

Press Advisory: March 12, 2021

Press Contact: Sara Flocks | sflocks@betterneighborsla.org | 510-332-1996

Neighbors Launch Door-to-Door Campaign After Landlord Allegedly Converts Rent-Controlled Housing into Illegal Hotels

Activists gather to call on Councilmember O'Farrell to enforce the Home Sharing Ordinance

Who: Better Neighbors LA, Silverlake neighbors, laid-off hospitality workers, and community members

What: Contactless canvass launch of Silverlake neighborhood to urge Councilman O'Farrell step up and protect neighbors

When: Friday, March 12, 2021 at 11:30am

Where: 3512 Crestmont, Los Angeles

Los Angeles, CA: Today, Better Neighbors LA, neighborhood residents, and laid-off hospitality workers who live in Silverlake will gather in front of an alleged illegal short-term rental used as a hotel and adult film set for a community canvass launch. Activists will lead a contact-less, socially distanced canvass with PPE of the neighborhood to inform residents on how to enforce the Home Sharing Ordinance with Better Neighbors LA.

Neighbors allege that a single landlord has converted multiple rent-controlled housing units into short-term rentals that are used for parties with guests arriving in luxury buses, as well as to shoot films late at night with lights blaring. Residents report being awakened by parties at 3am and contending with traffic, noise and a lack of parking.

Better Neighbors LA and Silverlake neighbors call on O'Farrell use his power to shut-down the five short-term rentals operating in violation of the Home Sharing Ordinance in one neighborhood in his district.

Better Neighbors LA operates a [website and hotline](#) that enables residents and neighbors to report short-term rentals that violate the city's Home Sharing Ordinance. Along with neighborhood advocates, Better Neighbors will resume door-to-door literature drops around alleged illegal short-term rentals until the City increases enforcement of the Home Sharing Ordinance.

Better Neighbors LA recently won a victory for a Silverlake resident who lived next to an illegal short-term rental party house and after months, Councilman O'Farrell did the right thing following community pressure.

Los Angeles passed the Home Sharing Ordinance in 2018 to address an extreme shortage of affordable housing and the negative effects of short-term rentals on long-term housing markets. The Ordinance strictly limits home sharing to primary residences and requires "hosts" of short-term rentals to register for a permit. It also prohibits "host platforms" from processing bookings for listings without a valid City Home Sharing registration number.

###

Better Neighbors LA is a coalition of Southern California hosts, tenants, housing activists, hotel workers, and community members. We believe the best way to support true sharing for hosts and guests is also the best way to protect jobs, housing, and communities: by curbing illegal commercial activity in the short-term rental industry.