

**WRITTEN
PUBLIC
COMMENTS
& HAND-OUTS**

**CITY COUNCIL
MEETING**

JULY 21, 2020

On Jul 15, 2020, at 8:09 PM, Kimberly Estrada [REDACTED] wrote:

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Good evening,

I hope everyone is in good health and I thank you for your leadership. I am writing out of concern about the recent ordinance that was sent out.

We are home owners of 2 homes out there and also use the homes as vacation rentals when we are not using the home ourselves. The ordinance lays out that Vacation Homes may not have any amplified sound outside. I can certainly understand quiet hours but to not permit any music at a low level is raises concern. I called the office today to ask who do we contact if home owners violate this order and I was told that this 'rule' was only for vacation homes. This is a form of discrimination if this ordinance is not in place for all members of the community. Sadly we have already had to deal with people calling your office with untrue allegations.

I would like to formally ask for an agenda item on this at the next meeting and to have some time for a group of us to speak about this. As you know we pay taxes, follow HOA rules and pay HOA fees and yet we are being treated differently than owners. This is extremely unfair.

I know these times are hard and again I agree that quiet hours should be in place for all, not just vacation rentals but this ordinance needs to be revisited. Also how will false allegations be addressed? I ask you to reconsider especially during a time that equality is ever so important.

Thank you.

Kimberly Estrada & Eddy Estrada

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail
Get the new AOL app: mail.mobile.aol.com

On Tuesday, May 19, 2020, [REDACTED] wrote:

Good Morning La Quinta City Council Members,

I hope this email finds all of you in good health, we greatly appreciate your hard work during these hard times. I am writing to share some concerns around the La Quinta Vacation Rental Ban. While I understand the importance of taking precautions during COVID 19 I am a bit confused of the vote that took place last week and the reasoning behind it.

We have noticed that La Quinta closely follows the County guidelines in terms of when to lift bans. When the city of Riverside lifted the bans for golf and swimming pools then the city of La Quinta also followed suit. Governor Newsom is giving cities the autonomy to decide what is best for them. Below is the link to where he speaks about the power now that cities are being given to make decisions best for the city.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZKTXrkVClg>

On May 20th Newport, California voted to resume vacation rentals. As vacation owners we have taken COVID very seriously and already have done extensive cleaning training with our cleaning crews to prepare when the ban is lifted. What can we do to expedite the decision to lift the ban? See the link below where Newport resumed their vacation rentals.

<https://www.ocregister.com/2020/05/13/newport-beach-gives-go-ahead-to-resume-short-term-rentals/>

Not only does the ban affect owners but cleaning crews, pool crews, and many more. Before long you will see that owners are going to go into foreclosure which will greatly impact the economy of La Quinta. Below shows data that is up to date. I have included the source.

<https://kesq.com/news/coronavirus/2020/05/18/riverside-county-coronavirus-update-5952-cases-3833-recoveries-242-deaths/>

If possible can my email be read during tonight's meeting? As an Owner of multiple vacation properties in La Quinta I take the health and safety of the residents and our guests very seriously. As the graph shows, the results are improving and we need to

make every effort now to restore the economy. I hope you will consider lifting the vacation ban.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Estrada

Aid in Future COVID-19 Relief Funding and Get Your Community Counted! Take the 2020 Census Online Here: <https://my2020census.gov/>, Everyone Counts!

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 1:21 PM
To: City Clerk Mail
Subject: Comment on Vacation Rental Rules

EXTERNAL: This message originated outside of the City of La Quinta. Please use proper judgement and caution when opening attachments, clicking links or responding to requests for information.

Good afternoon,

My name is Greg Parker. My family and I are owners of three Short Term Vacation Rentals ("STRs") in La Quinta. No doubt the Covid Virus has created tremendous problems for us all. The economic consequences have been devastating for almost everyone. That said, the City of La Quinta has taken it upon itself to exacerbate an already difficult situation and make it worse for the STR owners and managers.

Personally, my family goes to great lengths managing our homes. This is a no nonsense business for us. We rely on the bookings and the income generated as a part of our retirement strategy.

We are very selective who we book. We target multigenerational families. Guests are are warned of our stringent rules multiple times before they book and subsequently arrive. Guests have to understand and agree to the City rules governing STRs as well as our own more stringent rules before they can book.

Upon arrival, guests face a barrage of warnings throughout the property. Video cameras record their arrival and movement in front of the homes. We know how many cars, guests, pets, what they are carrying, deliveries, etc. all in realtime.

Noiseaware decibel monitoring sensors are strategically located inside the home and in the rear yard. Set below City mandated noise level ceilings, NoiseAware notifies us immediately in realtime if the decibel levels exceed acceptable levels.

With our realtime video and decibel monitoring technology, we are able to monitor activity and proactively manage possible issues. All video and decibel readings are recorded.

Once inside our homes, Guests are faced with framed and mounted outlines of City and House rules at each door. Each delineating - No outside music. No parties or gatherings. Quiet time after 10 PM. Do not park in front of a neighbors house. No smoking inside or outside. Failure to abide can result in immediate eviction and /or fines from \$1,000 - \$5,000.

In summary, my family and I go to tremendous lengths to be good neighbors as we understand most other managers and Owners do. The City's continuing to tighten the STR rules doesn't appear to have anything to do with Covid. It appears the City's actions are tantamount to economic harassment and a willful and malicious attempt to drive Short Term Rentals from La Quinta.

Respectfully,

Greg Parker

From: Philip Bettencourt [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 11:41 AM
To: City Clerk Mail
Cc: 'P. F. Bettencourt'; Danny Castro
Subject: ESSI Engineering: Site Development Permit Waiver| Are we sure about this?

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How disappointing to now learn after the fact that the **Desert Club Apartments** development cannot proceed with the assumption of development conditions crafted by the staff with the concurrence of the applicant and as approved by the Planning Commission - and City Council too, as I recall.

The evidence in the staff report shows that these undergrounding difficulties - expenses of others really - have been known as long ago as **January 09, 2020**.

It is not clear if the "partial solution that would improve the aesthetics..." suggested in the **IID** written communication was tested and rejected out of hand.

Needless to say, the aesthetic improvements envisioned for the neighborhood will be compromised by the ugly **IID** overhead array staying in place, maybe forever.

I was reminded of the **Washington Street Apartments** rebuilt, as Washington Street was rebuilt but the ugly overhead lines along Washington are still in place

Alas. I should think we can do better.

Philip Bettencourt, writing as a private citizen

[REDACTED] La Quinta