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**For Memorial Day Weekend, Neighbors Launched Canvass Where Landlord Allegedly Converted Rent-Controlled Housing into Illegal Vacation Rental**  
*Community members gathered to demand the City of LA enforce the Home Sharing Ordinance*

*As travel returns to LA, Angelinos demand City enforce rules against illegal hotels  
Better Neighbors LA launched a summer-long campaign in Venice today to protect rent-controlled housing from short-term rental onslaught*

Los Angeles, CA: As the summer travel season kicks off and the state prepares to reopen June 15, activists with Better Neighbors LA launched a summer-long campaign for the City of Los Angeles to meet their obligation to protect affordable housing that landlords often illegally convert into short-term rentals for tourists.

Better Neighbors LA, neighborhood residents and laid-off hospitality workers leafletted visitors, residents and businesses on the Venice Boardwalk as part of their ongoing demand that the city enforce its Home Sharing Ordinance. The problem is particularly acute on Breeze Avenue in Venice, where neighbors report that landlords have evicted tenants and converted so much rent-controlled housing into short-term rentals that their tight-knit residential street has become a hotel zone.

***"I have lived in Venice for 21 years and have seen the character of my neighborhood completely altered by short-term rentals. Every weekend, there are new guests staying at the Breeze Property. The result is a neighborhood filled with tourists rather than tenants. I moved here for the community, not to live in a hotel zone. The lack of enforcement by the city on short term rentals is destroying my street and Venice as a whole."*** –Mark Rago, Breeze Avenue in Venice resident

Breeze Avenue is just one example of a trend across Southern California of the conversion of apartment buildings and entire neighborhoods into illegal hotels, displacing residents and creating nuisances. The explosion of commercial short-term rentals makes the housing and homelessness crisis worse and Better Neighbors LA demands action.

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 (HSO). 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 HSO.

***"We are deeply concerned that housing that should be used to house tenants is being unlawfully offered as short-term rentals without any consequences for hosts who refuse to comply with the law. When the City Planning Department's enforcement falls short, it is neighbors like Mr. Rago, who must deal with the consequences. The short term rental of the***

***Breeze Property violates the law and removes affordable housing from the market.*** –Nancy Hanna, *Better Neighbors LA*

Los Angeles passed the Home Sharing Ordinance in 2018 to address a crisis-level shortage of affordable housing and the negative effects of short-term rentals on neighborhoods and communities. The Ordinance 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 and from using housing units under the Rent Stabilization Ordinance as short-term rentals.

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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.