereof. The City Council of the City  
10 of Las Vegas hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph,  
11 sentence, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections,  
12 subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional, invalid or ineffective.

13           SECTION 20: Whenever in this ordinance any act is prohibited or is made or declared to  
14 be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, or whenever in this ordinance the doing of any act is required  
15 or the failure to do any act is made or declared to be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, the doing of  
16 such prohibited act or the failure to do any such required act shall constitute a misdemeanor and upon  
17 conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 or by imprisonment for a term of  
18 not more than six months, or by any combination of such fine and imprisonment. Any day of any violation  
19 of this ordinance shall constitute a separate offense.

20 ...  
21 ...  
22 ...  
23 ...  
24 ...  
25 ...  
26 ...

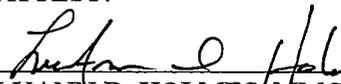
1 SECTION 21: All ordinances or parts of ordinances or sections, subsections, phrases,  
2 sentences, clauses or paragraphs contained in the Municipal Code of the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, 1983  
3 Edition, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

4 PASSED, ADOPTED and APPROVED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2017.

5 APPROVED:

6 By   
7 CAROLYN G. GOODMAN, Mayor

8 ATTEST:

9   
10 LUANN D. HOLMES, MMC  
City Clerk

11 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

12  6-21-17  
13 Val Steed, Date  
Deputy City Attorney

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1 The above and foregoing ordinance was first proposed and read by title to the City Council  
2 on the 3rd day of May, 2017, and referred to a committee for recommendation; thereafter  
3 the said committee reported favorably on said ordinance on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2017,  
4 which was a regular meeting of said Council; that at said regular meeting, the proposed  
5 ordinance was read by title to the City Council as amended and adopted by the following  
6 vote:

7 VOTING "AYE": Mayor Goodman and Councilmembers Tarkanian, Barlow and  
Coffin

8 VOTING "NAY": Anthony, Beers and Ross

9 EXCUSED: None

10 ABSTAINED: None

11 DID NOT VOTE: None

12 APPROVED:

13   
14 \_\_\_\_\_  
15 CAROLYN G. GOODMAN, Mayor

16 ATTEST:

17   
18 \_\_\_\_\_  
19 LUANN D. HOLMES, MMC City Clerk

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**AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION**

STATE OF NEVADA)  
COUNTY OF CLARK) SS:

RECEIVED  
CITY CLERK

2017 MAY 30 P 3:55

**LV CITY CLERK  
495 S MAIN ST  
LAS VEGAS NV 89101**

**Account # 22515  
Ad Number 0000912990**

Leslie McCormick, being 1st duly sworn, deposes and says: That she is the Legal Clerk for the Las Vegas Review-Journal and the Las Vegas Sun, daily newspapers regularly issued, published and circulated in the City of Las Vegas, County of Clark, State of Nevada, and that the advertisement, a true copy attached for, was continuously published in said Las Vegas Review-Journal and / or Las Vegas Sun in 1 edition(s) of said newspaper issued from 05/25/2017 to 05/25/2017, on the following days:

05 / 25 / 17

**BILL NO. 2017-16**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY'S LICENSING AND ZONING REGULATIONS TO DELETE CATEGORIES FOR "BED AND BREAKFAST INN" AND "BOARDING OR ROOMING HOUSE," REVISE REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS PERTAINING TO SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL RENTALS, AND PROVIDE FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

Sponsored by: Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian

Summary: Amends the City's licensing and zoning regulations to delete categories for "bed and breakfast inn" and "boarding or rooming house," and to revise regulations and requirements pertaining to short-term residential rentals.

At the City Council meeting of  
May 3, 2017

BILL NO. 2017-16 WAS READ BY TITLE AND REFERRED TO A RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE

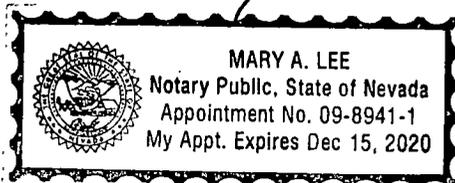
COPIES OF THE COMPLETE ORDINANCE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, 2ND FLOOR, 495 SOUTH MAIN STREET, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

PUB: May 25, 2017  
LV Review-Journal

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT REPRESENTATIVE

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 25th day of May, 2017

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF NEVADA)  
COUNTY OF CLARK) SS:

RECEIVED  
CITY CLERK

2017 JUN 29 P 12:02

LV CITY CLERK  
495 S MAIN ST  
LAS VEGAS NV 89101

Account # 22515  
Ad Number 0000921000

Leslie McCormick, being 1st duly sworn, deposes and says: That she is the Legal Clerk for the Las Vegas Review-Journal and the Las Vegas Sun, daily newspapers regularly issued, published and circulated in the City of Las Vegas, County of Clark, State of Nevada, and that the advertisement, a true copy attached for, was continuously published in said Las Vegas Review-Journal and / or Las Vegas Sun in 1 edition(s) of said newspaper issued from 06/24/2017 to 06/24/2017, on the following days:

06 / 24 / 17

FIRST AMENDMENT

BILL NO. 2017-16  
ORDINANCE NO. 6585

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY'S LICENSING AND ZONING REGULATIONS TO DELETE CATEGORIES FOR "BED AND BREAKFAST INN" AND "BOARDING OR ROOMING HOUSE," REVISE REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS PERTAINING TO SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL RENTALS, AND PROVIDE FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

Sponsored by:  
Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian  
Councilman Bob Beers

Summary: Amends the City's licensing and zoning regulations to delete categories for "bed and breakfast inn" and "boarding or rooming house," and to revise regulations and requirements pertaining to short-term residential rentals.

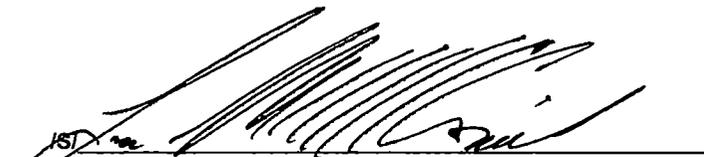
The above and foregoing ordinance was first proposed and read by title to the City Council on the 3rd day of May, 2017, and referred to a committee for recommendation; thereafter the committee reported favorably on said ordinance on the 21st day of June, 2017, which was a regular meeting of said City Council; and that at said regular meeting the proposed ordinance was read by title to the City Council as amended and adopted by the following vote:

VOTING "AYE": Mayor Goodman and Councilmembers Tarkanian, Coffin, and Barlow

VOTING "NAY": Councilmen Ross, Anthony and Beers

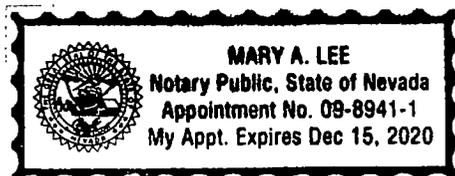
EXCUSED: NONE

COPIES OF THE COMPLETE ORDINANCE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, 2ND FLOOR, 495 SOUTH MAIN STREET, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
PUB: June 24, 2017  
LV Review-Journal

  
LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT REPRESENTATIVE

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 26th day of June, 2017

Notary 



LAS VEGAS STR ORDINANCE  
6-21-2017

6.46.140: Persons operating a hotel, motel, [roominghouse] or other establishment wherein rooms or other temporary accommodations are rented on a daily basis or for a period of 30 days or less, with or without meals include in the rental rate, shall **provide, keep and maintain A PUBLIC REGISTER and shall require every person who rents or occupies a room or other temporary accommodation in such hotel, motel, roominghouse or establishment to write in such a register his or her name and place of residence.** Such registration shall be made on a page of the register property dated with reference to the day of the year, month and week and the time of day the person rents or arranges to occupy a room or temporary accommodation shall also be entered. Such register shall be permanently and firmly bound and shall not be of a loose-leaf nature.

B. The provisions of Subsection A do not apply to a short-term residential rental subject to licensing under LVMC Chapter 6.75.

[A short-term rental license does not provide authority to violate any common-interest community's covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs).]

F. **If the STR unit is located within a gated subdivision or controlled-access building that is governed by an owners' association, a letter or other documentation from the association acknowledging the proposed use and, if necessary, granting access to occupants of the proposed rental unit.**

G. **A list of all hosting platforms that the applicant proposed to use to market, advertise, offer, solicit customers for,** or make available for commercial use the short-term residential rental applied for.

[No more than 2 adults per bedroom at any time during the rental period.]

SECTION 7: 6.75.090: B The maximum (nighttime) occupancy of a short-term residential rental unit shall comply with the maximum occupancy limits for residential dwellings established by the UHC as adopted in LVMC Chapter 16.20.

1. 2 persons per bedroom (excluding children under age 12)
2. The maximum occupancy limits for residential dwellings established by the UHC

C. **All occupant vehicles shall be parked on site, and shall not be parked in the adjacent public right-of-way.**

CONDITIONAL USE REGULATIONS

4. **The use may not be located closer than 660 feet to any other short-term residential rental use** (measured from property line to property line).

[A dwelling unit qualifies as “owner-occupied during each period the unit is rented” only if the dwelling unit is the owner’s primary residence, the owner continues to reside at the unit throughout the rental period, and the owner’s absence, if any, from the unit during the rental period is attributable only to employment or to the running of typical personal or household errands. LVMC 19.12.070(7)]

7. On any particular parcel, **the use is limited to a single residential dwelling unit that is occupied by its owner during each period the unit is rented and that has no more than three bedrooms, with a maximum occupancy not to exceed the limits set forth in LVMC 6.76.090.** For purposes of the preceding sentence, “owner” includes any person who is listed as an owner of record of the unit in the records of the Clark County Assessor, or in the case of a unit that is owned by a trust or other corporate or legal entity, a trustee or principal of that trust or entity.

[If applicable, corporation/LLC/Trust documentation will be required] <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

8. The use is allowed in the P-O, O, C-1, C-2 and C-PB Zoning Districts only in connection with the residential component of a mixed-use development or in a dwelling unit permitted as a legal nonconforming use.

[In general, the residence must meet all applicable building and fire safety codes for a residence, plus others that are required for commercial use of the property.]

SECTION 20: Whenever in this ordinance any act is prohibited or is made or declared to be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, or whenever in this ordinance the doing of any act is required or the failure to do any act is made or declared to be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, **the doing of such prohibited act or the failure to do any such required act shall constitute a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1000.00 or by imprisonment for a term of not more than 6 months or by any combination of such fine and imprisonment. Any day of any violation of this ordinance shall constitute a separate offense.**

[7. It is unlawful and a public nuisance for a person to create or permit to exist upon a residential property an unruly gathering. Such conduct includes without limitation any of the following, or a combination thereof (LVMC 9.04.015):

Traffic to or from the property, or the parking of vehicles in the neighborhood, to extent or of a character that represents an undue burden on the neighborhood. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

The obstruction of public rights-of-way by vehicles or persons. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

The service of alcoholic beverages to minors, or the possession or consumption thereof by

minors. [L] [SEP]

The illegal possession or consumption of controlled substances. [L] [SEP]

Violence or other disturbances of the peace. [L] [SEP]

Noise disturbances in violation of LVMC Chapter 9.16. [L] [SEP]

Vandalism. [L] [SEP]

Litter upon public rights-of-way. [L] [SEP]

Urinating or defecating in areas visible to the public.] [L] [SEP]

8. The operator shall post a copy of the license along with a copy of the following operating requirements for a short-term residential rental unit. (LVMC 6.75.090)

Post a valid City license for the short-term residential rental unit. [L] [SEP]

While unit is being rented, the operator must display a placard on the exterior of the building listing the allowable occupancy and 24-hour phone number for complaints. The placard shall be in plain view for the general public at all times the short-term residential rental unit is occupied. The placard shall be a minimum of 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches in size, clearly depicting the 24 – hour contact information. Contact information shall include the full name and telephone number and must be in a minimum legible font 72 point or a minimum of 1 1/2 inches in height

[L] [SEP]

All occupant vehicles shall be parked on site, and shall not be parked in the adjacent public right-of-way. No commercial vehicles shall be permitted on the short-term residential rental unit property or parked in the adjacent public right-of-way, except where otherwise permitted in commercial zoning districts. [L] [SEP]

Notwithstanding the provisions of LVMC Chapter 9.16, the use of any radio receiver, stereo, musical instrument, sound amplifier or similar device, which produces, reproduces or amplifies sound shall take place only within an enclosed short-term residential rental unit. The property owner or operator of a short-term residential unit shall use reasonably prudent business practices to ensure that the occupants or guests of the rental unit do not create unreasonable noise disturbances. [L] [SEP]

The owner of the property unit shall be responsible for notifying occupants of trash disposal procedures and for maintaining compliance with the requirements of LVMC Chapter 9.08. [L] [SEP]

Accessory structures including but not limited to casitas, tents, trailers, or other mobile units may not be rented out. [L] [SEP]

No short-term residential rental unit may be rented for the purpose of holding weddings, parties, receptions or similar events that typically are held at a banquet facility or other facility that is made available for the holding of events on a commercial basis. Any use of the short-term residential rental unit is limited to activities that are incidental to its use for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purpose] [L] [SEP]

*New*: Indicates a section not included in the August 2020 STR Ordinance

- **BOLDFACE** = New material added by **M. Berkbigler, R. Tycer, or from the Las Vegas STR Ordinance**
- Underline = New material added by R. Tycer or from the Las Vegas STR Ordinance
- ~~Crossout~~ = August 2020 STR Ordinance unnecessary or replaced

## **GENERAL STANDARDS FOR INCLINE VILLAGE AND CRYSTAL BAY**

### **1. NEW: RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES**

**Tycer: To obtain a Short-Term-Rental license/permit to operate in Incline Village or Crystal Bay residential zones (defined by TRPA 2006), an owner must prove IVCB residency by providing with the permit application a government-issued photo ID (Drivers License, ID Card, Passport or equivalent) with an address that matches the address of the STR.**

**Berkbigler - RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL USE: Any entity/person who owns or has a beneficial ownership interest in ~~more than three~~ TWO or more properties in Washoe County shall be considered a business and must comply with all applicable business licensing regulations in addition to STR regulations.**

**Las Vegas: On any particular parcel, the use is limited to a single residential dwelling unit that is occupied by its owner during each period the unit is rented.**

**Las Vegas: If the STR unit is located within a gated subdivision or controlled-access building that is governed by an owners' association, a letter or other documentation from the association acknowledging the proposed use and, if necessary, granting access to occupants of the proposed rental unit.**

**Las Vegas: The use may not be located closer than ~~660~~ 1000 feet to any other short-term residential rental use (measured from property line to property line.**

Must comply with all other Federal, state, and other applicable laws/statutes. ~~and~~ Issuance <sup>[SEP]</sup> of a County STR permit does not relieve the property owner of compliance with <sup>[SEP]</sup> applicable regulations, including CC&Rs, **Deeds of Restrictions**, or HOA restrictions. <sup>[SEP]</sup>

### **2. NEW: ACTIVITIES AND USE OF PROPERTY**

~~222~~ No events or other gatherings (ex. parties, weddings, etc.) are allowed that would exceed the on-site maximum occupancy associated with the STR permit. [L] [SEP]

**Berkbigler - RESTRICTION ON STR ACTIVITIES:** The STR unit cannot be used for functions such as reunions, parties, weddings, conferences, retreats, etc. STRs may be used only as a live-in residence for residential activities such as eating, home entertainment, and sleeping.

Las Vegas: No short-term residential rental unit may be rented for the purpose of holding weddings, parties, receptions or similar events that typically are held at a banquet facility or other facility that is made available for the holding of events on a commercial basis. Any use of the short-term residential rental unit is limited to activities that are incidental to its use for dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes. [L] [SEP]

Las Vegas: It is unlawful and a public nuisance for a person to create or permit to exist upon a residential property an unruly gathering. Such conduct includes without limitation any of the following, or a combination thereof (LVMC 9.04.015):

Traffic to or from the property, or the parking of vehicles in the neighborhood, to extent or of a character that represents an undue burden on the neighborhood. [L] [SEP]

The obstruction of public rights-of-way by vehicles or persons. [L] [SEP]

The service of alcoholic beverages to minors, or the possession or consumption thereof by minors. [L] [SEP]

The illegal possession or consumption of controlled substances. [L] [SEP]

Violence or other disturbances of the peace. [L] [SEP]

Noise disturbances in violation of LVMC Chapter 9.16. [L] [SEP]

Vandalism. [L] [SEP]

Litter upon public rights-of-way. [L] [SEP]

Urinating or defecating in areas visible to the public.] [L] [SEP]

### **3. NEW: TIME LIMITATION ON RENTALS**

**Berkbigler - LIMIT ON RENTAL NIGHTS PER YEAR:** A unit can be used as a STR a maximum of ~~9~~ **6 (SIX)** months out of each year. During the remaining 6 months, the unit must be (a) occupied by the owner, or (b) occupied rent free by the owner's family (defined according to the IGVID picture pass), or (c) rented long term, or (d), left empty ~~for 3 months~~. These ~~3~~ **6** months of non-STR use can be consecutive or in separate blocks of at least 1 month each. [The ~~3-month~~ 6 month non-STR rental period(s) will be tracked by the County and made known to neighbors.]

**Berkbigler - LIMIT ON LENGTH OF STR STAY:** All residential units must be rented for a minimum of 6 7 consecutive days.

~~**Berkbigler - POSSIBLE LIMIT ON TOTAL NUMBER OF STRS IN IVCB:** Commissioner Berkbigler will discuss with other Commissioners, the District Attorney, and County Staff whether a limit could be placed on the total number of STRs in IVCB similar to limits placed by the City of South Lake Tahoe and Douglas County. If such a limit were instated, a provision would allow existing permits to be grandfathered in for a set period of time.~~

#### **4. NEW: STR MANAGEMENT**

~~222 Every STR must have a designated local responsible party available 24/7 through a single phone number who shall respond to complaints within 30 minutes of contact (via text/phone acceptable). If an on-site response is necessary, it should occur within the following hour. [L] [SEP]~~

**Berkbigler: LOCAL MANAGER/OVERSEER REQUIRED:** To obtain a STR license/permit, a property manager or trained “STR overseer” must be designated who is located in the Tahoe Basin and able to be physically present at the STR within 30 minutes of any complaint. The manager’s/ overseer’s name and 24/7 telephone number must be disclosed to all residences within a 1-mile radius of the STR, and be listed on a publicly available site.

#### **5. Permitting**

~~222 Existing STRs are not grandfathered; they must apply for and be issued a County STR [L] [SEP] permit in order to operate. [L] [SEP]~~

~~222 Permittee must be the property owner. [L] [SEP]~~

~~222 Limited to one STR per parcel, with the exception that a second STR may be allowed in [L] [SEP] legal accessory dwellings; STRs must be a permanent, habitable dwelling unit (i.e. no RVs/ [L] [SEP] boats). The per-parcel limitation is due, in part, to ensure better enforcement capability. [L] [SEP]~~

~~222 An STR permit will be considered similar to a privileged license in that revocation can occur without Board action for issues such as non-payment of fees and noncompliance. Any revocation would provide for appropriate and timely administrative appellate review. [L] [SEP]~~

STR permits must be renewed annually. Property owners should be aware that standards are subject to change over time and that there is no guarantee a permit will be renewed.

~~Three permitting tiers are proposed. These tiers are intended to recognize that below certain thresholds, and with appropriate standards in place, an STR is expected to reasonably function similarly to other residential uses. However, as occupancy increases, impacts to surrounding properties have the potential to increase. In these cases, further scrutiny may be needed to determine if the scale of the proposed STR is appropriate on the specific property and if additional mitigation can reduce impacts to a reasonable level.~~

~~o Tier 1: STRs with a maximum occupancy of 10 persons or less; standard STR permit required. (Note: 10 or fewer is a common break point for uses like group homes and within the International Building Code's "R" occupancies.)~~

~~o Tier 2: STRs with a maximum occupancy of 11-20 persons; discretionary permit required in most regulatory zones.~~

~~o Tier 3: STRs with a maximum occupancy of 21 or more persons; only allowed in areas where hotels/motels allowed; with discretionary permit; requires commercial standards.~~

Applicable room tax must be paid to the RSCVA.

## **6. ADVERTISING**

**Las Vegas: [Provide on the permit] a list of all hosting platforms that the applicant proposes to use to market, advertise, offer, solicit customers for, or make available for commercial use the short-term residential rental applied for.**

Advertising for an STR is prohibited unless a valid STR permit has been issued.

Advertisements must include the Washoe County permit number, room tax license number, maximum occupancy as allowed by the permit, number of beds (cannot exceed max. occupancy), and number of parking spaces.

## **7. OCCUPANCY**

~~Establishing occupancy limits also has the potential to reduce some of the major impacts commonly associated with STRs. Proposed limits are based on the International Code~~

Council's International Building Code, a well-recognized code generally addressing building safety standards in the United States and across the world.

Proposed standards are as follows:

~~222~~One occupant is allowed per 200 sq. ft. of habitable space; total occupancy is not room-specific. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

**Berkbigler - OCCUPANCY: Unit occupancy will be limited to 2 persons per bedroom, plus an additional 2 persons. For example: a 2-bedroom unit allows a maximum of 6 renters.**

**Tyler: Occupancy will be based on the number of legal bedrooms as shown on the TRPA website Lake Tahoe Info Parcel Tracker for the STR parcel APN (under "View Parcel Details").**

~~???~~No distinction ~~would be~~ is made between daytime and nighttime occupancy, ~~as impacts are expected to be similar.~~ <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

~~???~~No distinction ~~would be~~ is made based on occupant age. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

~~222~~Occupancy may be further limited by available on-site parking or if the property owner <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> chooses to voluntarily limit the maximum number of occupants. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> Safety and Inspections <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> Washoe County staff has worked with both the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District to discuss fire and life safety concerns associated with STRs. As visitors to an STR are less likely to be familiar with a home than someone living in it, basic fire and life safety minimums are proposed to be required.

## 8. HEALTH AND SAFETY

**Tyler: All STR parcels must undergo a full TRPA site assessment to verify legal parking spaces, coverage, floor-plans, and whether home is BMP compliant.**

**Las Vegas: In general, the residence must meet all applicable building and fire safety codes for a residence, plus others that are required for commercial use of the property.**

The following summarizes proposed safety standards: <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

~~???~~Safety minimums include requirements for adequate smoke and carbon monoxide detectors; fire extinguishers; adequate egress; well-maintained

fireplaces, electrical outlets/systems, hot tubs, deck railings, etc. Additional minimums may be proposed for occupancies over 10 during discretionary permit review processes.

[L]  
[SEP]

Areas proposed for sleeping purposes have specific safety feature requirements based in existing, adopted codes. [L]  
[SEP]

Defensible space inspection will be required and conducted by the applicable fire agency. [L]  
[SEP]

Basic structure safety inspection must be passed prior to issuance of an STR permit and every third year thereafter; to be conducted by Washoe County building inspectors, with the exception that items such as sprinkler or fire alarm systems (if applicable) would be inspected by fire staff.

**Tycer: The cost of all inspections will be paid for by the STR applicant.**

Educational material provided in the unit must contain: community evacuation routes; fire safety info (ex. e.g., BBQ operation, proper ash disposal, community fire danger, etc.); bear awareness brochure (if applicable); noise, trash & parking standards, occupancy limits, etc. [L]  
[SEP]

**Berkbigler - SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS IN UNIT: Each STR unit must display on the back of each front door a list of County-dictated safety concerns (e.g. ample bear boxes), which are subject to routine inspection by the property manager/STR overseer.**

~~In between physical inspections every third year, self-certifications can be provided prior to permit renewal if the permit has not lapsed and there are no confirmed STR violations in the previous year. (Note: The phrase "confirmed STR violations," or similar, throughout this staff report refers to the violation being [L]  
[SEP] deemed final, with appeals exhausted and the violation being found to exist.) [L]  
[SEP]~~

**Berkbigler - CLEANING/SANITATION: Every residential unit must be left vacant for a minimum of 24 hours between successive rentals to fully sanitize/clean the residential unit to meet sanitation, health, and safety best practices and requirements per all applicable government entities.**

**The unit's property manager/ STR overseer will be required to verify the cleanliness of the unit prior to each rental. One STR renter cannot move in on the same day another STR renter moves out.**

**9. NEW: EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS**

**Tycer: The owner/property manager is required to provide to the Washoe County Sheriff Department a list of all STR renter-occupant names, cell phones or contact**

**numbers, home addresses, and car license numbers at the beginning of the rental period.**

**Berkbigler - EMERGENCIES:** To deal effectively with STRs during a general emergency (e.g., COVID pandemic), the County code will be amended to allow County government officials to declare emergency regulations. *The permit to operate a STR does not convey a property right.*

**Section 110.319.50 Restrictions During a Declared Emergency.** STRs are subject to all lawful orders of the Governor of Nevada during a declared emergency and to all powers granted by law to the local governmental entities. ~~For example,~~ This may include but is not limited to additional operating restrictions or the requirement to cease operations until such time as the order is lifted.

## **10. PARKING** <sup>[[1]]</sup><sub>SEP</sub>

**Las Vegas: All occupant vehicles shall be parked on site, and shall not be parked in the adjacent public right-of-way.**

**Tycer: The number of cars allowed to be parked on the STR parcel will be based on the number of legal parking places on the site as shown on the TRPA website Lake Tahoe Info Parcel Tracker for the STR parcel APN (under “View Parcel Details”).**

~~All use types within the Washoe County Development Code have an associated parking standard that identifies the number of off-street spaces required. This ratio is most frequently based on square footage of the structure and/or the maximum number of employees present <sup>[[1]]</sup><sub>SEP</sub> at any given time. However, some uses base the ratio on additional factors. For example: destination resorts require one parking space per room; indoor entertainment uses require one space per every three seats; bed and breakfast uses require one space per room, plus one per employee; motels require one per room; hostels require .25 per bed; and, single-family detached homes require two per dwelling unit.~~

~~According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the average number of residents per household in Washoe County is 2.5. In the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area, this average drops to 2.23 residents per household. These averages are reflected in the requirement for single-family homes to have a minimum of two off-street parking spaces.~~

~~When it comes to STRs, the number of occupants is generally expected to exceed Census averages for single-family dwellings—especially for STRs with multiple bedrooms. Accordingly, inadequate parking is one of the most frequently cited complaints associated with STRs—both across the nation and in the feedback heard~~

~~from Washoe County residents. This is especially prevalent in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area, where on-street parking can be severely limited or nonexistent. As a result, staff is proposing that~~ The number of parking spaces required be is based on the maximum number of occupants permitted for the STR, and that an inability to provide sufficient number of off-street parking spaces available. ~~would in turn potentially limit the number of occupants allowed by the STR permit.~~

~~Taking all of this into consideration, and in order to reduce potential impacts to neighboring properties, the following STR parking standards are proposed:~~

~~☐☐~~ No STR parking is allowed in the public right-of-way. <sup>[SEP]</sup>

~~☐☐~~ One parking space is required for every four proposed occupants.

~~Note: The initial ratio proposed to the Board in Nov. 2019 was one space for every three occupants; however, based on Board feedback, that ratio was changed to one space for~~

**Berkbigler - PARKING RESTRICTIONS: The number of cars that can park on the STR property will be determined by the ~~maximum occupancy,~~ number of legal off-street parking places. A parking plan must be submitted with each permit showing where cars will be parked. Rental agreements must list all cars, trucks, RVs, boats, trailers, and other vehicles. ~~No cars, trucks, RVs, boats, trailers, or other vehicles can be parked on the property unless there is a designated space for them on the parking plan.~~ **every four occupants.****

~~☐☐~~ All parking spaces must be improved to ~~Washoe County standards (or Tahoe Regional Planning Agency standards, if applicable)~~ and developed on-site, within property boundaries. In multi-unit complexes, parking must be in designated parking spaces (if applicable) and limited to the number of spaces allotted to the unit.

~~It should be noted that parking may be limited by available TRPA coverage, and that staff's recommendation is that such limitations should not result in standards being waived. However, under certain limited circumstances where flexibility may be warranted, the Director of the Planning and Building Division would have the authority to modify the location of required parking spaces based on extenuating site features or other limiting factors. This additional flexibility was also incorporated into the proposed language as a result of Board feedback.~~

## 11. Noise

~~Excessive noise, parties and loud music are some of the other most commonly heard complaints associated with STRs, and was a significant concern noted by County residents via the public workshops and online survey. Noise issues can also be one of the most difficult types of complaints to address. Many jurisdictions have established quiet hours for STRs. Opponents argue that if quiet hours are important, they should be established for all uses, not just STRs. (Note: Although the County does not have community wide quiet hours, there are requirements related to disturbing the peace.) However, it can also be argued that occupancies of STRs are often higher than that of neighboring residences and that transient guests may not be as familiar with or respectful of community norms associated with noise.~~

~~The Washoe County Sheriff's Office has indicated there have been 64 calls for service related to noise in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area in the past year, with three citations issued. It is understood that there is limited staffing by the Sheriff's Office in the Incline area, and that calls for service related to noise will have a lower priority than many other service types. Although the 24/7 STR complaint hotline by Host Compliance is expected to help with noise impacts, noise is still a concern.~~

~~Establishing quiet hours specifically for STRs is recommended by staff, allowing confirmed disturbances during these timeframes to be treated as violations of STR standards. Additionally, due to the difficulty with noise enforcement, staff is providing an additional mechanism for consideration. **Decibel-monitoring devices are required.** a technology used by some property managers to ensure their guests are respectful of the community. They monitor decibel levels only; there are no audio recordings. These can be used by a jurisdiction to better track STRs with repeated noise complaints. The City of Henderson recently adopted standards requiring these devices to be used as part of an STR's overall noise management plan. Staff recommends they be required for STRs with two confirmed noise violations.~~

~~☐☐☐ Quiet hours 10 p.m. — 7 a.m. <sup>SEP</sup>9pm – 8am.~~

~~☐☐☐ After a second confirmed noise violation, an STR must be equipped with decibel <sup>SEP</sup> monitoring devices with reporting capability and records available for County review. <sup>SEP</sup>~~

**Berkbigler - QUIET HOURS: At night, quiet hours will extend from 9 pm until 8 am. During the day, County noise regulations will prevail: no amplified sound (music or noise) outside that disturbs neighbors.**

## 12. Trash

~~In mid-2017, Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID) established a zero-tolerance policy related to proper trash disposal in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area. IVGID staff patrols the community to ensure standards are being followed and educate or cite where necessary. IVGID has indicated that since the program started, trash violations dropped significantly. With that in mind, the following trash standards for STRs are proposed:~~

~~Trash must be managed as required by the Health District, Waste Management and IVGID (if applicable), including times when carts may be placed street-side. Cart size must be sufficient to store waste for the maximum number of occupants each week.~~

~~STRs in IVGID service territory and other bear-prone areas must use wildlife-resistant carts and/or bear sheds, except in multi-family developments where HOAs require and enforce regular trash disposal.~~

**Berkbigler - TRASH AND GARBAGE: The owner will be responsible to ensure the STR has a trash receptacle inaccessible to bears and other wildlife, and of a size compatible with the permitted occupancy. The property manager/STR overseer will be responsible for timely trash pickup ensuring that trash is left outside only on the designated day and time for pickup.**

~~Trash violations confirmed by IVGID or the Health District count as a violation against the STR and may incur both IVGID penalties and Washoe County STR permit penalties.~~

### **13. NEW: DAMAGE AND INSURANCE**

~~Several workshop and survey participants voiced concerns that most standard homeowner policies do not cover STR use. It is common for other jurisdictions to require STR-specific liability insurance, and the following additional standards are recommended:~~

**Berkbigler - DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY: The STR owner will be responsible for any intrusion into, damage to, or destruction of neighboring property.**

~~Certificate of insurance is required identifying that the property is used as an STR and providing \$500,000 minimum liability coverage per occurrence.~~

### **14. ENFORCEMENT and Revocation**

~~A three-pronged approach to enforcement is proposed:~~

~~???~~Permitting: **Host Compliance will proactively** identify unpermitted STRs and pursue permitting compliance; cite, fine and, ~~if necessary, lien~~ **add fines to tax bills for** non-compliant property owners who continue to operate an STR without the appropriate permit in place.

~~**A \$5,000 fine/day will be assessed for each day of illegal use.** ~~It should be noted that this approach is a departure from current complaint-based code enforcement practices; however, it is considered a necessary component of a successful STR program.~~~~

~~???~~Inspections: Required upon initial permit application and then every ~~third~~ **second** year (with self-certifications in intermediate years). **Signed inspection reports must be submitted with permit request.**

- ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ **- Fire and safety inspection**
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ **- Building inspection (# of bedrooms; parking spaces)**
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ **- Health and cleaning inspections (checklist by owner/property manager)**

~~Safety minimums~~ **inspections must be certified** in place in order to obtain an STR permit and operate. ~~SEP~~

~~???~~The 24/7 complaint hotline (via Host Compliance) will log citizen-initiated complaints and contact the STR's local responsible party for resolution. ~~SEP~~

**Tyler: Enforcement will be carried out by the Washoe County Sheriff Department in accord with applicable Washoe County Code pertaining to noise, disturbance of the peace, criminal activity, parking and traffic violations; and by the NLTFPD for fire hazards and safety concerns.**

~~???~~Operational: Confirmed violations (**including infractions related to trash and parking**) will result in fines and penalties ~~such as~~ **including possible** permit revocation.

## **15. FINES AND APPEALS**

~~Three confirmed and separate STR violations in any 12-month period will result in permit revocation and a 12-month cooling-off period within which the property is ineligible to obtain an STR permit. No Board action will be required for this type of revocation, unless on appeal. Any of these individual STR violations could **may** be appealed to the County's Administrative Hearing Office, whose decision may~~

subsequently be appealed to a County board (with that decision appealable to the Second Judicial Court).

**During the period of appeal and resolution, the STR may not be rented.**

**Reduce the appeal period to 14 days** (from 30 days) after an STR notice of violation is served; and adjusting the process to appeal an Administrative Hearing decision. Currently, such appeals are heard by the Board of Adjustment (BOA). Staff recommends that appeals of STR-related Administrative Hearing Orders instead be heard by the Board of County Commissioners.

Since the BOA has no direct knowledge of or expertise with STR standards (the Planning Commission reviewed the ordinance), and because BOA meetings are only held ten times annually, staff believes the County Commission is better positioned to be the board to hear such appeals in a timely and effective manner. This procedural distinction was not included with the original text provided to the Planning Commission for review; which is why it is called out here. [L] [SEP]

Attachments B and C reflect additional code changes proposed for Chapters 125 (Administrative Enforcement Code) and 50 (Public Peace, Safety and Morals). The changes in these two chapters focus on enforcement provisions related to STRs, including but not limited to inspections, evidence of operation, evidence of violations, appeals and associated timeframes, stop activity orders, warnings, penalties, and penalty notices. [L] [SEP]

**Berkbigler - REGULATION OVERSIGHT: The County will in communication with IVCB citizen representatives review the STR Ordinance after every 6 months to determine if it needs to be adjusted.**

**16. Other Items for Consideration** [L] [SEP]

There are several other items the Board may wish to be aware of while considering this topic. [L] [SEP] **Permit Fees** [L] [SEP] Proposed permit fees will be detailed in a separate fee and fine staff report for action by the Board concurrent with the second reading and adoption scheduled for Sept. 22, 2020. In summary, a cost neutral fee structure is proposed to ensure, to the extent possible, that implementation and enforcement of the STR program is paid for by those who own and operate STRs, not general taxpayer dollars. Thus, the fee structure is designed to incorporate costs such as: safety and fire inspections; permit processing and review; Host Compliance software and services; enforcement of non-permitted STRs and violations of STR standards, etc. Additionally, per requests by the Board, the proposed fee structure will include a discount on the STR permit fee for STRs that use a licensed property manager as the designated local responsible party. It is expected that this fee structure will be reassessed after the first

~~12-18 months of operation in order to ensure costs are appropriately covered, and to propose adjustments at that time, if necessary. Note: NRS 278.020 provides a governing body general power to regulate land use for purposes of health, safety, morals, and welfare of the community. Included within this authority is the imposition of fees for services to support that regulation, and fines to support its enforcement (NRS 237.060).~~

## **Fines**

~~Proposed fines will be detailed in a separate fee and fine staff report for action by the Board concurrent with the second reading and adoption scheduled for Sept. 22, 2020. In summary, research related to STRs has made it clear that fines and penalties must be significant enough to deter violations; otherwise, it may just be considered the cost of doing business for an operator. Washoe County's current code enforcement approach for land use violations is focused more on achieving compliance, rather than penalizing the property owner. Therefore, current fines for Development Code violations are set relatively low and are considered insufficient to deter STR violations. As a result, staff is proposing a new and separate higher fine structure, with unpaid fines becoming liens against the property. Funds from paid fines would be used to offset impacts to the Administrative Hearing Office.~~

**Berkbigler - ENFORCEMENT/INSPECTION FEES: To pay for increased inspection and enforcement, all STRs located in the Tahoe Basin will be charged a higher licensing fee, and all fees collected will be used solely for an extra STR enforcement officer in the Tahoe Basin.**

**Berkbigler - FINES: High fines will be issued for every infraction of the STR Ordinance. Any STR with ~~3~~ 1 reported infraction in a 6-month period will not be allowed to continue operating for the next ~~12~~ 6 months. Any STR with 2 or more fines in a 1 year period will no longer be able to be rented as a STR.**

## **17. Staffing Needs**

**Two code enforcement officers will be assigned to monitor STRs, one dedicated exclusively to STRs in Incline Village and Crystal Bay.** to assist with implementation and enforcement of the program, with the position included in the FY21 budget.

Building safety inspections will be conducted by **a newly hired** Washoe County Building Inspector **dedicated to inspecting Incline Village and Crystal Bay STRs.**

Fire inspectors from the applicable fire district will inspect defensible space and, smoke alarm and/or sprinkler systems.

Host Compliance's services will be used for matching advertisements to real addresses, the 24/7 complaint hotline and establishment of the mobile registration platform. STR permit fees are expected to cover all of these costs.

## 18. Effective Dates

Staff recommends at least a four-month grace period between adoption of the ordinance and its first effective date. If the Board adopts the ordinance on Sept. 22, 2020, the recommended effective date for allowing application submittals is Jan. 15, 2021. The recommended effective date for enforcement is April 15, 2021. This grace period is expected to provide time to set up the associated internal processes and technology needs, advertise the new standards to the public, and begin processing and issuing STR permits. As noted previously, an additional code enforcement officer position is budgeted for FY21 to support the STR efforts, and the hire date is estimated to be in early 2021.

## Room Tax

The Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA) requires hosts of STRs to obtain a **[business]** transient lodging tax (aka room tax) license. The RSCVA assesses a 13% room tax on STRs in Washoe County. That room tax is paid to the RSCVA, which keeps a portion and then distributes the remainder to various state, regional and local agencies. Per State law and various government ordinances, Washoe County receives 1/13th of the room tax paid in unincorporated County areas. Based on a 5-year average, RSCVA receives approximately \$1.6M annually for room taxes associated with STRs in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area. Washoe County receives 1/13th of that amount, which is approximately \$125,000 annually. The amount the County receives from STRs outside of the Incline area is negligible. Room tax distributed to Washoe County currently goes into the General Fund. As part of this project, staff will investigate opportunities to reduce potential overlap in the permitting processes between the two organizations.

## Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA)

TRPA recently established a list of regulatory options for jurisdictions to apply to STRs within the Tahoe Basin in order to meet TRPA goals and policies. These will be considered a third criterion in TRPA's scoring system for awarding residential allocations to jurisdictions around Lake Tahoe. The focus is largely on locational, operational and enforcement parameters. Washoe County has been actively involved in these conversations with TRPA. The proposed ordinances are expected to meet many of TRPA's parameters.

## Demographics

With the highest concentration of STRs located in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay portion of Washoe County, there has been some interest in the demographics of that area. The following information was pulled from 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for zip code 89451, which represents most, but not all of the area. This information is provided to paint a general picture only. There are approximately 7,800 dwelling units, with approximately 52% comprised of single-family detached homes. The area is characterized by a large contingent of second homes, and just under 53% of the dwelling units are classified by the U.S. Census Bureau as vacant. Slightly more than 34% of the homes are owner-occupied. 75% of the homes were built prior to 1990. The average household size of owner-occupied homes is 2.08. The average household size of long-term renter-occupied homes is 3.02. Approximately 74% of residents moved into their home in the year 2000 or later. Just under 93% of the homes have four bedrooms or fewer.

### **Standards for Incline Village/Crystal Bay vs. Rest of Washoe County**

It is important to note that many residents in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area requested that STR standards within the Tahoe Basin be different than those in the rest of Washoe County. The majority of STRs in the County are located in Incline Village/Crystal Bay and therefore most recommendations were drafted with that area primarily in mind. Regional adjustments are included in the proposed code language for items such as wildlife-resistant carts in bear-prone areas, variations in defensible space requirements/inspections, TRPA parking standards, and regulatory zone differences within the new Tahoe Area Plan (expected to be adopted once in-person public hearings are feasible to resume).

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Costs to administer and enforce STR standards and permitting have been calculated and proposed STR permit fees and fines have been designed to cover these costs. This cost-neutral fee structure is intended to ensure, to the extent possible, that implementation and enforcement of the STR program is paid for by those who own and operate STRs, not general taxpayer dollars. Specific details regarding fees and fines will be provided in a separate staff report for action by the Board concurrent with the second reading and adoption scheduled for September 22, 2020.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board introduce and conduct a first reading of the ordinances provided as Attachments A, B and C and set the public hearing for second reading and possible adoption for September 22, 2020.

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be:

~~“Move to introduce and conduct a first reading of ordinances amending Washoe County Code Chapters 110, 50 and 125 as described within the subject of the staff report for this item. Also introduce Bill Numbers (insert bill numbers as provided by the County Clerk) and set the public hearing for second reading and possible adoption of the ordinances for September 22, 2020.~~

**LIST OF PLAN NAMES: INCLINE VILLAGE AND CRYSTAL BAY**

| <b>PLAN ID</b> | <b>PLAN NAME</b>                      | <b>PLAN TYPE</b>    | <b>TRANSIENT TOURIST ACCOMMODATION ALLOWED: Special Use TRPA permit required</b> |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 032            | NEVADA NORTH STATELINE CASINO CORE CP | COMMUNITY PLAN      | YES                                                                              |
| 033            | STATELINE POINT                       | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 034            | CRYSTAL BAY                           | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 035            | CRYSTAL BAY CONDOMINIUMS              | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 036            | INCLINE VILLAGE #4/PONDEROSA          | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 037            | LAKEVIEW                              | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | Bed & Breakfast only                                                             |
| 038            | WOOD CREEK                            | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | Bed & Breakfast only                                                             |
| 039            | INCLINE VILLAGE #2                    | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 040            | INCLINE VILLAGE #1                    | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 041            | INCLINE VILLAGE #3                    | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 042            | INCLINE VILLAGE #5                    | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 043            | CHATEAU/COUNTRY CLUB                  | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 044            | FAIRWAY                               | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO <sup>1</sup>                                                                  |
| 045            | INCLINE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL COM. PLAN  | COMMUNITY PLAN      | YES                                                                              |
| 046            | INCLINE VILLAGE RESIDENTIAL           | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | Timeshare residential design only                                                |
| 047            | TUNNEL CREEK                          | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 048            | INCLINE VILLAGE TOURIST COM. PLAN     | COMMUNITY PLAN      | YES                                                                              |
| 049            | MILL CREEK                            | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | Bed & Breakfast Only                                                             |
| 050            | MT. SHADOWS                           | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 051            | TYROLIAN VILLAGE                      | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | Special area #1 – Timeshare residential design and B&B                           |
| 052            | INCLINE SKI                           | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 053            | INCLINE LAKE                          | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |
| 054            | PONDEROSA RANCH COMMUNITY PLAN        | COMMUNITY PLAN      | YES                                                                              |
| 055            | EAST SHORE                            | PLAN AREA STATEMENT | NO                                                                               |

<sup>1</sup> In 2006, the Incline General Improvement District applied for rezoning of parcel 131-280-04 consisting of about 2.609 acres of vacant land. IVGID stated its goal was to house IVGID employees. The TRPA approved the rezoning July 26, 2006 with 85% of the parcel to be affordable or moderate housing. TRPA designated permissible land use to include Tourist Accommodations with these uses: Hotel, motels, and other transient dwelling units (S), timesharing (hotel/motel design) (S), and timesharing (residential design) (S). Uses designated with an S require a TRPA Special permit. The parcel remains vacant.

**From:** [Wayne Ford](#)  
**To:** [Nelson, Kate S.](#); [Donshick, Francine](#); [tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com](mailto:tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com); [Chvilicek, Sarah](#); [Chesney, Larry](#); [jib2424@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jib2424@sbcglobal.net); [Young, Eric](#); [lloyd@washoecounty.us](mailto:lloyd@washoecounty.us); [Brown, Eric P.](#)  
**Subject:** Requirement to be able to review any application:  
**Date:** Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:28:30 PM

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I have said this at TRPA meetings , at the County meetings, and to many planners at TRPA, and the County.

You have for example many rules that can only be enforced if you have the proper information to do so. I still do not see this in any of the rules for the permit process.

Example: Parking : How do you know the parking is legal and is permitted by TRPA under the coverage rules?

Example:Permitting Tiers: How do you know the square footage of a home and the number of rooms and their use.

Example:How can a inspector have anything to refer to in a inspection unless they have as as-built floor plan.

If you depend on the applicant to be honest with what is given you likely will get a hand drawing that has no established scale, and other important features , like driveway and site area along with tree locations and contours for reasonable access. Allowed coverage and parking that is paved per TRPA Code.

So the only way that this information can be verified is not for the County to do it but for TRPA to have it in their "Lake Tahoe Info Parcel Tracker". To get to that site you go on TRPA's web page. Hit "Search for Parcel & Permits Records, then to Lake Tahoe Info Parcel Tracker, put in the APN: Number then to " View Parcel Details".

All STR's must have a full site assessment done where the coverage is verified , a site plan is required and would be on file. The allowed coverage would be on that site plan which has a TRPA stamp on it. Then in addition to this a set of floor plans and elevations of the home. That site will tell you if the home is BMP compliant or not, if not it needs to be for a STR use where a great amount of parking takes place .

TRPA has currently made getting this done much more reasonable at only \$500.00 Not the thousands it cost in past. This will also allow for a defensible space evaluation to be done for a site plan exists with at least the trees and the residence indicated. Along with is the topographic contours that are needed to do a proper defensible space evaluation for slope and vegetation thinning on the down slopes.

The Current STR in Lynda Court I have been dealing with (

124-043-40) does not have a site plan, floor plans and elevations on the site. I had to get Washoe County Permit Records to send me a set of plans. This took County time to do that which this should not take place. The owner is now , today in violation of parking on the dirt when it has just snowed for he does not have enough legal parking on paved areas. He has no more coverage to pave the front yard. This is for a 5 bedroom home. Yet there is no on file record at TRPA for a proper review. He should be required to get one done.

Wayne Ford

When a applicant fills out the request for a permit the planner can then go the one site that has it all. Review what has been presented and make a determination on what the permit conditions can be. This will take very little time. If any remodel work is done on the home where it is expanded then TRPA updates the on line record. If the home is expanded then that would be on the TRPA site.

This helps TRPA meet their mission of making sure all properties are BMP compliant. this also helps the water quality for Lake Tahoe. It is a win for all concerned. If the home sells then the information is still available when new

owner comes it to get a  
permit.

Wayne Ford

**From:** [Young, Eric](#)  
**To:** [Giesinger, Chad](#); [Lloyd, Trevor](#)  
**Subject:** FW: STR Ordinance Input  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:04:04 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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**Eric Young**

**Senior Planner | Community Services Department**

[eyoung@washoecounty.us](mailto:eyoung@washoecounty.us) | Office: 775.328.3613 Fax: 775.328.6133

1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, NV 89512



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**From:** Pamela Tsigdinos <[ptsigdinos@yahoo.com](mailto:ptsigdinos@yahoo.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2020 6:49 PM

**To:** Nelson, Kate S. <[KSNelson@washoecounty.us](mailto:KSNelson@washoecounty.us)>; Donshick, Francine <[FDonshick@washoecounty.us](mailto:FDonshick@washoecounty.us)>; tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com; Chvilicek, Sarah <[chviliceks@unce.unr.edu](mailto:chviliceks@unce.unr.edu)>; Chesney, Larry <[LChesney@washoecounty.us](mailto:LChesney@washoecounty.us)>; [jib2424@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jib2424@sbcglobal.net); Young, Eric <[EYoung@washoecounty.us](mailto:EYoung@washoecounty.us)>; Lloyd, Trevor <[TLloyd@washoecounty.us](mailto:TLloyd@washoecounty.us)>; Brown, Eric P. <[EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us](mailto:EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us)>; Berkbigler, Marsha <[MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us](mailto:MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us)>; [alexis@votealexishill.com](mailto:alexis@votealexishill.com)

**Cc:** Alexander Tsigdinos <[atsigdinos@yahoo.com](mailto:atsigdinos@yahoo.com)>

**Subject:** STR Ordinance Input

**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

All: First, thank you for your service during these difficult times. I write as a full-time Incline Village resident and strong opponent to the proliferation of short-term rentals (STRs) in residential-zoned neighborhoods. I've participated in several rounds of community input to date. While I'm aware the devil is in the details, I would like to share some higher-level context-setting and thinking as we work through the next round of STR ordinance development.

## BEST PRACTICES

Washoe County has the benefit of learning what has and has not worked from other cities and towns. Other municipalities have learned the hard way companies like Airbnb must be held

accountable. As you'll see below, Denver tried to play nice with Airbnb and its brethren and got burned:

[Denver City Council approves \\$1,000 fine for companies violating short-term rental rules \(denverpost.com\)](https://www.denverpost.com/2020/11/23/denver-city-council-fine-airbnb/)

**Denver Post November 23, 2020 article excerpt:**

*After three fruitless years of negotiating with Airbnb — with no end in sight — Denver officials will now fine short-term rental companies \$1,000 for each illegal short-term rental transaction, City Council determined Monday.*

*For years the city's short-term rental market has been [peppered with outdated and unlicensed listings](#). This can result in fines for unsuspecting property owners who bought properties already listed on short-term rental sites by previous owners who failed to remove the listings.*

*Denver Department of Excise and License officials have tried negotiating with Airbnb — which controls the vast majority of the city's short-term rental market — and other companies, asking them to tie each online listing to a rental license number and expiration date. The negotiations have yielded no concrete results, [other than the frustration of city officials](#), so the department proposed the fine."*

You can read more in this coverage: [Denver to fine Airbnb and other sites \\$1K per day for booking unlicensed rentals \(kdvr.com\)](https://www.kdvr.com/story/news/2020/11/23/denver-to-fine-airbnb-and-other-sites-1k-per-day-for-booking-unlicensed-rentals/)

With that background, I suggest you please take a look at Denver's STR website. I believe Denver's efforts will serve as an excellent guide on our STR ordinance development: <https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/denver-business-licensing-center/business-licenses/short-term-rentals/short-term-rentals-laws-rentals-and-regulations.html>

#### PRIMARY RESIDENT NEEDS MUST COME FIRST

The ordinance priority, first and foremost, must be to protect the public health, safety and well-being of primary residents who make up the backbone of the community. As such, the ordinance should require STRs owners be **primary residents**.

It's important to note that the vast majority of STRs are owned and operated by **businesses** (LLCs, REITs, private real estate investment groups or large out-of-town investors) -- not the "resident renting a room for extra income" narrative Airbnb founders promoted to build out its business model when the company began in 2008.

I kindly suggest you and your team do an analysis of public records to learn what percent of current STRs in IV/CB are held by out of state investors and owned by corporations. Best estimates in other communities are that 60-70% of STRs are *not* operated by property owners who are primary residents. If Washoe County wants an up-to-the-minute composition of corporate-owned STRs in IV/CB, it must oblige the online rental platforms to provide this

information; these data-driven companies routinely collect the data.

## RESIDENTS LIVE WITH THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY STRs

A public record request surfaced documents showing that some County Planners and staff have been in direct communication with Airbnb to solicit their input. This is simply wrong. Airbnb and comparable booking business (VRBO, Vacasa, etc.) should have **zero** input into how their business are regulated. They work for us, not the other way around.

STR booking companies at their worst can best be described as parasites, defined by the Oxford Dictionary this way: *an organism that lives in or on an organism of another species and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense. The worst cause diseases.*

Using this metaphor, STRs around the country have proven to be the source of significant problems for communities. These range from public health hazards (party houses during a pandemic) to noise, pollution, traffic congestion, parking, fire dangers -- and in the case of Incline Village -- wildlife dangers.

It is the full-time residents here in IV/CB who fund resource-constrained first responders and County staff. STR companies and the tourists they cater only *consume* services; they give nothing back to the community.

I agree with fellow IV/CB residents that STR standards within the Tahoe Basin be different than those in the rest of Washoe County. As you know, the majority of STRs in the County are located in IV/CB. In short, residents most impacted by STRs should be dictating the rules of the road.

Too many of us in IV/CB already feel like San Diego resident, Steven Dowdy who told his City Council [in a meeting this month](#): *"When are you going to support the rights of the citizens of San Diego? We bought houses in neighborhoods, we didn't buy homes in commercial zones and you're turning our neighborhoods into a commercial zone. Shame on you."*

Taking a page from Denver and San Diego...some of the key features of any STR ordinance should be:

- All short-term rentals must be **safety permitted** and **licensed** (No self-certification)
  - Licenses would be granted each year via a lottery.
  - **Any short-term rental must be the host's primary residence**—defined as the owner who spends at least six months a year in the property.
- All advertisements for short-term rentals must **display** the host's **business license number**.
- All short-term rental hosts must abide by rules related to **safety, taxes, zoning, and insurance**.
- Failure to follow the rules can result in **fines or other penalties, including license revocation**.

I also believe there needs to be more thought on the number of STR permits (e.g. saturation) as well as how to avoid quasi 'hotel districts' arising. This email, however, is ready long enough.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the many important points in my email. I can be reached at home 775-298-7305, via email [ptsigidinos@yahoo.com](mailto:ptsigidinos@yahoo.com) if you have further

questions.

Best regards,

Pamela

1080 Oxen Road  
Incline Village, NV 89451

**From:** [Young, Eric](#)  
**To:** [Giesinger, Chad](#); [Lloyd, Trevor](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Washoe County Commissioners Draft Language for STRs  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:02:54 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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**Eric Young**

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1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, NV 89512



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**From:** Scott Hill <sbh858@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2020 5:32 PM  
**To:** Nelson, Kate S. <KSNelson@washoecounty.us>; Donshick, Francine <FDonshick@washoecounty.us>; tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com; Chvilicek, Sarah <chviliceks@unce.unr.edu>; Chesney, Larry <LChesney@washoecounty.us>; jib2424@sbcglobal.net; Young, Eric <EYoung@washoecounty.us>; Lloyd, Trevor <TLloyd@washoecounty.us>; Brown, Eric P. <EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us>; Berkbigler, Marsha <MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us>; alexis@votealexishill.com  
**Cc:** Incline STR Advisory <iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Washoe County Commissioners Draft Language for STRs

**[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]**

Dear County Commissioners,

Monica and I are long-time Washoe County/Incline Village property owners, and full-time residents since my retirement some years ago. We are writing today to compliment you on your leadership in addressing the very serious STR problem in Incline Village/Crystal Bay, and to provide a number or comments on the draft document that is being considered.

Overall, the document squarely addresses the problems that we are currently having here as a result of the very significant increase in STR's caused by . . . well, caused by the way the world is changing to more technology based approaches. In essence, it is now so easy to book a place online to stay at a residence, that many are turning it into a business. Existing community/County rules of course

never contemplated that businesses would be up and running in residential neighborhoods, nor did they contemplate that a whole new hotel and motel industry would be born in our neighborhoods. While we certainly do not want to squash the entrepreneurial spirit of Americans (mostly Nevadans and Californians here), and while we certainly recognize that the Tahoe area is a recreational destination, we should not want a mass of new commercial enterprises, for the most part loosely managed, in our residential neighborhoods.

We will separate our comments into a number of specific comments and then several overall perspectives:

Specific Comments:

- 1) We do agree with the Commissioner's suggestion that a party who operates multiple units (whether the number is 2 or 3 we won't comment) should be considered a business and therefore subject to those business regulations. Of course people are clever and will create all sorts of additional entities to hold STRs so as not to meet that rule, so some form of ultimate ownership test must be applied which may be difficult to administer.
- 2) We also agree with the recommendation by some to include the Las Vegas (LV) language on STR's in HOA's having to have a letter on file from the HOA, and granting access.
- 3) The density of STR's should be considered, with some restrictions. Not sure how?
- 4) Limits on rental nights to 6 or more is a very good suggested provision. Additionally, the recommendation that the total NON-rental period must exceed 6 months is very good. A lesser number of months ensures that the unit will be a full-time rental business for all of the two high seasons.
- 5) We are strongly supportive of requiring a LOCAL overseer/manager for each rental unit. Someone must be immediately available when issues happen.
- 6) Occupancy maximums are essential - 2 per bedroom plus 2 (infants, etc) is a good start.
- 7) Parking in Incline and Crystal Bay is a significant issues, so a requirement limiting parking to the on-site parking that is available is a good provision.
- 8) Educational materials on-site indicating trash, fire, safety, occupancy etc. limits and rules is essential. Inspections are always a good thing if they can be paid for by these businesses.
- 9) Quiet hours of 10 pm to 8 am is an appropriate provision.
- 10) Requiring a specific insurance policy to be on file, with minimum coverage limits, and with specific indication of use as a commercial property, is essential.

General Perspectives:

1) We fully support increased regulation, oversight, AND fines and penalties. However, we want to make sure that these issues are able to be managed by the County without taking away from other budgets. We will leave it to the administrative staff to advise you on what is or isn't feasible, and how much in permitting and related fees are required to manage STRs in Incline and Crystal Bay.

2) We do support increased penalties for violation, but not the one infraction in 6 months that has been suggested by some. Anyone can have one unfortunate situation, so set the limit at 2 infractions within a year to cause the severe penalty of a temporary stay on operation on the unit as an STR. As to the amount of fines, they should be large enough to be significant and to provide funding, but not so large as to put someone out of business (in which event the County may never see the funds and the property owner would just sell the property and buy another under different name or entity).

Many thanks to you for addressing this high profile issue, and for accepting our comments.

Sincerely,

Scott and Monica Hill  
1093 Tiller Dr.  
Incline Village, NV 89451

203 516-1632

**From:** [Myra Hanish](mailto:Myra.Hanish)  
**To:** [ksnellsom@washoecounty.us](mailto:ksnellsom@washoecounty.us)  
**Subject:** Short Term Rental suggested ordinance changes and/or corrections  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:22:00 PM

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Hello All,

I have read through the suggested STR Ordinance and want to give my input to some changes and/or corrections.

**1. Residential/Commercial Use:** Should be changed to read :

Any entity/person who owns or has a beneficial ownership interest in **Two or More PROPERTIES** in Washoe County shall be considered a business and must comply with all applicable business licensing regulations in addition to STR regulations.

**2. Permitting Tiers**

There should only be 2 permitting tiers. .. total maximum occupancy of 20 people or less.

**3. Occupancy**

Unit occupancy will be limited to 2 persons per bedroom, plus an additional 2 persons.

**4. Quiet Hours**

Quiet hours 10 p.m. - 8 a.m.

Thank you,

Myra Hanish

1082 Lucerne Way

Incline Village, NV 89451

**NOTICE 12.22.2020: The document below is derived from a copy of the staff report included with meeting documents for the WC BCC meeting on 8/25/2020. I have added my comments, suggestions, recommendations for edits that I believe would appropriately be applicable to the revised STR regulations being prepared currently by WC Planning. The commented sections are flagged by \*\*\* and my suggestions are in red, bold print. These comments are mine and reflect requests as an impacted Incline Village resident – they SHOULD NOT be viewed as formal changes or County-authorized modifications to the posted Washoe County documents.**

**My comments, recommendations and suggestions noted below are submitted in the context provided in the email to WC Planning (the department which is currently drafting a revised STR Ordinance) to which this document is attached.**

**Thank you, Carole Black, Incline Village Resident**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Copied Washoe County document with comments by Carole Black in red, bolded for consideration by Washoe County Planning in drafting revised documents 12/2020:**

**Washoe County Commission Meeting of August 25, 2020**

Draft code language for Chapter 110 (Development Code) has been provided with Attachment A and summarized on the following pages.

**General Standards**

\*\*\*           ▪   •Every STR must have a designated local responsible party available 24/7 through a single phone number who shall respond to complaints within 30 minutes of contact (via text/phone acceptable). If an on-site response is necessary, it should occur within the following hour. **Complaints shall be documented and reported promptly to [Washoe County designated agency].**

\*\*\*           ▪   •No **gatherings or other events** (ex. parties, weddings, etc.) are allowed that would exceed the on-site maximum occupancy associated with the STR permit **or any governmental restrictions currently in force**

▪   •Permittee must be the property owner.

▪   •Limited to one STR per parcel, with the exception that a second STR may be allowed in legal accessory dwellings; STRs must be a permanent, habitable

dwelling unit (i.e. no RVs/ boats). The per-parcel limitation is due, in part, to ensure better enforcement capability.

\*\*\*           ▪   STRs may be rented to only one group/person at a time (ex. renting out five individual rooms to five separate parties **are not ~~would not be permitted and is a key distinction from lodging services use types~~**)- **Comment: this is an artificial distinction and not correct – condo/all suite hotels only rent one unit to one group or person at a time – no different from residential condo functioning as an STR. The same is seen with any hotel suite, motel housekeeping unit, houseboat rental, etc, etc.**

\*\*\*           ▪   Advertising for an STR is prohibited unless a valid STR permit has been issued **with permit number included in the listing.**

\*\*\*           ▪   Advertisements must include the Washoe County permit number, room tax license number, maximum occupancy as allowed by the permit, number of beds (cannot exceed max. occupancy), and number of parking spaces **including size of vehicle accommodated (i.e., must fit in average sized single vehicle garage - no oversized vehicles or trucks).**

\*\*\*           ▪   Must comply with all other federal, state, and other applicable laws/statutes. ~~and~~ Issuance of a County STR permit does not relieve the property owner of compliance with applicable regulations, including CC&Rs or HOA restrictions.

                  ▪   Existing STRs are not grandfathered; they must apply for and be issued a County STR permit in order to operate.

\*\*\*           ▪   Applicable room tax must be paid to the RSCVA. **Property owner is responsible for ensuring timely payment.**

**Section 110.319.50 Restrictions During a Declared Emergency. STRs are subject to all lawful orders of the Governor of Nevada during a declared emergency and to all powers granted by law to the local governmental entities. For example, this may include but is not limited to additional operating restrictions or the requirement to cease operations until such time as the order is lifted.**

## **Permitting**

                  ▪   An STR permit will be considered similar to a privileged license in that revocation can occur without Board action for issues such as non-payment of fees and noncompliance. Any revocation would provide for appropriate and timely administrative appellate review.

- STR permits must be renewed annually. Property owners should be aware that standards are subject to change over time and that there is no guarantee a permit will be renewed.
- Three permitting tiers are proposed. These tiers are intended to recognize that below certain thresholds, and with appropriate standards in place, an STR is expected to reasonably function similarly to other residential uses. However, as occupancy increases, impacts to surrounding properties have the potential to increase. In these cases, further scrutiny may be needed to determine if the scale of the proposed STR is appropriate on the specific property and if additional mitigation can reduce impacts to a reasonable level.

Washoe County Commission Meeting of August 25, 2020 Page 8 of 14

**\*\*\* Suggested addition: Permitted occupancy is based on legal permitted building elements as recorded on the Washoe County Assessor database**

**\*\*\*o Tier 1: STRs with a maximum occupancy of 10 persons or less; standard STR permit required. (Note: 10 or fewer is a common break point for uses like group homes and within the International Building Code's "R" occupancies.) Comment: this statement is not correct – I could only find the break point of 10 used in reference to arrangements which are very different from the STR use – e.g., group homes which are better supervised, more closely managed, where occupants have longer lengths of stay and are thus more familiar with the environment and environmental restrictions/risks. The "IBC R" reference is also not correct, I believe that what is applicable to the residences where STRs operate is the International Residential Code which I do not believe has such an occupancy "break point." In order to set a threshold for "reasonably functioning as a residence," the best comparison would be actual average residential occupancy which is somewhere between 2 and 3 occupants. Allowing, some leeway, the threshold for the first tier ("like a residence") should more appropriately be set at < 4-5 occupants which is already higher than average residential occupancy. In addition, on initial permit application or renewal, neighbors should be noticed with opportunity to provide feedback regarding any operational difficulties, which feedback should be considered in decision making by the issuing agency**

**\*\*\*o Tier 2: STRs with a maximum occupancy of 11-20 persons; discretionary permit required in most regulatory zones. Comment: Adjust this to include occupancy 6-20 (reflecting Tier 1 adjustment above). Require noticing, feedback opportunity and ability of objecting neighbors to request a formal hearing. In addition, require business license for higher risk situations, e.g., with permitted occupancy 11-20 and/or**

**if unit is not owner occupied at least 30% of the year and/or if unit is not owner occupied during rental or if unit is owned by corporation/multi-unit LLCs.**

\*\*\*o Tier3:STRs with a maximum occupancy of 21 or more persons; only allowed in areas where hotels/motels allowed; with discretionary permit; requires commercial standards. **Comment: Recommend require business license and special use permit**

## Occupancy Limits

Establishing occupancy limits also has the potential to reduce some of the major impacts commonly associated with STRs. Proposed limits are based on the International Code Council's International Building Code, a well-recognized code generally addressing building safety standards in the United States and across the world. Proposed standards are as follows:

\*\*\* **Comment: There is a proposal to change to 2 occupants/bedroom which may be easier to administer – only legal, permitted bedrooms as per WC assessor database should count.**

- One occupant is allowed per 200 sq. ft. of habitable space; total occupancy is not room- specific.

- No distinction would be made between daytime and nighttime occupancy, as impacts are expected to be similar.

- No distinction would be made on occupant age.

\*\*\*

- Occupancy **shall** may be further limited by available on-site **legal, permitted** parking or if the property owner chooses to voluntarily limit the maximum number of occupants.

\*\*\* Safety and Inspections Washoe County staff has worked with both the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District to discuss fire and life safety concerns associated with STRs. As visitors to an STR are less likely to be familiar with a home than someone living in it, **important, essential basic** fire and life safety **minimums standards as specified by the applicable FPD or other applicable safety regulatory agency** are proposed to be required. **Comment: Suggest that commentary as well as actual ordinance wording should support the importance of these requirements in our high risk area.**

The following summarizes proposed safety standards:

\*\*\*           ▪   •Safety ~~standards minimums~~ include requirements for adequate smoke and carbon monoxide detectors; fire extinguishers; adequate egress; well-maintained fireplaces, electrical outlets/systems, hot tubs, deck railings, etc. Additional ~~requirements minimums~~ may be proposed **by applicable health and safety regulators as indications arise and/or for occupancies over 10** during ~~discretionary~~ permit review processes.

                  ▪   •Areas proposed for sleeping purposes have specific safety feature requirements based in existing, adopted codes.

\*\*\*           ▪   •Defensible space inspection will be required and conducted by the applicable fire agency **with required compliance with established standards.**

\*\*\*           ▪   •Basic structure safety inspection must be passed prior to issuance of an STR permit and every third year thereafter; to be conducted by Washoe County building inspectors, with the exception that items such as sprinkler or fire alarm systems (**if as** applicable) would be **regulated and** inspected by fire staff.

\*\*\* In between physical inspections every third year, self- certifications can be provided prior to permit renewal if the permit has not lapsed and there are no **documented ~~confirmed~~ STR violations, adverse safety events or reported neighbor safety concerns at the property in the previous year.** (Note: The phrase “confirmed STR violations,” or similar, throughout this staff report refers to the violation being deemed final, with appeals exhausted and the violation being found to exist.) **Comment: Recommend that this should be modified to: violations documented by local authorities and/or violations documented by citizens and deemed sufficiently concerning by local authorities to warrant permit review and possible restriction. This includes violations reported to and resolved by STR local contacts/property managers and logged them and/or by reporting citizens with designated reporting systems or agencies. Comment: This is important – for example, when prohibited, an illegal outdoor lit fire pit or charcoal grill reported to the STR local contact who then manages to get it extinguished without involving the FD is nonetheless a violation/illegal activity at the STR and should be reliably documented, reported and considered in permit review.**

## Parking

All use types within the Washoe County Development Code have an associated parking standard that identifies the number of off-street spaces required. This ratio is most frequently based on square footage of the structure and/or the maximum number of employees present at any given time. However, some uses base the ratio on additional factors. For example: destination resorts require one parking space per room; indoor entertainment uses require one space per every three seats; bed and breakfast uses

require one space per room, plus one per employee; motels require one per room; hostels require .25 per bed; and, single-family detached homes require two per dwelling unit.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the average number of residents per household in Washoe County is 2.5. In the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area, this average drops to 2.23 residents per household. These averages are reflected in the requirement for single-family homes to have a minimum of two off-street parking spaces.

When it comes to STRs, the number of occupants is generally expected to exceed Census averages for single-family dwellings – especially for STRs with multiple bedrooms. Accordingly, inadequate parking is one of the most frequently cited complaints associated with STRs – both across the nation and in the feedback heard from Washoe County residents. This is especially prevalent in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area, where on-street parking can be severely limited or nonexistent. As a result, staff is proposing that the number of parking spaces required be based on the maximum number of occupants permitted for the STR, and that an inability to provide sufficient off-street parking would in turn potentially limit the number of occupants allowed by the STR permit.

Taking all of this into consideration, and in order to reduce potential impacts to neighboring properties, the following STR parking standards are proposed:

- No STR parking is allowed in the right-of-way.

\*\*\*  
▪ One **designated** parking space is required for every four proposed occupants. **Additional designated spaces are required for any added vehicle attachments or protrusions extending outside the allocated space, e.g., a trailer, or an RV, or a large truck, van or other vehicle exceeding a single car space in size. All items attached to the vehicle must fit within the designated space or a second space must be allocated. All designated STR parking spaces must be fully available to STR occupants throughout their stay. Vehicles servicing STR units related to STR stays must also be fully accommodated within allocated STR parking spaces at all times.**

Note: The initial ratio proposed to the Board in Nov. 2019 was one space for every three occupants; however, based on Board feedback, that ratio was changed to one space for every four occupants.

\*\*\*  
▪ All parking spaces must be improved to Washoe County standards (or Tahoe Regional Planning Agency standards, if applicable) and developed on-site, within property boundaries. In multi-unit complexes, parking must be in designated parking spaces (if applicable) and limited to the number of spaces allotted to the unit.

**Comment: Recommend add > in addition, sufficient vehicle information to identify the unit/owner associated with vehicles parked by STR renters must be available to the STR local contact and Unit (HOA, etc.) property managers in order to identify and address violators/their rental site effectively.**

\*\*\* It should be noted that parking may be limited by available TRPA coverage, and that staff's recommendation is that such limitations should not result in standards being waived. However, under certain limited circumstances where flexibility may be warranted, the Director of the Planning and Building Division would have the authority to modify the location of required parking spaces based on extenuating site features or other limiting factors. This additional flexibility was also incorporated into the proposed language as a result of Board feedback. **Comment: Recommend add > While an occasional waiver might be permitted (if allowed by TRPA) for extraordinary, time-limited circumstances, all on-going STR parking must comply with all legal requirements including TRPA coverage limits.**

## Noise

Excessive noise, parties and loud music are some of the other most commonly heard complaints associated with STRs, and was a significant concern noted by County residents via the public workshops and online survey. Noise issues can also be one of the most difficult types of complaints to address. Many jurisdictions have established quiet hours for STRs. Opponents argue that if quiet hours are important, they should be established for all uses, not just STRs. (Note: Although the County does not have community-wide quiet hours, there are requirements related to disturbing the peace.) However, it can also be argued that occupancies of STRs are often higher than that of neighboring residences and that transient guests may not be as familiar with or respectful of community norms associated with noise.

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office has indicated there have been 64 calls for service related to noise in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area in the past year, with three citations issued. It is understood that there is limited staffing by the Sheriff's Office in the Incline area, and that calls for service related to noise will have a lower priority than many other service types. Although the 24/7 STR complaint hotline by Host Compliance is expected to help with noise impacts, noise is still a concern.

Establishing quiet hours specifically for STRs is recommended by staff, allowing confirmed disturbances during these timeframes to be treated as violations of STR standards. Additionally, due to the difficulty with noise enforcement, staff is providing an additional mechanism for consideration. Decibel-monitoring devices are a technology used by some property managers to ensure their guests are respectful of the community. They monitor decibel-**levels** only; there are no audio recordings. These can be used by a jurisdiction to better track STRs with repeated noise complaints. The City of

Henderson recently adopted standards requiring these devices to be used as part of an STR's overall noise management plan. Staff recommends they be required for STRs with two confirmed noise violations.

- \*\*\*
  - Quiet hours 10 p.m. – 8 a.m.
  - After a second confirmed noise violation, an STR must be equipped with decibel- monitoring devices with reporting capability and records available for County review.

\*\*\* - **Recommend add: Confirmed means documented by recording or observed by more than one adjacent independent adult observer or a government official. Reports to the STR local contact and remedied by them must also be reported by the local contact to the designated County documentation site and are considered confirmed.**

## Trash

In mid-2017, Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID) established a zero-tolerance policy related to proper trash disposal in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area. IVGID staff patrols the community to ensure standards are being followed and educate or cite where necessary. IVGID has indicated that since the program started, trash violations dropped significantly. With that in mind, the following trash standards for STRs are proposed:

- \*\*\*
  - Trash must be managed as required by the Health District, Waste Management and IVGID (if applicable), including times when carts may be placed street-side. Cart size must be sufficient to store waste for the maximum number of occupants each week. **Comment: Other jurisdictions have specific container requirements linked to number of occupants which should be added**
  - STRs in IVGID service territory and other bear-prone areas must use wildlife-resistant carts and/or bear sheds, except in multi-family developments where HOAs require and enforce regular trash disposal.
  - Trash violations confirmed by IVGID or the Health District count as a violation against the STR and may incur both IVGID penalties and Washoe County STR permit penalties.

\*\*\* - **Recommend add: All trash must be disposed of timely (with weekly pick-ups) and within containers at the property or transported to the local disposal facility. No household trash is to be transported to or discarded on neighboring properties, in receptacles at public venues or commercial properties.**

## Other Standards

Several workshop and survey participants voiced concerns that most standard homeowner policies do not cover STR use. It is common for other jurisdictions to require STR-specific liability insurance, and the following additional standards are recommended:

**\*\*\***           ▪   •Certificate of insurance is required identifying that the property is used as an STR and provides \$500,000 minimum liability coverage per occurrence.

**Question: Is this current standard or has it increased?**

                  ▪   •Educational material provided in unit must contain: community evacuation routes; fire safety info (ex. BBQ operation, proper ash disposal, community fire danger, etc.); bear awareness brochure (if applicable); noise, trash & parking standards, occupancy limits, etc.

**\*\*\* Recommend add:**

**- Information regarding emergency notifications, power outages, NV Energy PSOM events, emergency services access will also be provided as well as advance notification of anticipated adverse restrictions, environmental events and /or critical supply shortages.**

**- Unit must be cleaned, sanitized and stocked with cleaning, sanitizing and other materials/supplies to ensure renters are aware of and can comply with any/all current regulatory requirements.**

**- In addition a stock of emergency supplies per NLTFPD will be provided**  
**- No food or beverages may be provided (except required emergency supplies) if food service is not allowed under zoning or permitting parameters or any current government agency regulations or orders. If allowed, all regulatory recommendations and requirements must be followed.**

**\*\*\* Recommend consider adding requirements for priority restrictions and/or environmental/safety notices to be included in booking information and rental contracts**

## Enforcement and Revocation

A three-pronged approach to enforcement is proposed:

**\*\*\***           ▪   •Permitting: Proactively identify unpermitted STRs and pursue permitting compliance; cite, fine and, if necessary, lien non-compliant property owners

who continue to operate an STR without the appropriate permit in place. It should be noted that this approach is a departure from current complaint-based code enforcement practices; however, it is considered a necessary component of a successful STR program. **Comment: Recommend add > Neighbor noticing and feedback opportunity/impact are important components of an effective permitting program.**

\*\*\*           ▪   •Inspections: Required upon initial permit application and then every third year (with self- certifications in intermediate years). **All Safety requirements minimums** must be in place in order to obtain an STR permit and operate.

\*\*\*           ▪   •Operational: Confirmed violations will result in fines and potential penalties such as permit revocation. The 24/7 complaint hotline (via Host Compliance) will log citizen- initiated complaints, ~~and~~ contact the STR's local responsible party for resolution, **follow-up timely to ensure prompt resolution, notify authorities if not resolved and notify property owner and county of incident with a full report. All documented events, even if promptly resolved by local contact and/or host compliance, must be reported to the County designee and will be considered confirmed. Comment: additions are needed as explained above in previous related items.**

Three confirmed and separate STR violations in any 12-month period will result in permit revocation and a 12-month cooling off period within which the property is ineligible to obtain an STR permit. No Board action will be required for this type of revocation, unless on appeal. Any of these individual STR violations could be appealed to the County's Administrative Hearing Office, whose decision may subsequently be appealed to a County board (with that decision appealable to the Second Judicial Court).

In the interest of reducing total time to compliance, staff proposes: reducing the appeal period to 14 days (from 30 days) after an STR notice of violation is served; and adjusting the process to appeal an Administrative Hearing decision. Currently, such appeals are heard by the Board of Adjustment (BOA). Staff recommends that appeals of STR-related Administrative Hearing Orders instead be heard by the Board of County Commissioners. Since the BOA has no direct knowledge of or expertise with STR standards (the Planning Commission reviewed the ordinance), and because BOA meetings are only held ten times annually, staff believes the County Commission is better positioned to be the board to hear such appeals in a timely and effective manner. This procedural distinction was not included with the original text provided to the Planning Commission for review; which is why it is called out here.

Attachments B and C reflect additional code changes proposed for Chapters 125 (Administrative Enforcement Code) and 50 (Public Peace, Safety and Morals). The changes in these two chapters focus on enforcement provisions related to STRs,

including but not limited to inspections, evidence of operation, evidence of violations, appeals and associated timeframes, stop activity orders, warnings, penalties, and penalty notices.

## **Other Items for Consideration**

There are several other items the Board may wish to be aware of while considering this topic. Permit Fees Proposed permit fees will be detailed in a separate fee and fine staff report for action by the Board concurrent with the second reading and adoption scheduled for Sept. 22, 2020. In summary, a cost-neutral fee structure is proposed to ensure, to the extent possible, that implementation and enforcement of the STR program is paid for by those who own and operate STRs, not general taxpayer dollars. Thus, the fee structure is designed to incorporate costs such as: safety and fire inspections; permit processing and review; Host Compliance software and services; enforcement of non-permitted STRs and violations of STR standards, etc. Additionally, per requests by the Board, the proposed fee structure will include a discount on the STR permit fee for STRs that use a licensed property manager as the designated local responsible party. It is expected that this fee structure will be reassessed after the first 12-18 months of operation in order to ensure costs are appropriately covered, and to propose adjustments at that time, if necessary. Note: NRS 278.020 provides a governing body general power to regulate land use for purposes of health, safety, morals, and welfare of the community. Included within this authority is the imposition of fees for services to support that regulation, and fines to support its enforcement (NRS 237.060).

## **Fines**

Proposed fines will be detailed in a separate fee and fine staff report for action by the Board concurrent with the second reading and adoption scheduled for Sept. 22, 2020. In summary, research related to STRs has made it clear that fines and penalties must be significant enough to deter violations; otherwise, it may just be considered the cost of doing business for an operator. Washoe County's current code enforcement approach for land use violations is focused more on achieving compliance, rather than penalizing the property owner. Therefore, current fines for Development Code violations are set relatively low and are considered insufficient to deter STR violations. As a result, staff is proposing a new and separate higher fine structure, with unpaid fines becoming liens against the property. Funds from paid fines would be used to offset impacts to the Administrative Hearing Office.

## **Staffing Needs**

One additional code enforcement officer is needed to assist with implementation and enforcement of the program, with the position included in the FY21 budget. Building safety inspections will be conducted by existing Washoe County Building Inspectors. Fire inspectors from the applicable fire district will inspect defensible space and, if applicable, smoke alarm and/or sprinkler systems. The cost of such inspections will be paid for by the STR applicant. Host Compliance's services will be used for matching advertisements to real addresses, the 24/7 complaint hotline and establishment of the mobile registration platform. STR permit fees are expected to cover all of these costs.

## Effective Dates

**\*\*\* Comment: Timing to be adjusted.** Staff recommends at least a four-month grace period between adoption of the ordinance and its first effective date. If the Board adopts the ordinance on Sept. 22, 2020, the recommended effective date for allowing application submittals is Jan. 15, 2021. The recommended effective date for enforcement is April 15, 2021. This grace period is expected to provide time to set up the associated internal processes and technology needs, advertise the new standards to the public, and begin processing and issuing STR permits. As noted previously, an additional code enforcement officer position is budgeted for FY21 to support the STR efforts, and the hire date is estimated to be in early 2021.

## Room Tax

The Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA) requires hosts of STRs to obtain a transient lodging tax (aka room tax) license. The RSCVA assesses a 13% room tax on STRs in Washoe County. That room tax is paid to the RSCVA, which keeps a portion and then distributes the remainder to various state, regional and local agencies. Per State law and various government ordinances, Washoe County receives 1/13th of the room tax paid in unincorporated County areas. Based on a 5-year average, RSCVA receives approximately \$1.6M annually for room taxes associated with STRs in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area. Washoe County receives 1/13th of that amount, which is approximately \$125,000 annually. The amount the County receives from STRs outside of the Incline area is negligible. Room tax distributed to Washoe County currently goes into the General Fund. As part of this project, staff will investigate opportunities to reduce potential overlap in the permitting processes between the two organizations.

**\*\*\*Comment: This is an aside, not directly related to the STR Ordinance/Regulations. Suggest that re-evaluation of fund allocations might make sense at some relatively soon time-frame. That the tax funds accumulated from rentals in the unincorporated county areas are apparently primarily being used to support retirement of RSCVA debt related to operations in Reno/Sparks and/or other agencies which may or may not be**

**servicing the best interests of the local residents has raised some question. Within the legislatively approved allocations, perhaps designated recipients could be convinced to re-direct some funding to items of benefit to the broader community?**

### **Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA)**

**\*\*\*** TRPA recently established a list of regulatory options for jurisdictions to apply to STRs within the Tahoe Basin in order to meet TRPA goals and policies. These will be considered a third criterion in TRPA's scoring system for awarding residential allocations to jurisdictions around Lake Tahoe. The focus is largely on locational, operational and enforcement parameters. Washoe County has been actively involved in these conversations with TRPA. The proposed ordinances are expected to meet many of TRPA's parameters. **Comment: But many items viewed as critical for maintaining neighborhood Compatibility, a TRPA goal, are not included in the prior STR regulation proposals. Priorities have been listed here, in many prior communications and in the supplemental STR requirement list submitted by Commissioner Berkgigler and should be added to the proposed regulation.**

**\*\*\* Demographics Comment: Data listed below needs updating and expansion to include: impacts of rampant STR growth on WC Tahoe Area occupancy; definition of what census classification of "vacant" means; significant adverse impacts on parking/traffic of the ELTT and STR growth.**

With the highest concentration of STRs located in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay portion of Washoe County, there has been some interest in the demographics of that area. The following information was pulled from 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for zip code 89451, which represents most, but not all of the area. This information is provided to paint a general picture only. There are approximately 7,800 dwelling units, with approximately 52% comprised of single-family detached homes. The area is characterized by a large contingent of second homes, and just under 53% of the dwelling units are classified by the U.S. Census Bureau as vacant. Slightly more than 34% of the homes are owner-occupied. 75% of the homes were built prior to 1990. The average household size of owner-occupied homes is 2.08. The average household size of long-term renter-occupied homes is 3.02. Approximately 74% of residents moved into their home in the year 2000 or later. Just under 93% of the homes have four bedrooms or fewer.

### **Standards for Incline Village/Crystal Bay vs. Rest of Washoe County**

It is important to note that many residents in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area requested that STR standards within the Tahoe Basin be different than those in the rest of Washoe County. The majority of STRs in the County are located in Incline

Village/Crystal Bay and therefore most recommendations were drafted with that area primarily in mind. Regional adjustments are included in the proposed code language for items such as wildlife-resistant carts in bear-prone areas, variations in defensible space requirements/inspections, TRPA parking standards, and regulatory zone differences within the new Tahoe Area Plan (expected to be adopted once in-person public hearings are feasible to resume).

**\*\*\* Comment: The significant adverse impacts of ever-increasing STR density have been disproportionately experienced in Incline Village/Crystal Bay in addition to adverse environmental impacts on the precious Lake Tahoe area. WC Tahoe area is regionally regulated by TRPA, not the Truckee Meadows Regional Authority. Thus standards and requirements need to be tailored for this environment including density and intensity restrictions which may not be applicable in other parts of Washoe County. It is my understanding that previous legal advice has been corrected allowing for separate requirements in the area within TRPA jurisdiction and I believe that this updated advice should be followed.**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Costs to administer and enforce STR standards and permitting have been calculated and proposed STR permit fees and fines have been designed to cover these costs. This cost-neutral fee structure is intended to ensure, to the extent possible, that implementation and enforcement of the STR program is paid for by those who own and operate STRs, not general taxpayer dollars. Specific details regarding fees and fines will be provided in a separate staff report for action by the Board concurrent with the second reading and adoption scheduled for September 22, 2020.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**\*\*\* Dates need to be adjusted here and below.** It is recommended that the Board introduce and conduct a first reading of the ordinances provided as Attachments A, B and C and set the public hearing for second reading and possible adoption for September 22, 2020.

#### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to introduce and conduct a first reading of ordinances amending Washoe County Code Chapters 110, 50 and 125 as described within the subject of the staff report for this item. Also introduce Bill Numbers (insert bill numbers as provided by the County Clerk) and set the public hearing for second reading and possible adoption of the ordinances for September 22, 2020.

**NOTICE 12.22.2020: The document below is derived from a copy of the staff report included with meeting documents for the WC BCC meeting on 8/25/2020. I have added my comments, suggestions, recommendations for edits that I believe would appropriately be applicable to the revised STR regulations being prepared currently by WC Planning. The commented sections are flagged by \*\*\* and my suggestions are in red, bold print. These comments are mine and reflect requests as an impacted Incline Village resident – they SHOULD NOT be viewed as formal changes or County-authorized modifications to the posted Washoe County documents.**

**My comments, recommendations and suggestions noted below are submitted in the context provided in the email to WC Planning (the department which is currently drafting a revised STR Ordinance) to which this document is attached.**

**Thank you, Carole Black, Incline Village Resident**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Copied Washoe County document with comments by Carole Black in red, bolded for consideration by Washoe County Planning in drafting revised documents 12/2020:**

**Washoe County Commission Meeting of August 25, 2020**

Draft code language for Chapter 110 (Development Code) has been provided with Attachment A and summarized on the following pages.

**General Standards**

**\*\*\***           ▪   •Every STR must have a designated local responsible party available 24/7 through a single phone number who shall respond to complaints within 30 minutes of contact (via text/phone acceptable). If an on-site response is necessary, it should occur within the following hour. **Complaints shall be documented and reported promptly to [Washoe County designated agency].**

**\*\*\***           ▪   •No **gatherings or other events** (ex. parties, weddings, etc.) are allowed that would exceed the on-site maximum occupancy associated with the STR permit **or any governmental restrictions currently in force**

▪   •Permittee must be the property owner.

▪   •Limited to one STR per parcel, with the exception that a second STR may be allowed in legal accessory dwellings; STRs must be a permanent, habitable

dwelling unit (i.e. no RVs/ boats). The per-parcel limitation is due, in part, to ensure better enforcement capability.

\*\*\*           ▪   •STRs may be rented to only one group/person at a time (ex. renting out five individual rooms to five separate parties **are not would-not-be permitted and-is-a-key-distinction-from-lodging-services-use-types**)- **Comment: this is an artificial distinction and not correct – condo/all suite hotels only rent one unit to one group or person at a time – no different from residential condo functioning as an STR. The same is seen with any hotel suite, motel housekeeping unit, houseboat rental, etc, etc.**

\*\*\*           ▪   •Advertising for an STR is prohibited unless a valid STR permit has been issued **with permit number included in the listing.**

\*\*\*           ▪   •Advertisements must include the Washoe County permit number, room tax license number, maximum occupancy as allowed by the permit, number of beds (cannot exceed max. occupancy), and number of parking spaces **including size of vehicle accommodated (i.e., must fit in average sized single vehicle garage - no oversized vehicles or trucks).**

\*\*\*           ▪   •Must comply with all other federal, state, and other applicable laws/statutes. ~~and~~ Issuance of a County STR permit does not relieve the property owner of compliance with applicable regulations, including CC&Rs or HOA restrictions.

                  ▪   •Existing STRs are not grandfathered; they must apply for and be issued a County STR permit in order to operate.

\*\*\*           ▪   •Applicable room tax must be paid to the RSCVA. **Property owner is responsible for ensuring timely payment.**

**Section 110.319.50 Restrictions During a Declared Emergency. STRs are subject to all lawful orders of the Governor of Nevada during a declared emergency and to all powers granted by law to the local governmental entities. For example, this may include but is not limited to additional operating restrictions or the requirement to cease operations until such time as the order is lifted.**

## **Permitting**

                  ▪   •An STR permit will be considered similar to a privileged license in that revocation can occur without Board action for issues such as non-payment of fees and noncompliance. Any revocation would provide for appropriate and timely administrative appellate review.

- STR permits must be renewed annually. Property owners should be aware that standards are subject to change over time and that there is no guarantee a permit will be renewed.
- Three permitting tiers are proposed. These tiers are intended to recognize that below certain thresholds, and with appropriate standards in place, an STR is expected to reasonably function similarly to other residential uses. However, as occupancy increases, impacts to surrounding properties have the potential to increase. In these cases, further scrutiny may be needed to determine if the scale of the proposed STR is appropriate on the specific property and if additional mitigation can reduce impacts to a reasonable level.

Washoe County Commission Meeting of August 25, 2020 Page 8 of 14

**\*\*\* Suggested addition: Permitted occupancy is based on legal permitted building elements as recorded on the Washoe County Assessor database**

**\*\*\*o Tier 1: STRs with a maximum occupancy of 10 persons or less; standard STR permit required. (Note: 10 or fewer is a common break point for uses like group homes and within the International Building Code's "R" occupancies.) Comment: this statement is not correct – I could only find the break point of 10 used in reference to arrangements which are very different from the STR use – e.g., group homes which are better supervised, more closely managed, where occupants have longer lengths of stay and are thus more familiar with the environment and environmental restrictions/risks. The "IBC R" reference is also not correct, I believe that what is applicable to the residences where STRs operate is the International Residential Code which I do not believe has such an occupancy "break point." In order to set a threshold for "reasonably functioning as a residence," the best comparison would be actual average residential occupancy which is somewhere between 2 and 3 occupants. Allowing, some leeway, the threshold for the first tier ("like a residence") should more appropriately be set at < 4-5 occupants which is already higher than average residential occupancy. In addition, on initial permit application or renewal, neighbors should be noticed with opportunity to provide feedback regarding any operational difficulties, which feedback should be considered in decision making by the issuing agency**

**\*\*\*o Tier 2: STRs with a maximum occupancy of 11-20 persons; discretionary permit required in most regulatory zones. Comment: Adjust this to include occupancy 6-20 (reflecting Tier 1 adjustment above). Require noticing, feedback opportunity and ability of objecting neighbors to request a formal hearing. In addition, require business license for higher risk situations, e.g., with permitted occupancy 11-20 and/or**

**if unit is not owner occupied at least 30% of the year and/or if unit is not owner occupied during rental or if unit is owned by corporation/multi-unit LLCs.**

\*\*\*o Tier3:STRs with a maximum occupancy of 21 or more persons; only allowed in areas where hotels/motels allowed; with discretionary permit; requires commercial standards. **Comment: Recommend require business license and special use permit**

## Occupancy Limits

Establishing occupancy limits also has the potential to reduce some of the major impacts commonly associated with STRs. Proposed limits are based on the International Code Council's International Building Code, a well-recognized code generally addressing building safety standards in the United States and across the world. Proposed standards are as follows:

\*\*\* **Comment: There is a proposal to change to 2 occupants/bedroom which may be easier to administer – only legal, permitted bedrooms as per WC assessor database should count.**

- •One occupant is allowed per 200 sq. ft. of habitable space; total occupancy is not room- specific.

- •No distinction would be made between daytime and nighttime occupancy, as impacts are expected to be similar.

- •No distinction would be made on occupant age.

\*\*\*

- •Occupancy **shall** may be further limited by available on-site **legal, permitted** parking or if the property owner chooses to voluntarily limit the maximum number of occupants.

\*\*\* Safety and Inspections Washoe County staff has worked with both the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District to discuss fire and life safety concerns associated with STRs. As visitors to an STR are less likely to be familiar with a home than someone living in it, **important, essential basic** fire and life safety **minimums standards as specified by the applicable FPD or other applicable safety regulatory agency** are proposed to be required. **Comment: Suggest that commentary as well as actual ordinance wording should support the importance of these requirements in our high risk area.**

The following summarizes proposed safety standards:

\*\*\*           ▪   •Safety ~~standards minimums~~ include requirements for adequate smoke and carbon monoxide detectors; fire extinguishers; adequate egress; well-maintained fireplaces, electrical outlets/systems, hot tubs, deck railings, etc. Additional ~~requirements minimums~~ may be proposed **by applicable health and safety regulators as indications arise and/or for occupancies over 10** during ~~discretionary~~ permit review processes.

                  ▪   •Areas proposed for sleeping purposes have specific safety feature requirements based in existing, adopted codes.

\*\*\*           ▪   •Defensible space inspection will be required and conducted by the applicable fire agency **with required compliance with established standards.**

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Taking all of this into consideration, and in order to reduce potential impacts to neighboring properties, the following STR parking standards are proposed:

- No STR parking is allowed in the right-of-way.

\*\*\*  
▪ One **designated** parking space is required for every four proposed occupants. **Additional designated spaces are required for any added vehicle attachments or protrusions extending outside the allocated space, e.g., a trailer, or an RV, or a large truck, van or other vehicle exceeding a single car space in size. All items attached to the vehicle must fit within the designated space or a second space must be allocated. All designated STR parking spaces must be fully available to STR occupants throughout their stay. Vehicles servicing STR units related to STR stays must also be fully accommodated within allocated STR parking spaces at all times.**

Note: The initial ratio proposed to the Board in Nov. 2019 was one space for every three occupants; however, based on Board feedback, that ratio was changed to one space for every four occupants.

\*\*\*  
▪ All parking spaces must be improved to Washoe County standards (or Tahoe Regional Planning Agency standards, if applicable) and developed on-site, within property boundaries. In multi-unit complexes, parking must be in designated parking spaces (if applicable) and limited to the number of spaces allotted to the unit.

**Comment: Recommend add > in addition, sufficient vehicle information to identify the unit/owner associated with vehicles parked by STR renters must be available to the STR local contact and Unit (HOA, etc.) property managers in order to identify and address violators/their rental site effectively.**

\*\*\* It should be noted that parking may be limited by available TRPA coverage, and that staff's recommendation is that such limitations should not result in standards being waived. However, under certain limited circumstances where flexibility may be warranted, the Director of the Planning and Building Division would have the authority to modify the location of required parking spaces based on extenuating site features or other limiting factors. This additional flexibility was also incorporated into the proposed language as a result of Board feedback. **Comment: Recommend add > While an occasional waiver might be permitted (if allowed by TRPA) for extraordinary, time-limited circumstances, all on-going STR parking must comply with all legal requirements including TRPA coverage limits.**

## Noise

Excessive noise, parties and loud music are some of the other most commonly heard complaints associated with STRs, and was a significant concern noted by County residents via the public workshops and online survey. Noise issues can also be one of the most difficult types of complaints to address. Many jurisdictions have established quiet hours for STRs. Opponents argue that if quiet hours are important, they should be established for all uses, not just STRs. (Note: Although the County does not have community-wide quiet hours, there are requirements related to disturbing the peace.) However, it can also be argued that occupancies of STRs are often higher than that of neighboring residences and that transient guests may not be as familiar with or respectful of community norms associated with noise.

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office has indicated there have been 64 calls for service related to noise in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area in the past year, with three citations issued. It is understood that there is limited staffing by the Sheriff's Office in the Incline area, and that calls for service related to noise will have a lower priority than many other service types. Although the 24/7 STR complaint hotline by Host Compliance is expected to help with noise impacts, noise is still a concern.

Establishing quiet hours specifically for STRs is recommended by staff, allowing confirmed disturbances during these timeframes to be treated as violations of STR standards. Additionally, due to the difficulty with noise enforcement, staff is providing an additional mechanism for consideration. Decibel-monitoring devices are a technology used by some property managers to ensure their guests are respectful of the community. They monitor decibel-**levels** only; there are no audio recordings. These can be used by a jurisdiction to better track STRs with repeated noise complaints. The City of

Henderson recently adopted standards requiring these devices to be used as part of an STR's overall noise management plan. Staff recommends they be required for STRs with two confirmed noise violations.

- \*\*\*
  - Quiet hours 10 p.m. – 8 a.m.
  - After a second confirmed noise violation, an STR must be equipped with decibel- monitoring devices with reporting capability and records available for County review.

\*\*\* - **Recommend add: Confirmed means documented by recording or observed by more than one adjacent independent adult observer or a government official. Reports to the STR local contact and remedied by them must also be reported by the local contact to the designated County documentation site and are considered confirmed.**

## Trash

In mid-2017, Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID) established a zero-tolerance policy related to proper trash disposal in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area. IVGID staff patrols the community to ensure standards are being followed and educate or cite where necessary. IVGID has indicated that since the program started, trash violations dropped significantly. With that in mind, the following trash standards for STRs are proposed:

- \*\*\*
  - Trash must be managed as required by the Health District, Waste Management and IVGID (if applicable), including times when carts may be placed street-side. Cart size must be sufficient to store waste for the maximum number of occupants each week. **Comment: Other jurisdictions have specific container requirements linked to number of occupants which should be added**
  - STRs in IVGID service territory and other bear-prone areas must use wildlife-resistant carts and/or bear sheds, except in multi-family developments where HOAs require and enforce regular trash disposal.
  - Trash violations confirmed by IVGID or the Health District count as a violation against the STR and may incur both IVGID penalties and Washoe County STR permit penalties.

\*\*\* - **Recommend add: All trash must be disposed of timely (with weekly pick-ups) and within containers at the property or transported to the local disposal facility. No household trash is to be transported to or discarded on neighboring properties, in receptacles at public venues or commercial properties.**

## Other Standards

Several workshop and survey participants voiced concerns that most standard homeowner policies do not cover STR use. It is common for other jurisdictions to require STR-specific liability insurance, and the following additional standards are recommended:

**\*\*\***           ▪   •Certificate of insurance is required identifying that the property is used as an STR and provides \$500,000 minimum liability coverage per occurrence.

**Question: Is this current standard or has it increased?**

                  ▪   •Educational material provided in unit must contain: community evacuation routes; fire safety info (ex. BBQ operation, proper ash disposal, community fire danger, etc.); bear awareness brochure (if applicable); noise, trash & parking standards, occupancy limits, etc.

**\*\*\* Recommend add:**

**- Information regarding emergency notifications, power outages, NV Energy PSOM events, emergency services access will also be provided as well as advance notification of anticipated adverse restrictions, environmental events and /or critical supply shortages.**

**- Unit must be cleaned, sanitized and stocked with cleaning, sanitizing and other materials/supplies to ensure renters are aware of and can comply with any/all current regulatory requirements.**

**- In addition a stock of emergency supplies per NLTFPD will be provided**  
**- No food or beverages may be provided (except required emergency supplies) if food service is not allowed under zoning or permitting parameters or any current government agency regulations or orders. If allowed, all regulatory recommendations and requirements must be followed.**

**\*\*\* Recommend consider adding requirements for priority restrictions and/or environmental/safety notices to be included in booking information and rental contracts**

## Enforcement and Revocation

A three-pronged approach to enforcement is proposed:

**\*\*\***           ▪   •Permitting: Proactively identify unpermitted STRs and pursue permitting compliance; cite, fine and, if necessary, lien non-compliant property owners

who continue to operate an STR without the appropriate permit in place. It should be noted that this approach is a departure from current complaint-based code enforcement practices; however, it is considered a necessary component of a successful STR program. **Comment: Recommend add > Neighbor noticing and feedback opportunity/impact are important components of an effective permitting program.**

\*\*\*           ▪   •Inspections: Required upon initial permit application and then every third year (with self- certifications in intermediate years). **All Safety requirements minimums** must be in place in order to obtain an STR permit and operate.

\*\*\*           ▪   •Operational: Confirmed violations will result in fines and potential penalties such as permit revocation. The 24/7 complaint hotline (via Host Compliance) will log citizen- initiated complaints, **and** contact the STR's local responsible party for resolution, **follow-up timely to ensure prompt resolution, notify authorities if not resolved and notify property owner and county of incident with a full report. All documented events, even if promptly resolved by local contact and/or host compliance, must be reported to the County designee and will be considered confirmed. Comment: additions are needed as explained above in previous related items.**

Three confirmed and separate STR violations in any 12-month period will result in permit revocation and a 12-month cooling off period within which the property is ineligible to obtain an STR permit. No Board action will be required for this type of revocation, unless on appeal. Any of these individual STR violations could be appealed to the County's Administrative Hearing Office, whose decision may subsequently be appealed to a County board (with that decision appealable to the Second Judicial Court).

In the interest of reducing total time to compliance, staff proposes: reducing the appeal period to 14 days (from 30 days) after an STR notice of violation is served; and adjusting the process to appeal an Administrative Hearing decision. Currently, such appeals are heard by the Board of Adjustment (BOA). Staff recommends that appeals of STR-related Administrative Hearing Orders instead be heard by the Board of County Commissioners. Since the BOA has no direct knowledge of or expertise with STR standards (the Planning Commission reviewed the ordinance), and because BOA meetings are only held ten times annually, staff believes the County Commission is better positioned to be the board to hear such appeals in a timely and effective manner. This procedural distinction was not included with the original text provided to the Planning Commission for review; which is why it is called out here.

Attachments B and C reflect additional code changes proposed for Chapters 125 (Administrative Enforcement Code) and 50 (Public Peace, Safety and Morals). The changes in these two chapters focus on enforcement provisions related to STRs,

including but not limited to inspections, evidence of operation, evidence of violations, appeals and associated timeframes, stop activity orders, warnings, penalties, and penalty notices.

## **Other Items for Consideration**

There are several other items the Board may wish to be aware of while considering this topic. Permit Fees Proposed permit fees will be detailed in a separate fee and fine staff report for action by the Board concurrent with the second reading and adoption scheduled for Sept. 22, 2020. In summary, a cost-neutral fee structure is proposed to ensure, to the extent possible, that implementation and enforcement of the STR program is paid for by those who own and operate STRs, not general taxpayer dollars. Thus, the fee structure is designed to incorporate costs such as: safety and fire inspections; permit processing and review; Host Compliance software and services; enforcement of non-permitted STRs and violations of STR standards, etc. Additionally, per requests by the Board, the proposed fee structure will include a discount on the STR permit fee for STRs that use a licensed property manager as the designated local responsible party. It is expected that this fee structure will be reassessed after the first 12-18 months of operation in order to ensure costs are appropriately covered, and to propose adjustments at that time, if necessary. Note: NRS 278.020 provides a governing body general power to regulate land use for purposes of health, safety, morals, and welfare of the community. Included within this authority is the imposition of fees for services to support that regulation, and fines to support its enforcement (NRS 237.060).

## **Fines**

Proposed fines will be detailed in a separate fee and fine staff report for action by the Board concurrent with the second reading and adoption scheduled for Sept. 22, 2020. In summary, research related to STRs has made it clear that fines and penalties must be significant enough to deter violations; otherwise, it may just be considered the cost of doing business for an operator. Washoe County's current code enforcement approach for land use violations is focused more on achieving compliance, rather than penalizing the property owner. Therefore, current fines for Development Code violations are set relatively low and are considered insufficient to deter STR violations. As a result, staff is proposing a new and separate higher fine structure, with unpaid fines becoming liens against the property. Funds from paid fines would be used to offset impacts to the Administrative Hearing Office.

## **Staffing Needs**

One additional code enforcement officer is needed to assist with implementation and enforcement of the program, with the position included in the FY21 budget. Building safety inspections will be conducted by existing Washoe County Building Inspectors. Fire inspectors from the applicable fire district will inspect defensible space and, if applicable, smoke alarm and/or sprinkler systems. The cost of such inspections will be paid for by the STR applicant. Host Compliance's services will be used for matching advertisements to real addresses, the 24/7 complaint hotline and establishment of the mobile registration platform. STR permit fees are expected to cover all of these costs.

## Effective Dates

**\*\*\* Comment: Timing to be adjusted.** Staff recommends at least a four-month grace period between adoption of the ordinance and its first effective date. If the Board adopts the ordinance on Sept. 22, 2020, the recommended effective date for allowing application submittals is Jan. 15, 2021. The recommended effective date for enforcement is April 15, 2021. This grace period is expected to provide time to set up the associated internal processes and technology needs, advertise the new standards to the public, and begin processing and issuing STR permits. As noted previously, an additional code enforcement officer position is budgeted for FY21 to support the STR efforts, and the hire date is estimated to be in early 2021.

## Room Tax

The Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (RSCVA) requires hosts of STRs to obtain a transient lodging tax (aka room tax) license. The RSCVA assesses a 13% room tax on STRs in Washoe County. That room tax is paid to the RSCVA, which keeps a portion and then distributes the remainder to various state, regional and local agencies. Per State law and various government ordinances, Washoe County receives 1/13th of the room tax paid in unincorporated County areas. Based on a 5-year average, RSCVA receives approximately \$1.6M annually for room taxes associated with STRs in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area. Washoe County receives 1/13th of that amount, which is approximately \$125,000 annually. The amount the County receives from STRs outside of the Incline area is negligible. Room tax distributed to Washoe County currently goes into the General Fund. As part of this project, staff will investigate opportunities to reduce potential overlap in the permitting processes between the two organizations.

**\*\*\*Comment: This is an aside, not directly related to the STR Ordinance/Regulations. Suggest that re-evaluation of fund allocations might make sense at some relatively soon time-frame. That the tax funds accumulated from rentals in the unincorporated county areas are apparently primarily being used to support retirement of RSCVA debt related to operations in Reno/Sparks and/or other agencies which may or may not be**

**servicing the best interests of the local residents has raised some question. Within the legislatively approved allocations, perhaps designated recipients could be convinced to re-direct some funding to items of benefit to the broader community?**

### **Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA)**

**\*\*\*** TRPA recently established a list of regulatory options for jurisdictions to apply to STRs within the Tahoe Basin in order to meet TRPA goals and policies. These will be considered a third criterion in TRPA's scoring system for awarding residential allocations to jurisdictions around Lake Tahoe. The focus is largely on locational, operational and enforcement parameters. Washoe County has been actively involved in these conversations with TRPA. The proposed ordinances are expected to meet many of TRPA's parameters. **Comment: But many items viewed as critical for maintaining neighborhood Compatibility, a TRPA goal, are not included in the prior STR regulation proposals. Priorities have been listed here, in many prior communications and in the supplemental STR requirement list submitted by Commissioner Berkgigler and should be added to the proposed regulation.**

**\*\*\* Demographics Comment: Data listed below needs updating and expansion to include: impacts of rampant STR growth on WC Tahoe Area occupancy; definition of what census classification of "vacant" means; significant adverse impacts on parking/traffic of the ELTT and STR growth.**

With the highest concentration of STRs located in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay portion of Washoe County, there has been some interest in the demographics of that area. The following information was pulled from 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for zip code 89451, which represents most, but not all of the area. This information is provided to paint a general picture only. There are approximately 7,800 dwelling units, with approximately 52% comprised of single-family detached homes. The area is characterized by a large contingent of second homes, and just under 53% of the dwelling units are classified by the U.S. Census Bureau as vacant. Slightly more than 34% of the homes are owner-occupied. 75% of the homes were built prior to 1990. The average household size of owner-occupied homes is 2.08. The average household size of long-term renter-occupied homes is 3.02. Approximately 74% of residents moved into their home in the year 2000 or later. Just under 93% of the homes have four bedrooms or fewer.

### **Standards for Incline Village/Crystal Bay vs. Rest of Washoe County**

It is important to note that many residents in the Incline Village/Crystal Bay area requested that STR standards within the Tahoe Basin be different than those in the rest of Washoe County. The majority of STRs in the County are located in Incline

Village/Crystal Bay and therefore most recommendations were drafted with that area primarily in mind. Regional adjustments are included in the proposed code language for items such as wildlife-resistant carts in bear-prone areas, variations in defensible space requirements/inspections, TRPA parking standards, and regulatory zone differences within the new Tahoe Area Plan (expected to be adopted once in-person public hearings are feasible to resume).

**\*\*\* Comment: The significant adverse impacts of ever-increasing STR density have been disproportionately experienced in Incline Village/Crystal Bay in addition to adverse environmental impacts on the precious Lake Tahoe area. WC Tahoe area is regionally regulated by TRPA, not the Truckee Meadows Regional Authority. Thus standards and requirements need to be tailored for this environment including density and intensity restrictions which may not be applicable in other parts of Washoe County. It is my understanding that previous legal advice has been corrected allowing for separate requirements in the area within TRPA jurisdiction and I believe that this updated advice should be followed.**

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Costs to administer and enforce STR standards and permitting have been calculated and proposed STR permit fees and fines have been designed to cover these costs. This cost-neutral fee structure is intended to ensure, to the extent possible, that implementation and enforcement of the STR program is paid for by those who own and operate STRs, not general taxpayer dollars. Specific details regarding fees and fines will be provided in a separate staff report for action by the Board concurrent with the second reading and adoption scheduled for September 22, 2020.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**\*\*\* Dates need to be adjusted here and below.** It is recommended that the Board introduce and conduct a first reading of the ordinances provided as Attachments A, B and C and set the public hearing for second reading and possible adoption for September 22, 2020.

#### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to introduce and conduct a first reading of ordinances amending Washoe County Code Chapters 110, 50 and 125 as described within the subject of the staff report for this item. Also introduce Bill Numbers (insert bill numbers as provided by the County Clerk) and set the public hearing for second reading and possible adoption of the ordinances for September 22, 2020.

**From:** [cbwillb@charter.net](mailto:cbwillb@charter.net)  
**To:** [Lloyd, Trevor](#)  
**Cc:** [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Resident Comment Re: In process Revised Draft of Washoe County STR regulations  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 22, 2020 12:26:11 PM  
**Attachments:** [IV Resident comments, suggested edits, recommendations re WCOrdRevAug2020 12.21.2020.pdf](#)  
[IV Resident comments, suggested edits, recommendations re WCOrdRevAug2020 12.21.2020.pdf](#)

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To: Washoe County Planning Department c/o Trevor Lloyd  
Cc: Commissioner Berkbigler, Washoe County Manager Brown

Mr Lloyd/Trevor,

I am joining several other Incline Village residents in submitting recommendations as your team works to revise the prior draft of proposed Washoe County's Short Term Rental Regulation. I ask that you review and also forward these comments and the attached document to the appropriate staff for consideration as this latest revision is drafted:

**Regulations are needed ...** As an impacted Incline Village resident, I have repeatedly expressed concerns about the adverse community impacts of the recent rampant growth in STR numbers and usage. The actual average occupancy of our small village has increased substantially over the last several years, ballooned by added STR rental volumes with adverse effects on traffic, parking, evacuation capability and neighborhood/community environment. Nuisance concerns abound and safety implications are paramount. **Regulations are needed now ...** the sooner the better since, with each passing quarter, the situation and attendant risks worsen. I thus submit my comments, suggestions and recommendations as follows:

**1) Priority List:** The supplemental list of requested ordinance modifications submitted from Commissioner Berkbigler are imperative - the highest priority in my opinion. Particularly important are the density/intensity and health and safety requirements.

**2) Adjust STR Tiers:** The Tier structure previously proposed requires adjustment so that the Tier 1 allowable occupancy is capped at 4-5, more closely resembling actual residential occupancy and aligned with the limited regulation proposed. As discussed in more detail in the attached, the rationale for using the previously listed higher occupancy level for this tier level is simply incorrect - the larger occupancies (>5) require added regulation/oversight/intervention as afforded in Tier 2.

**3) Tahoe Area Regulations:** Regulation tailored to the unique, environmentally challenged and risky Tahoe Area is essential and may not be appropriately applicable elsewhere in Washoe County. Thus the recent determination that separate regulations are allowed given different regulatory settings should be honored with specifics driven by the Tahoe environment.

**4) Multiple Additional Changes:** I have multiple additional detailed suggestions and recommendations which are included in the attached document in several report sections - I used the staff report from the August 25, 2020 Commissioners meeting and inserted specific comments, suggestions and recommendations. The sections flagged are marked with asterisks (\*\*\*) and my entries are in **red, bolded**.

**5) Modify Proposed Zoning Change:** Though I understand that there is interest in completing a concurrent zoning revision, the previously proposed action, specifically the re-definition of STR as a Residential Use, is not required in order to either implement the needed STR Regulations or for

“compliance with TRPA.” I have heard that TRPA has advocated this approach; however, TRPA requirement is that WC Tahoe Area’s regs be at least as restrictive as TRPAs – more restrictive is allowed and classifying STRs as a Transient Lodging use (as Washoe County has already done in its WCC Transient Lodging TOT Section) is more restrictive than TRPA.

Transient Lodging zoning classification is more appropriate to the actual use profile, its impact on the community and the type of regulation needed. Multiple staff assertions to the contrary (some documented above and in attached) have been currently or previously refuted with extensive supporting documentation. Copies of previously submitted documentation can be provided if it would be helpful. Further the proposed zoning has not been openly presented, processed or discussed as required.

Thank you for considering these comments and recommendations, Carole Black (617-312-8834)

**From:** [Pamela Tsigdinos](#)  
**To:** [Nelson, Kate S.](#); [Donshick, Francine](#); [tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com](mailto:tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com); [Chvilicek, Sarah](#); [Chesney, Larry](#); [jib2424@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jib2424@sbcglobal.net); [Young, Eric](#); [Lloyd, Trevor](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [alexis@votealexishill.com](mailto:alexis@votealexishill.com)  
**Cc:** [Alexander Tsigdinos](#)  
**Subject:** STR Ordinance Input  
**Date:** Monday, December 14, 2020 6:49:07 PM

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All: First, thank you for your service during these difficult times. I write as a full-time Incline Village resident and strong opponent to the proliferation of short-term rentals (STRs) in residential-zoned neighborhoods. I've participated in several rounds of community input to date. While I'm aware the devil is in the details, I would like to share some higher-level context-setting and thinking as we work through the next round of STR ordinance development.

## BEST PRACTICES

Washoe County has the benefit of learning what has and has not worked from other cities and towns. Other municipalities have learned the hard way companies like Airbnb must be held accountable. As you'll see below, Denver tried to play nice with Airbnb and its brethren and got burned:

[Denver City Council approves \\$1,000 fine for companies violating short-term rental rules \(denverpost.com\)](#)

### **Denver Post November 23, 2020 article excerpt:**

*After three fruitless years of negotiating with Airbnb — with no end in sight — Denver officials will now fine short-term rental companies \$1,000 for each illegal short-term rental transaction, City Council determined Monday.*

*For years the city's short-term rental market has been [peppered with outdated and unlicensed listings](#). This can result in fines for unsuspecting property owners who bought properties already listed on short-term rental sites by previous owners who failed to remove the listings.*

*Denver Department of Excise and License officials have tried negotiating with Airbnb — which controls the vast majority of the city's short-term rental market — and other companies, asking them to tie each online listing to a rental license number and expiration date. The negotiations have yielded no concrete results, [other than the frustration of city officials](#), so the department proposed the fine."*

You can read more in this coverage: [Denver to fine Airbnb and other sites \\$1K per day for booking unlicensed rentals \(kdvr.com\)](#)

With that background, I suggest you please take a look at Denver's STR website. I believe Denver's efforts will serve as an excellent guide on our STR ordinance development: <https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/denver-business-licensing-center/business-licenses/short-term-rentals/short-term-rentals-laws-rentals-and-regulations.html>

#### PRIMARY RESIDENT NEEDS MUST COME FIRST

The ordinance priority, first and foremost, must be to protect the public health, safety and well-being of primary residents who make up the backbone of the community. As such, the ordinance should require STRs owners be **primary residents**.

It's important to note that the vast majority of STRs are owned and operated by **businesses** (LLCs, REITs, private real estate investment groups or large out-of-town investors) -- not the "resident renting a room for extra income" narrative Airbnb founders promoted to build out its business model when the company began in 2008.

I kindly suggest you and your team do an analysis of public records to learn what percent of current STRs in IV/CB are held by out of state investors and owned by corporations. Best estimates in other communities are that 60-70% of STRs are *not* operated by property owners who are primary residents. If Washoe County wants an up-to-the-minute composition of corporate-owned STRs in IV/CB, it must oblige the online rental platforms to provide this information; these data-driven companies routinely collect the data.

#### RESIDENTS LIVE WITH THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY STRs

A public record request surfaced documents showing that some County Planners and staff have been in direct communication with Airbnb to solicit their input. This is simply wrong. Airbnb and comparable booking business (VRBO, Vacasa, etc.) should have **zero** input into how their business are regulated. They work for us, not the other way around.

STR booking companies at their worst can best be described as parasites, defined by the Oxford Dictionary this way: *an organism that lives in or on an organism of another species and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense. The worst cause diseases.*

Using this metaphor, STRs around the country have proven to be the source of significant problems for communities. These range from public health hazards (party houses during a pandemic) to noise, pollution, traffic congestion, parking, fire dangers -- and in the case of Incline Village -- wildlife dangers.

It is the full-time residents here in IV/CB who fund resource-constrained first responders and County staff. STR companies and the tourists they cater only *consume* services; they give nothing back to the community.

I agree with fellow IV/CB residents that STR standards within the Tahoe Basin be different than those in the rest of Washoe County. As you know, the majority of STRs in the County are located in IV/CB. In short, residents most impacted by STRs should be dictating the rules of the road.

Too many of us in IV/CB already feel like San Diego resident, Steven Dowdy who told his City Council [in a meeting this month](#): "*When are you going to support the rights of the citizens of San Diego? We bought houses in neighborhoods, we didn't buy homes in commercial zones and you're*

*turning our neighborhoods into a commercial zone. Shame on you.”*

Taking a page from Denver and San Diego...some of the key features of any STR ordinance should be:

- All short-term rentals must be **safety permitted** and **licensed** (No self-certification)
  - Licenses would be granted each year via a lottery.
  - Any short-term rental must be the host's **primary residence**—defined as the owner who spends at least six months a year in the property.
- All advertisements for short-term rentals must **display** the host's **business license number**.
- All short-term rental hosts must abide by rules related to **safety, taxes, zoning, and insurance**.
- Failure to follow the rules can result in **fines or other penalties, including license revocation**.

I also believe there needs to be more thought on the number of STR permits (e.g. saturation) as well as how to avoid quasi 'hotel districts' arising. This email, however, is ready long enough.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the many important points in my email. I can be reached at home 775-298-7305, via email [ptsigdinos@yahoo.com](mailto:ptsigdinos@yahoo.com) if you have further questions.

Best regards,

Pamela

1080 Oxen Road  
Incline Village, NV 89451

**From:** [rondatycer@aol.com](mailto:rondatycer@aol.com)  
**To:** [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Solaro, David](#); [Chesney, Larry](#); [Lloyd, Trevor](#); [Nelson, Kate S.](#); [Donshick, Francine](#); [Chvilicek, Sarah](#); [jib2424@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jib2424@sbcglobal.net); [Young, Eric](#)  
**Subject:** Suggested STR Ordinance for Incline Village and Crystal Bay  
**Date:** Monday, December 14, 2020 4:14:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [LasVegas-STROrdinance2020.docx](#)  
[CityofLasVegasSTR.pdf](#)  
[WCOrdRevAug2020b.docx](#)  
[TRPA-IVCBZones2006.pdf](#)

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Dear Planners,

Attached please find a copy of the current STR Ordinance Standards (WCOrdRev) including the suggested Standards from Marsha Berkbigler specific to Incline Village and Crystal Bay.

I have added to, deleted, and modified these Standards to reflect those I believe would be acceptable to our Incline Village STR Citizen Advisory Group. Our group members will also be sending you their own suggestions as well, which may differ from those I've presented.

My revisions are extensive, but I've tried to make them in the most helpful way.

--I've indicated where I added a new section by the word "New." I believe adding these new sections will greatly help organize the document.

-- I've added Marsha Berkbigler's suggestions in boldface and indicated with underlining where I've made changes within them.

-- I've added my own suggestions in boldface and underlined them.

-- I've added suggestions from the Las Vegas, NV ordinance, which I hope you might consider adding to Washoe County's IVCB STR Ordinance. Again they are presented in boldface and underlined.

--I've deleted much of the unnecessary verbiage that was put in to inform the Commissioners and to justify decisions about previous Standards. Although these comments were initially useful in the Ordinance, many of them are no longer essential, and greatly lengthen the Ordinance.

Hopefully you'll find my revisions clear and useful, at least as points of discussion for the new IVCB Standards.

We greatly appreciate the County's decision to bifurcate the STR Ordinance so that Standards can be made specific to Incline and Crystal Bay. And we especially appreciate the opportunity to help determine what those Standards should be for our residents.

Best regards,

Ronda Tycer  
Co-chair IV STR Citizen Advisory Group

**From:** [Incline STR Advisory](#)  
**To:** [Scott Hill](#)  
**Cc:** [Nelson, Kate S.](#); [Donshick, Francine](#); [tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com](mailto:tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com); [Chvilicek, Sarah](#); [Chesney, Larry](#); [jib2424@sbcgobal.net](mailto:jib2424@sbcgobal.net); [Young, Eric](#); [Lloyd, Trevor](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#); [Berkbigler, Marsha](#); [alexis@votealexishill.com](mailto:alexis@votealexishill.com)  
**Subject:** Re: Washoe County Commissioners Draft Language for STRs  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 5, 2021 5:16:50 PM

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Well said! Thank you Scott and Monica!!!

Ronda

On Mon, Dec 14, 2020 at 5:34 PM Scott Hill <[sbh858@gmail.com](mailto:sbh858@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear County Commissioners,

Monica and I are long-time Washoe County/Incline Village property owners, and full-time residents since my retirement some years ago. We are writing today to compliment you on your leadership in addressing the very serious STR problem in Incline Village/Crystal Bay, and to provide a number of comments on the draft document that is being considered.

Overall, the document squarely addresses the problems that we are currently having here as a result of the very significant increase in STR's caused by . . . well, caused by the way the world is changing to more technology based approaches. In essence, it is now so easy to book a place online to stay at a residence, that many are turning it into a business. Existing community/County rules of course never contemplated that businesses would be up and running in residential neighborhoods, nor did they contemplate that a whole new hotel and motel industry would be born in our neighborhoods. While we certainly do not want to squash the entrepreneurial spirit of Americans (mostly Nevadans and Californians here), and while we certainly recognize that the Tahoe area is a recreational destination, we should not want a mass of new commercial enterprises, for the most part loosely managed, in our residential neighborhoods.

We will separate our comments into a number of specific comments and then several overall perspectives:

Specific Comments:

- 1) We do agree with the Commissioner's suggestion that a party who operates multiple units (whether the number is 2 or 3 we won't comment) should be considered a business and therefore subject to those business regulations. Of course people are clever and will create all sorts of additional entities to hold STRs so as not to meet that rule, so some form of ultimate ownership test must be applied which may be difficult to administer.
- 2) We also agree with the recommendation by some to include the Las Vegas (LV) language on STR's in HOA's having to have a letter on file from the HOA, and granting access.
- 3) The density of STR's should be considered, with some restrictions. Not sure how?

- 4) Limits on rental nights to 6 or more is a very good suggested provision. Additionally, the recommendation that the total NON-rental period must exceed 6 months is very good. A lesser number of months ensures that the unit will be a full-time rental business for all of the two high seasons.
- 5) We are strongly supportive of requiring a LOCAL overseer/manager for each rental unit. Someone must be immediately available when issues happen.
- 6) Occupancy maximums are essential - 2 per bedroom plus 2 (infants, etc) is a good start.
- 7) Parking in Incline and Crystal Bay is a significant issues, so a requirement limiting parking to the on-site parking that is available is a good provision.
- 8) Educational materials on-site indicating trash, fire, safety, occupancy etc. limits and rules is essential. Inspections are always a good thing if they can be paid for by these businesses.
- 9) Quiet hours of 10 pm to 8 am is an appropriate provision.
- 10) Requiring a specific insurance policy to be on file, with minimum coverage limits, and with specific indication of use as a commercial property, is essential.

General Perspectives:

- 1) We fully support increased regulation, oversight, AND fines and penalties. However, we want to make sure that these issues are able to be managed by the County without taking away from other budgets. We will leave it to the administrative staff to advise you on what is or isn't feasible, and how much in permitting and related fees are required to manage STRs in Incline and Crystal Bay.
- 2) We do support increased penalties for violation, but not the one infraction in 6 months that has been suggested by some. Anyone can have one unfortunate situation, so set the limit at 2 infractions within a year to cause the severe penalty of a temporary stay on operation on the unit as an STR. As to the amount of fines, they should be large enough to be significant and to provide funding, but not so large as to put someone out of business (in which event the County may never see the funds and the property owner would just sell the property and buy another under different name or entity).

Many thanks to you for addressing this high profile issue, and for accepting our comments.

Sincerely,

Scott and Monica Hill  
1093 Tiller Dr.  
Incline Village, NV 89451

203 516-1632

**From:** [rondatycer@aol.com](mailto:rondatycer@aol.com)  
**To:** [Young, Eric](#); [Hill, Alexis](#); [Brown, Eric P.](#)  
**Subject:** From Richard Morley  
**Date:** Saturday, January 16, 2021 4:58:02 PM

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FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: Richard Morley <[skierdad816@gmail.com](mailto:skierdad816@gmail.com)>  
To: [rondatycer@aol.com](mailto:rondatycer@aol.com)  
Sent: Sat, Dec 19, 2020 3:46 pm  
Subject: STR

All that is needed to decide on Short Term Rentals is to read what is happening in other communities which allow AIRBNB and other Short Term Rentals. The rentals are good for the renters and absentee owners but a disaster for the people who live in the community. Please keep our community a quiet and safe community by making and enforcing rules that favor the people who live here and not the absentee owners who do not care about our community. Incline Village is a beautiful place to live, please do not destroy it.

Richard Morley

**Giesinger, Chad**

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**From:** rondatycer@aol.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 16, 2021 6:01 PM  
**To:** Young, Eric; Hill, Alexis; Brown, Eric P.  
**Subject:** FSTR ORDINANCE INPUT FOR PLANNERS

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FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: Scott Minick <scott1minick@gmail.com>  
To: Ronda Tycer Phd <rondatycer@aol.com>  
Cc: Beth Minick <brminick@gmail.com>  
Sent: Mon, Dec 14, 2020 8:09 pm  
Subject: Re: FINAL 2020 EFFORT - STR ORDINANCE INPUT FOR PLANNERS

Ronda, thanks so much for leading this important effort. **My main issue continues to be enforcement.** Without that, this is simply a revenue generation vehicle for the county.

Specifically, "Confirmed STR violations is not defined. Is that when a neighbor registers a complaint, when a Sheriff validates a complaint, when a designated local responsible party receives a complaint or ?

Since our Sheriffs are too busy with more important matters and the local responsible party has a conflict of interest, my concern is that **there is still no way to address or keep score of "confirmed violations" and therefore there is effectively no enforcement.** This ordinance needs a substantive enforcement mechanism.

**The most straightforward would be to hire one or more STR enforcement 'officers' who have responsibility to track and enforce violations.** Otherwise, there are no resources to do this.

Thanks,

Scott

## Giesinger, Chad

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**From:** rondatycer@aol.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:36 PM  
**To:** Young, Eric; Hill, Alexis; Brown, Eric P.  
**Subject:** FSTR ORDINANCE INPUT FOR PLANNERS

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FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: Myra Hanish <myrahanish@gmail.com>

Sent: Sun, Dec 13, 2020 1:55 pm

Subject: Re: STR ORDINANCE INPUT FOR PLANNERS

I have three changes to request on this document:

1. In RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL USE: INSTEAD OF MORE THAN THREE PROPERTIES IN WASHOE COUNTY.. I suggest :**two or more**
2. OCCUPANCY : UNIT OCCUPANCY SHOULD BE LIMITED TO 2 PERSONS PER BEDROOM PLUS AN ADDITIONAL 2 PERSONS.
3. QUIET HOURS; 10 a.m. - 8 a.m.

Thank you for making these changes and forwarding them to the planners on my behalf.

And many thanks for all you are doing.

Stay safe and well.

Myra Hanish

## Giesinger, Chad

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**From:** rondatycer@aol.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 16, 2021 6:43 PM  
**To:** Young, Eric; Hill, Alexis; Brown, Eric P.  
**Subject:** Short Term Rentals in Incline Village Neighborhoods

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: Art Cross <sierrarat@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Fri, Dec 11, 2020 9:35 am

Subject: Short Term Rentals in Incline Village Neighborhoods

December 10, 2020

Dear Washoe County Planners,

I would like to share my perspective and firsthand experience regarding short term rentals (STR) in the residential neighborhoods of Incline Village. I have resided in my home for 28 years on a quiet side street of single family homes. Our area has many full time residents with families who's children play throughout our neighborhood, and many of the local residents walk or ride bikes on our street with either their children or dogs. Everyone who lives here is aware of that and acts accordingly. On a personal level, our families quiet peaceful existence was destroyed when the owners of a second home across the street from me chose to use it as a STR. I saw first hand the negative impact STR's have on residential neighborhoods. Below is a list of several of the major issues we faced on a virtual nonstop basis.

1. Outdoor freestanding fireplace illegally used on multiple occasions during open fire ban. Burned coals found on the ground next to fireplace.
2. Visitors throwing cigarette butts on the ground during high fire summer season. Additional cigarette butts found in immediate vicinity of live gas meter.
3. Numerous violations of NRS regarding vehicle parking reported to WCSO.
4. Loud obnoxious outside behavior after 10pm to include, yelling, fighting, urinating in the yard, and smoking marijuana.
5. Excessive vehicle speed on our street by visitors staying at this STR.
6. Property not used as described by property manager. Advertised parking of 4 car maximum with two cars in garage and two in driveway was not followed. Advertised occupancy was exceeded occasionally.

Those are just a few of the near nonstop ever-changing disruptions this STR caused our neighborhood and my family. Every few days it was something different. One week a weight bench is set up in the front yard and it was turned in to an impromptu gym. The next, maybe a quiet family, then the next, the burning man contingent complete with large RVs, and the following, lawn chairs set up in the driveway for an impromptu drinking and smoking sessions. Constant beeping of car locks and occasional car alarms sounding.

Looking back and reading this it sounds kind of funny, however trying to spend a peaceful summer afternoon and evening outside was constantly met with issues like this. Inconsistent, ever-changing, and with a general lack of respect for the residents. Fortunately, the owner sold, and the property will be occupied by full time residents, so the nightmare is over for us.

During the two years this single family home operated as a STR, I witnessed firsthand the negative impacts on our and the neighborhood's daily lives. A residential neighborhood is no place for vacation rentals. Due to the transient nature, number of vehicles, and the "on-vacation" mentality many of these visitors bring, our safety and quality of life were significantly degraded.

Having lived this nightmare first hand, I believe STRs in their current form are incompatible with residential family neighborhoods and at an absolute minimum must conform to the demographics of each neighborhoods full time residents.

STRs are much better suited for high density or multi family area, which by design are better suited for this activity. While this problem no longer affects our quiet street, it still is a problem for our town's residential single family home neighborhoods. Everyone's property rights needs to be respected, including those of our communities full time residents. The loss of quality of life and degradation neighborhood safety are two of the biggest reasons short term rentals are incompatible in single family residential neighborhoods. Further, I find it quite ironic that the owners of the STR across the street from me live in Santa Barbara, CA, a town which has banned STRs in their residential neighborhoods.

If you would like more detail on the issues I listed that our neighborhood specifically faced, please reach out. I have detailed documentation of the events stated above. Thank you for your consideration and service.

Sincerely,

Art Cross  
569 N Dyer Circle  
Incline Village, NV 89451  
[sierrarat@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sierrarat@sbcglobal.net)  
775 846-0824

**Giesinger, Chad**

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**From:** rondatycer@aol.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 16, 2021 6:31 PM  
**To:** Young, Eric; Hill, Alexis; Brown, Eric P.  
**Subject:** STR ORDINANCE INPUT FOR PLANNERS

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FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: shzara@icloud.com  
Sent: Sat, Dec 12, 2020 6:36 pm  
Subject: Re: FINAL 2020 EFFORT - STR ORDINANCE INPUT FOR PLANNERS

I would like to add language to this effect:

Noise restrictions in Washoe are in effect 24/7 right now. So, the proposed ordinance apparently allows STR's to ignore current noise restrictions between 7 AM and 10 PM. **There shouldn't be any hours where STR's are allowed to exceed current noise standards.**

Also, **STR occupancy permit should conform to number of bedrooms in the property record.** Also, square footage in the property record should define the the STR's square footage.

**Also, if there are un-permitted additions (bedrooms or bathrooms) or parts of the residence are not to code, such as too steep driveways or stairwells, no permit should be issued.**

**What about the 6-month residency requirement?**

Thanks, Adam

## Giesinger, Chad

---

**From:** rondatycer@aol.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 16, 2021 7:40 PM  
**To:** Young, Eric; Hill, Alexis; Brown, Eric P.  
**Subject:** STR ORDINANCE INPUT FOR PLANNERS

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: JOSEPH FARRELL <jpfarrell@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Mon, Dec 14, 2020 4:17 pm

Subject: STR ORDINANCE INPUT FOR PLANNERS

Dear Ronda:

Again, thanks so much for all the work you do for the SRT Advisory Steering Committee. Your organizational, writing and leadership skills are exceptional.

Below are additional suggestions to the attachment draft, for the STR Ordinance that you will be sending to the WC Commissioners and Planners. We would appreciate you including if possible, our suggestions in your communications to the County Commissioners and Planners.

1. **Require decibel-monitoring devices in all STR regardless of previous complaints.**
2. Quiet Hours: **Should be observed at all times out of respect for neighbors and the neighborhood in general: not just 10:00 PM to 7:00 AM.** We have had experiences with STR who are in the backyards of the STR partying and playing loud music from 10 AM to 10 PM day after day. Not good!!!
3. Effective Dates: **We suggest a 3 month grace period between adoption of the ordinance and first effective date.**
4. **STR owner must occupy the home for 6 months/year** or leave it vacant for the same time period. This would discourage the multiple STR's owned by one family or various rental agencies like Sun Realty, Luxury Homes, Marriott, Hyatt and other LCC's and REIT's.
5. **There should be a minimal rental time frame of 7 -14 days** to qualify as a STR. This would eliminate the 2-3 day (weekend) renters who come to our town just to PARTY!

**Lastly, what happen to the argument that IV/CB homes are zoned for residential use, not for business or commercial use?? I know our CCRs for our neighborhood state this; however, it is never enforced. It appears to us that the county is disregarding existing zoning ordinances in the County.**

In closing, please add our names if needed to any communication to the County and hopefully you agree to add our 5 suggestions to Marsha's draft.

Thanks!!

Kind Regards,

Joe & Edie Farrell

From: Young, Eric  
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2020 9:32 AM  
To: Giesinger, Chad; Lloyd, Trevor  
Subject: FW: IV/CB STR Regulation Suggestions

Please tell us how we did by taking a quick survey  
Fill | Customer Satisfaction Survey - Planning Division

Eric Young  
Senior Planner | Community Services Department  
eyoung@washoecounty.us | Office: 775.328.3613 Fax: 775.328.6133  
1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, NV 89512

From: Tracy Horton <tracysj60@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 7:32 PM  
To: Berkbigler, Marsha <MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us>; alexis@votealexishill.com; Brown, Eric P. <EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us>; Young, Eric <EYoung@washoecounty.us>; jib2424@sbcgobal.net; Chesney, Larry <LChesney@washoecounty.us>; Chvilicek, Sarah <chviliceks@unce.unr.edu>; tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com; Donshick, Francine <FDonshick@washoecounty.us>; Nelson, Kate S. <KSNelson@washoecounty.us>  
Subject: IV/CB STR Regulation Suggestions

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello Planners/County Manager & Commissioners,

I currently have a family cabin that is an STR for about 5 months out of the year, just to cover the costs. I agree with most of the proposed regulations as I am a local resident and already abide by most of these rules.

The two main regulations that I do not agree with are:

### 3 - Time Limitations On Rentals

Berkbigler - LIMIT ON LENGTH OF STR STAY: All residential units must be rented for a minimum of 6 7 consecutive days. \*\*Suggest 2 consecutive days, 6 or 7 is absolutely absurd.

### 13 - Damage and Insurance

\*\* ?? Certificate of insurance is required identifying that the property is used as an STR and providing \$500,000 minimum liability coverage per occurrence. ? \*\*STRIKE, don't agree

Thank you and regards,  
Tracy Horton

From: Lloyd, Trevor  
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2020 12:42 PM  
To: Giesinger, Chad; Hauenstein, Mojra  
Subject: FW: Resident Comment Re: In process Revised Draft of Washoe County STR regulations  
Attachments: IV Resident comments, suggested edits, recommendations re WCOrdRevAug2020 12.21.2020.pdf; IV Resident comments, suggested edits, recommendations re WCOrdRevAug2020 12.21.2020.pdf

FYI

Please tell us how we did by taking a quick survey

Trevor Lloyd  
Planning Manager, Planning and Building Division  
Community Services Department  
tlloyd@washoecounty.us | Office: 775.328.3617  
Visit us first online: [www.washoecounty.us/csd](http://www.washoecounty.us/csd)  
For Planning call (775) 328-6100  
Email: [Planning@washoecounty.us](mailto:Planning@washoecounty.us)

From: cbwillb@charter.net <cbwillb@charter.net>  
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2020 12:26 PM  
To: Lloyd, Trevor <TLloyd@washoecounty.us>  
Cc: Berkbigler, Marsha <MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us>; Brown, Eric P. <EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us>  
Subject: RE: Resident Comment Re: In process Revised Draft of Washoe County STR regulations

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

To: Washoe County Planning Department c/o Trevor Lloyd  
Cc: Commissioner Berkbigler, Washoe County Manager Brown

Mr Lloyd/Trevor,

I am joining several other Incline Village residents in submitting recommendations as your team works to revise the prior draft of proposed Washoe County's Short Term Rental Regulation. I ask that you review and also forward these comments and the attached document to the appropriate staff for consideration as this latest revision is drafted:

Regulations are needed ... As an impacted Incline Village resident, I have repeatedly expressed concerns about the adverse community impacts of the recent rampant growth in STR numbers and usage. The actual average occupancy of our small village has increased substantially over the last several years, ballooned by added STR rental volumes with adverse effects on traffic, parking, evacuation capability and neighborhood/community environment. Nuisance concerns abound and safety implications are paramount. Regulations are needed now ... the sooner the better since, with each passing quarter, the situation and attendant risks worsen. I thus submit my comments, suggestions and recommendations as follows:

- 1) Priority List: The supplemental list of requested ordinance modifications submitted from Commissioner Berkbigler are imperative - the highest priority in my opinion. Particularly important are the density/intensity and health and safety requirements.
- 2) Adjust STR Tiers: The Tier structure previously proposed requires adjustment so that the Tier 1

allowable occupancy is capped at 4-5, more closely resembling actual residential occupancy and aligned with the limited regulation proposed. As discussed in more detail in the attached, the rationale for using the previously listed higher occupancy level for this tier level is simply incorrect - the larger occupancies (>5) require added regulation/oversight/intervention as afforded in Tier 2.

3) Tahoe Area Regulations: Regulation tailored to the unique, environmentally challenged and risky Tahoe Area is essential and may not be appropriately applicable elsewhere in Washoe County. Thus the recent determination that separate regulations are allowed given different regulatory settings should be honored with specifics driven by the Tahoe environment.

4) Multiple Additional Changes: I have multiple additional detailed suggestions and recommendations which are included in the attached document in several report sections - I used the staff report from the August 25, 2020 Commissioners meeting and inserted specific comments, suggestions and recommendations. The sections flagged are marked with asterisks (\*\*\*) and my entries are in red, bolded.

5) Modify Proposed Zoning Change: Though I understand that there is interest in completing a concurrent zoning revision, the previously proposed action, specifically the re-definition of STR as a Residential Use, is not required in order to either implement the needed STR Regulations or for “compliance with TRPA.” I have heard that TRPA has advocated this approach; however, TRPA requirement is that WC Tahoe Area’s regs be at least as restrictive as TRPAs – more restrictive is allowed and classifying STRs as a Transient Lodging use (as Washoe County has already done in its WCC Transient Lodging TOT Section) is more restrictive than TRPA.

Transient Lodging zoning classification is more appropriate to the actual use profile, its impact on the community and the type of regulation needed. Multiple staff assertions to the contrary (some documented above and in attached) have been currently or previously refuted with extensive supporting documentation. Copies of previously submitted documentation can be provided if it would be helpful. Further the proposed zoning has not been openly presented, processed or discussed as required.

Thank you for considering these comments and recommendations, Carole Black (617-312-8834)

From: Young, Eric  
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:04 PM  
To: Giesinger, Chad; Lloyd, Trevor  
Subject: FW: STR Ordinance Input

Please tell us how we did by taking a quick survey  
Fill | Customer Satisfaction Survey - Planning Division

Eric Young  
Senior Planner | Community Services Department  
eyoung@washoecounty.us | Office: 775.328.3613 Fax: 775.328.6133  
1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, NV 89512

From: Pamela Tsigdinos <ptsigdinos@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 6:49 PM  
To: Nelson, Kate S. <KSNelson@washoecounty.us>; Donshick, Francine <FDonshick@washoecounty.us>; tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com; Chvilicek, Sarah <chviliceks@unce.unr.edu>; Chesney, Larry <LChesney@washoecounty.us>; jib2424@sbcgobal.net; Young, Eric <EYoung@washoecounty.us>; Lloyd, Trevor <TLloyd@washoecounty.us>; Brown, Eric P. <EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us>; Berkbigler, Marsha <MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us>; alexis@votealexishill.com  
Cc: Alexander Tsigdinos <atsigdinos@yahoo.com>  
Subject: STR Ordinance Input

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

All: First, thank you for your service during these difficult times. I write as a full-time Incline Village resident and strong opponent to the proliferation of short-term rentals (STRs) in residential-zoned neighborhoods. I've participated in several rounds of community input to date. While I'm aware the devil is in the details, I would like to share some higher-level context-setting and thinking as we work through the next round of STR ordinance development.

#### BEST PRACTICES

Washoe County has the benefit of learning what has and has not worked from other cities and towns. Other municipalities have learned the hard way companies like Airbnb must be held accountable. As you'll see below, Denver tried to play nice with Airbnb and its brethren and got burned:

Denver City Council approves \$1,000 fine for companies violating short-term rental rules (denverpost.com)

Denver Post November 23, 2020 article excerpt:

After three fruitless years of negotiating with Airbnb — with no end in sight —

Denver officials will now fine short-term rental companies \$1,000 for each illegal short-term rental transaction, City Council determined Monday.

For years the city's short-term rental market has been peppered with outdated and unlicensed listings. This can result in fines for unsuspecting property owners who bought properties already listed on short-term rental sites by previous owners who failed to remove the listings.

Denver Department of Excise and License officials have tried negotiating with Airbnb — which controls the vast majority of the city's short-term rental market

— and other companies, asking them to tie each online listing to a rental license number and expiration date. The negotiations have yielded no concrete results, other than the frustration of city officials, so the department proposed the fine."

You can read more in this coverage: Denver to fine Airbnb and other sites \$1K per day for booking unlicensed rentals (kdvr.com)

With that background, I suggest you please take a look at Denver's STR website. I believe Denver's efforts will serve as an excellent guide on our STR ordinance development:

<https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/denver-business-licensing-center/business-licenses/short-term-rentals/short-term-rentals-laws-rentals-and-regulations.html>

#### PRIMARY RESIDENT NEEDS MUST COME FIRST

The ordinance priority, first and foremost, must be to protect the public health, safety and well-being of primary residents who make up the backbone of the community. As such, the ordinance should require STRs owners be primary residents.

It's important to note that the vast majority of STRs are owned and operated by businesses (LLCs, REITs, private real estate investment groups or large out-of-town investors) -- not the "resident renting a room for extra income" narrative Airbnb founders promoted to build out its business model when the company began in 2008.

I kindly suggest you and your team do an analysis of public records to learn what percent of current STRs in IV/CB are held by out of state investors and owned by corporations. Best estimates in other communities are that 60-70% of STRs are not operated by property owners who are primary residents. If Washoe County wants an up-to-the-minute composition of corporate-owned STRs in IV/CB, it must oblige the online rental platforms to provide this information; these data-driven companies routinely collect the data.

#### RESIDENTS LIVE WITH THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY STRs

A public record request surfaced documents showing that some County Planners and staff have been in direct communication with Airbnb to solicit their input. This is simply wrong. Airbnb and comparable booking business (VRBO, Vacasa, etc.) should have zero input into how their business are regulated. They work for us, not the other way around.

STR booking companies at their worst can best be described as parasites, defined by the Oxford Dictionary this way: an organism that lives in or on an organism of another species and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense. The worst cause diseases.

Using this metaphor, STRs around the country have proven to be the source of significant problems for communities. These range from public health hazards (party houses during a pandemic) to noise, pollution, traffic congestion, parking, fire dangers -- and in the case of Incline Village -- wildlife dangers.

It is the full-time residents here in IV/CB who fund resource-constrained first responders and County staff. STR companies and the tourists they cater only consume services; they give nothing back to the community.

I agree with fellow IV/CB residents that STR standards within the Tahoe Basin be different than those in the rest of Washoe County. As you know, the majority of STRs in the County are located in IV/CB. In short, residents most impacted by STRs should be dictating the rules of the road.

Too many of us in IV/CB already feel like San Diego resident, Steven Dowdy who told his City Council in a meeting this month: "When are you going to support the rights of the citizens of San Diego? We bought houses in neighborhoods, we didn't buy homes in commercial zones and you're turning our neighborhoods into a commercial zone. Shame on you."

Taking a page from Denver and San Diego...some of the key features of any STR ordinance should be:

- \* All short-term rentals must be safety permitted and licensed (No self-certification)
- Licenses would be granted each year via a lottery.
- Any short-term rental must be the host's primary residence—defined as the owner who spends at least

six months a year in the property.

- \* All advertisements for short-term rentals must display the host's business license number.
- \* All short-term rental hosts must abide by rules related to safety, taxes, zoning, and insurance.
- \* Failure to follow the rules can result in fines or other penalties, including license revocation.

I also believe there needs to be more thought on the number of STR permits (e.g. saturation) as well as how to avoid quasi 'hotel districts' arising. This email, however, is ready long enough.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the many important points in my email. I can be reached at home 775-298-7305, via email [ptsigdinos@yahoo.com](mailto:ptsigdinos@yahoo.com) if you have further questions.

Best regards,

Pamela

1080 Oxen Road

Incline Village, NV 89451

From: Young, Eric  
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:03 PM  
To: Giesinger, Chad; Lloyd, Trevor  
Subject: FW: Washoe County Commissioners Draft Language for STRs

Please tell us how we did by taking a quick survey  
Fill | Customer Satisfaction Survey - Planning Division

Eric Young  
Senior Planner | Community Services Department  
eyoung@washoecounty.us | Office: 775.328.3613 Fax: 775.328.6133  
1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, NV 89512

From: Scott Hill <sbh858@gmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 5:32 PM  
To: Nelson, Kate S. <KSNelson@washoecounty.us>; Donshick, Francine <FDonshick@washoecounty.us>; tbruce.washoecountypc@gmail.com; Chvilicek, Sarah <chviliceks@unce.unr.edu>; Chesney, Larry <LChesney@washoecounty.us>; jib2424@sbcgobal.net; Young, Eric <EYoung@washoecounty.us>; Lloyd, Trevor <TLloyd@washoecounty.us>; Brown, Eric P. <EPriceBrown@washoecounty.us>; Berkbigler, Marsha <MBerkbigler@washoecounty.us>; alexis@votealexishill.com  
Cc: Incline STR Advisory <iv.str.advisory.group@gmail.com>  
Subject: Washoe County Commissioners Draft Language for STRs

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Dear County Commissioners,

Monica and I are long-time Washoe County/Incline Village property owners, and full-time residents since my retirement some years ago. We are writing today to compliment you on your leadership in addressing the very serious STR problem in Incline Village/Crystal Bay, and to provide a number of comments on the draft document that is being considered.

Overall, the document squarely addresses the problems that we are currently having here as a result of the very significant increase in STR's caused by . . . well, caused by the way the world is changing to more technology based approaches. In essence, it is now so easy to book a place online to stay at a residence, that many are turning it into a business. Existing community/County rules of course never contemplated that businesses would be up and running in residential neighborhoods, nor did they contemplate that a whole new hotel and motel industry would be born in our neighborhoods. While we certainly do not want to squash the entrepreneurial spirit of Americans (mostly Nevadans and Californians here), and while we certainly recognize that the Tahoe area is a recreational destination, we should not want a mass of new commercial enterprises, for the most part loosely managed, in our residential neighborhoods.

We will separate our comments into a number of specific comments and then several overall perspectives:

Specific Comments:

- 1) We do agree with the Commissioner's suggestion that a party who operates multiple units (whether the number is 2 or 3 we won't comment) should be considered a business and therefore subject to those business regulations. Of course people are clever and will create all sorts of additional entities to hold STRs so as not to meet that rule, so some form of ultimate ownership test must be applied which may be difficult to administer.
- 2) We also agree with the recommendation by some to include the Las Vegas (LV) language on STR's in HOA's having to have a letter on file from the HOA, and granting access.
- 3) The density of STR's should be considered, with some restrictions. Not sure how?
- 4) Limits on rental nights to 6 or more is a very good suggested provision. Additionally, the recommendation that the total NON-rental period must exceed 6 months is very good. A lesser number of months ensures that the unit will be a full-time rental business for all of the two high seasons.
- 5) We are strongly supportive of requiring a LOCAL overseer/manager for each rental unit. Someone must be immediately available when issues happen.
- 6) Occupancy maximums are essential - 2 per bedroom plus 2 (infants, etc) is a good start.
- 7) Parking in Incline and Crystal Bay is a significant issues, so a requirement limiting parking to the on-site parking that is available is a good provision.
- 8) Educational materials on-site indicating trash, fire, safety, occupancy etc. limits and rules is essential. Inspections are always a good thing if they can be paid for by these businesses.
- 9) Quiet hours of 10 pm to 8 am is an appropriate provision.
- 10) Requiring a specific insurance policy to be on file, with minimum coverage limits, and with specific indication of use as a commercial property, is essential.

#### General Perspectives:

- 1) We fully support increased regulation, oversight, AND fines and penalties. However, we want to make sure that these issues are able to be managed by the County without taking away from other budgets. We will leave it to the administrative staff to advise you on what is or isn't feasible, and how much in permitting and related fees are required to manage STRs in Incline and Crystal Bay.
- 2) We do support increased penalties for violation, but not the one infraction in 6 months that has been suggested by some. Anyone can have one unfortunate situation, so set the limit at 2 infractions within a year to cause the severe penalty of a temporary stay on operation on the unit as an STR. As to the amount of fines, they should be large enough to be significant and to provide funding, but not so large as to put someone out of business (in which event the County may never see the funds and the property owner would just sell the property and buy another under different name or entity).

Many thanks to you for addressing this high profile issue, and for accepting our comments.

Sincerely,

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