



City Council Meeting
Public Comments
August 10, 2022

Submitted on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 - 9:56pm

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email kzhtherapy@yahoo.com

Council Meeting Date 08102022

Item # Oral Communication

Subject Short Term Rentals in Escondido

Position In Opposition

First and Last Name Kate Zlotnick-Hess

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

In the past year short-term vacation rentals have been steadily increasing in Escondido. Since the city of San Diego recently imposed limits on STR (short term rentals) more and more of these properties are expanding into Escondido. The home next door to mine was purchased last year and turned into a short term rental that is advertised as sleeping 22 people. Aside from neighborhoods not being zoned for what is essentially a hotel operation, the noise, traffic and onslaught of people constantly coming and going is very disruptive to a neighborhood intended for neighbors. Additionally the short term rental on my street backs up directly to the Bernardo Elementary School playground. Background checks are not required for the short term renters and literally anyone staying there has easy and direct access to the children on the playground. This is a huge safety concern. Parties, lack of respect for "quiet hours", renters speeding thru the neighborhood on a quiet cul de sac where children used to play, but rarely do now since this STR popped up, are just some of the daily issues my neighbors and myself are faced with, in addition to other Escondido residents who find themselves with a short term vacation rental on their street. Since Escondido currently has no regulations or ordinance regarding STR, I am requesting that the City make a concerted effort to review and establish an ordinance to limit and/or ban short term rentals in Escondido. Residential neighborhoods are for homes NOT hotels.

Submitted on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 - 11:07pm

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email mhess01@msn.com

Council Meeting Date 08/10/22

Item # 1

Subject STR

Position In Opposition

First and Last Name Michael Hess

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

I live next door to an STR in carriage hills for over a year. Lots of unwanted noise, traffic, people that I don't know. These are not neighbors!!

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Submitted on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 - 8:07am

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email cam.2tk0@gmail.com

Council Meeting Date 8/10/22

Item # Non agenda #

Subject Reproductive Rights For Education

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Jennifer Hepstein

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

Hi my name is Jennifer Hepstein, im 22 years old & my partner Jill is in her second trimester at around 26 & a quarter weeks pregnant. Love is Love & we are fully committed to each other, while fully being in a consensual poly amorous relationship which means we can engage in rampant meaningful promiscuous activity with anyone. However we do, have some discipline & we do somewhat care about the sanctity of devotion ship, additionally we acknowledge that rules...which are meant to be picked & chosen accordingly to: match OUR desire, what We want, what serves OUR-selves best, does indeed have some value. So our rule is not to give the cis gender male patriarchy that oppresses the world daily any credible victory because what were trying to do here is to simply, remove, the old oppressive: non inclusive, discriminative way of existing or a mode to existing. Our rule is simple no white males, no so called "binary self identifiers," or Abrahamic religious acolytes; so anyone who is gay, lesbian, bi sexual, pansexual, trans gender, trans racial, trans age, trans species, two spirited, queer, inter sex, agender, minor attracted people, gender non conforming people, asexual, + can engage with us alone or in a group.

***NOW HERE IS THE LEGISLATION I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE!**

My transgender husband is pregnant for the 5th time this year, luckily we live in a abortion sanctuary state & we are so gracious that California tax payers continue to help loving couples like us receive reproductive healthcare with their tax dollars. You've probably heard of assembly bill 2223 that was voted on this year & received a whooping 48 to 21 victory for birthing & menstruating's persons, under section 7 extending the reproductive healthcare rights past "birth". So my husband will continue to hold the clump of cells in his uterus till the doctors at planned parenthood could remove it from him after birth. We'd like the city to implement concrete ordinances to have this recognized & taught to our youth

in public education K-12. Children are already being taught how to safely indulge in sex, properly, so we want to further educate them that there is always a back up plan for them worst case scenario, & that now they dont have to live under the old restrictive abortion time window & being forced to make a critical decision & the unnecessary stress that accompanies it. "MirroringAbsurdity" on rumble

Submitted on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 - 11:45am

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email kanaka619@yahoo.com

Council Meeting Date 8/8/2022

Item # Oral communications

Subject Homelessness in Escondido

Position No Position

First and Last Name Vinson B

Are you an Escondido Resident? No

Comments

I work in a transitional housing program in Escondido. I'm not a resident but Ive worked there 40 hours a week for the last 5 years. People are struggling and there is not enough resources being offered by the city. We need funding for low income/no income housing. End police harassment of homeless people and provide public restrooms, storage, and safe 24/7 parking lots. Most of all: Housing should be a human right first and foremost, not a tool for profit.

Submitted on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 - 1:43pm

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email cmorin67@yahoo.com

Council Meeting Date August 10, 2022

Item # 1

Subject Short term rentals in Escondido

Position In Opposition

First and Last Name Clint Morin

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

Dear Escondido City Council,

My name is Clint Morin and I live in Escondido next to a home used as a vacation rental.

My family moved into a home in Escondido about 16 months ago, after living in the Rancho Penasquitos neighborhood of San Diego. When we moved in we liked the neighborhood including the cul-de-sac that the home is on. It was quiet and friendly. Many of the neighbors had lived in their current home for more than a decade and raised families, and many other neighbors were currently raising families including young children, like we were. It just felt like the right spot for us.

Shortly after we moved in, our neighbors, who were very friendly and had school aged children of their own, put their home up for sale. We soon found ourselves living next to a party house. Perhaps my experience will be illustrative. We first noticed it was a party house/vacation home one evening when we decided to eat dinner as a family outside on our patio. I knew the neighboring home had sold and looked forward to meeting the new neighbors, not knowing it was a vacation home. There was a party next door, which I figured was put on by our new neighbor. As we sat down as a family on the patio, we very quickly could tell there was something different about the event next door. The people there did not act like neighbors, or even someone visiting a neighbor. They acted like vacationers. The many people there were looking around observing the area, homes and yards. Periodically, one of the many different people would glance over the fence at us. We felt like we were being observed. In a way, my family with young children was now a part of their vacation experience. We quickly became uncomfortable, and it was hard to talk or focus on each other. We quickly left the patio and yard to return into our home, where we felt less exposed.

That was just the first of many parties and gatherings that seemed to take place almost any night of the week, though they were more likely on weekends. We never knew who was going to be there, whether

they would turn it into a party atmosphere, or what type of music or conversation we were going to be hearing. In fact, we soon moved our patio table nearer to the opposite neighbor. Some vacationers were less disruptive and some were more. We didn't even know who was going to be driving down the street or what to expect in how they drove. One party group was particularly bad, driving a sports car at high speeds on the roads, spinning their tires and spinning donuts in the cul-de-sac and a few other intersections and cul-de-sacs in our neighborhood. They left rubber marks and did permanent damage to the road surface. They arrived in the middle of the night (I think around 1 or 2 am) and were extremely loud as they talked about their new place to stay. They were extremely disruptive. During their stay I decided to do some yard work on a Saturday afternoon in my backyard and found myself being watched by a group of men as they stood in the yard. I waved but they just stared. No acknowledgement. As I said before, it was a different feeling than you usually have with neighbors. It felt like you were a novelty or part of someone else's vacation experience. If they knew me, what I was doing probably wouldn't have been interesting to them. I just went about my business, but thought about if I was comfortable having my children play in the backyard. Even a difficult neighbor might be better because you gain an understanding of who they are and can usually find ways to resolve problems. As long term owners or renters, you live next door to each other and have a long term interest in the neighborhood. This is not at all true of vacationers. They don't care because they will just disappear soon.

Here are some concerns/issues that I think the City Council should consider:

1. Use of a single family residence as a vacation home violates zoning. It is a mini-hotel in a home zoned for single-family residence. I am not an expert at zoning, but after reading Escondido residential zoning, short-term rentals seem to clearly violate the zoning and the intent of the zoning. Some seem to compare a vacation home to an owner who lets family or friends come and stay with the owner, which is an appropriate use of one's residence. However, this is an inaccurate comparison because the only relationship the vacationer and owner have is a financial one. Furthermore, most people don't have family visiting most nights of the year or have 50 different groups (or more!) visiting them in a year. Vacation homes change and increase road traffic because, aside from the fact there are new people coming all of the time, vacationers come and go in a much different manner than residents who work, care for children, or simply live in a house for a long time. Vacation homes should be stopped because they violate zoning.
2. A vacation home is primarily or exclusively a financial investment. It's all about ROI. This is much different than someone who lives there and is focused on how good of a place it is to live. This is especially the case when the owner does not live there, it is almost solely a property to exploit for financial value. Thus, the owners extract value from the home and neighborhood, rather than improving it. Even if they did improve it, they wouldn't care to improve it in ways that a residence likely would and would more likely change it in ways that violate the whole spirit of a residential zone. Vacation homes should be stopped because they damage or degrade neighborhoods which were meant for residential living and turn them into commercial zones.
3. Vacation homes lead to increased competition for families trying to rent or purchase a home. It is no secret that the cost of renting a vacation home for a month, at the vacation home rate, is far more than

the normal long term residential rental rate. How can average families afford to compete to buy or rent a property to live in when it can be used as a hotel? Vacation homes should be stopped because they increase housing costs.

4. Vacation homes are mini-hotels. Just imagine if Marriot or some other large hotel company started purchasing a bunch of homes and renting them out on a nightly basis. Think of all the requirements we place on hotels, including taxes, certifications, security, etc. Why would you allow a small-time investor to do something you don't want the large corporation to do? These vacation rentals don't have a front desk manager, waiter, security, or staff present to help them follow rules or get help when needed.

5. When I looked up the records for the vacation home next door, I noticed that the owner purchased the home and took out an "owner occupied mortgage". I know from talking to the property manager that the short-term property manager looked at the home before purchase and the owner has never lived in the home. The property manager also said the owner would never consider long term rentals of the home. Thus, it seems that the mortgage was fraudulently obtained because the purchaser never had the intent to occupy the home. I suspect that this is not infrequently the case with such newly purchased vacation homes. What do you think that tells me about the owners willingness to work to alleviate any problems I have with his home or his customers?

6. Vacation homes often have far more people staying in them than a traditional residence. I believe the previous family had three generations living in the home with four adults and 2 or 3 kids. Now, the garage has been converted to a game room and many more beds have been added. My understanding is that at one point they advertised that 20 people could stay in the home! And this is a unit rented nightly! I am not against large families or multi-generational living (in fact, I see these as mostly good things), but we all know there is something different going on here.

7. Vacation homes reduce neighborhood safety, or at least predicted safety. Obviously, vacationers are not bad people just because they are on vacation. It is probably the case that most of the people that have stayed in the neighboring vacation rental are upstanding kind and considerate people, even if we do all act differently on vacation. But you never know who these people are, and they are placed in a location that is not meant for rotating nightly guests. The property I am talking about backs on a elementary school. My understanding is that, generally, laws limit sex offenders or those with certain criminal convictions to live within a certain distance of an elementary school. Even if the manager of the vacation rental does a background check on the person paying for the stay, there is no way to know who else will be invited or show up. One person pays and up to 20 people stay! The chances that one of the people in the many different parties that rotate through that property in a given year would not be allowed to live there seems pretty high.

8. This is not a partisan issue. This isn't about property rights. Zoning does not violate property rights. This is something that people of any party can understand and agree on. The real difference is between those who wish to extract financial value from residential properties by doing vacation rentals and those who wish to maintain residential neighborhoods. Please consider taking measures to police and stop vacation rentals! Sincerely, -Clint Morin

Submitted on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 - 2:23pm

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email effenbergers@cox.net

Council Meeting Date 8/10, 8/17

Item # 1

Subject Short Term Rental Restrictions in Escondido

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Roberta Effenberger

Are you an Escondido Resident? No

Comments

Hi,

I want to thank Joe Garcia for taking the time to listen and starting a discussion on STR's. I actually live in San Diego County (one street out of city limits) and have contacted Joel Anderson's office but was told they're too busy. This is a chance for the City of Escondido to lead and get out ahead of this problem before it gets any worse. With the City of San Diego putting restrictions on STR's in place, the number of STR's in other cities and the county are only going to increase as these investors buy up properties wherever they can. This is an issue that is affecting the residents of Escondido now.

My nightmare began about a year ago when a foreign investor bought the house next door to us and turned it into a VRBO rental. We have lived in a quiet part of Escondido for 32 years. I believe this same investor owns numerous properties in Escondido. The property manager oversees 80 other STR's in the county. The place nextdoor is constantly rented, with new guests checking in every 4 days. The property sleeps 16 people so there is a hotel within 10 feet of my house. The guests are paying \$1200 per night, so it's a business operating in a residential neighborhood . The guests don't contribute to the local tax base, they spend all their time at the pool/slide/jacuzzi yelling and screaming. Outside investors are reducing housing options and making money at the expense of residents of Escondido. At the bare minimum, the STR owner should be required to put up sound barriers so neighbors aren't impacted. STR permits should be issued and limited, high permit fees should be charged, number of guests should be restricted, STR permits should be issued near downtown to encourage shopping/dining at Escondido businesses. Right now there are no restrictions, a STR could pop up next to anyone. It's time to do something before more residents are impacted. Thank you!

Submitted on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 - 10:02am

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email civics@robroy.cc

Council Meeting Date August 10, 2022

Item # 10 - CITY TREASURER COMPENSATION

Subject High City Hall Salaries

Position In Opposition

First and Last Name Robroy Fawcett

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

This measure is a waste of money. If the City Council wants the City Treasurer's salary to be \$70,000, it should lower the salary of the highest paid salary of a city department head to \$140,000 in accordance with Sec. 2-95.

When the measure was passed in 1984, the highest paid salary of a city department head was \$50,000, and the City Treasurer's salary was set to \$25,000.

The City Treasurer's stands as reminder of the extreme increase in City Hall salaries, and should be widely publicized. It is only 1/2 the salary of the City Attorney's.

To put my money where my mouth is, I would gladly serve as the City Attorney for \$140,000.

Therefore, the City is now wasting the cost of this measure, and the difference between the City Attorney's salary and \$140,000.

And if you want to put the City Treasurer's salary at what the City Council makes, I can serve of City Attorney 2X of that, as long as I have the highest paid salary of a City Employee.

(BTW - lowering City Hall salaries will lower the City's long term pension costs.)

Submitted on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 - 2:11pm

Submitted by user: Visitor

Submitted values are:

Board or Commission for Public Comment City Council

Email edgallo@hotmail.com

Council Meeting Date 08-10-22

Item # 10

Subject City Treasurer

Position In Favor

First and Last Name Ed Gallo

Are you an Escondido Resident? Yes

Comments

Thank you council for taking action on this long discussed issue. This will certainly put Escondido in line with other jurisdictions however, I am still perplexed as to why the council does not want to take any action on the Mayor's salary which, as I told the council months ago, is totally out of whack with other similar general law cities. There is absolutely no justification for the current salary. Thank you for your time.