

MONTEREY COUNTY



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June 17, 2018

Monterey County Planning Commission
Melissa McDougal, Administrative Secretary
1441 Schilling Place, 2nd Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

RE: Short-Term Rental Code Compliance (Board Referral No. 2018.10)

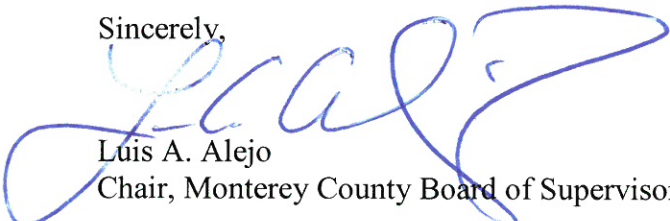
Dear Chair Vandever and Planning Commissioners,

On Tuesday, June 19, 2018, the policy issue of Short-Term Rental (STR) code enforcement was presented to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors. Staff from the Resource Management Agency and the Treasurer-Tax Collector presented information on the priority of the Code Enforcement (CE) cases, number of CE cases related to STR per Supervisorial district, needed resources to enforce non-compliant STR's, and the possible use of a third-party vendor to assist with CE enforcement. We recognize that this has been a long arduous process. During the meeting, the Treasurer – Tax Collector, Mary Zeeb, provided information regarding Host Compliance, LLC, which is a third-party vendor under contract with the County for purposes of tracking STRs for transient occupancy tax collection. Ms. Zeeb informed the Board the services under the existing contract with Host Compliance includes a 24 hour complaint hotline, which the County could use to assist with STR enforcement. After consideration of the information presented, along with public testimony, the Board directed RMA staff to expeditiously proceed with the amendment of the Ordinance in the non-coastal (Inland) area and the preparation of an Ordinance in the coastal area. Additionally, we requested that staff return to the Board on July 17th with additional information regarding the cost to increase staff resources for code compliance, and the steps needed to use Host Compliance their 24/7 hot line and the website monitoring software.

Until this information is reviewed, the Board is not in support of increasing funding for code enforcement, but will reconsider that issue once an ordinance is developed. However, we are clear that there is an urgency to complete the ordinances along with the need to continue with enforcement efforts to manage the current STR situation and reduce community division on this topic.

Thank you for bring this important matter to our attention.

Sincerely,



Luis A. Alejo
Chair, Monterey County Board of Supervisors