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[Click here to see One-Year Review](https://bit.ly/LAHSOrev)

**No Home for the Holidays:**

**Better Neighbors LA Releases One-Year Review on Crisis of Illegal Short-Term Rentals**

*Authors Call for Enforcement of Home Sharing Ordinance, Not A Loophole*

**Los Angeles, CA:**With a housing crisis that threatens to leave many renters with no home for the holidays,Better Neighbors LA releases a [One-Year Review of enforcement](https://bit.ly/LAHSOrev) detailing extensive violations of the City’s Home Sharing Ordinance. The review is included with this press release.

The Los Angeles City Council passed the Home Sharing Ordinance (HSO) in December 2018 to address the “unfavorable consequences” of Airbnb and other short-term rental companies on Southern California. L.A.’s HSO notes the industry “reduces housing stock and contributes to increased rents,” causes “negative impacts on the residential character” of neighborhoods, and increases “nuisance activity.” The ordinance took effect in July 2019, and city enforcement began in November 2019. (All quoted language taken from HSO.)

“Many of us are on the verge of homelessness and the added stress and worry this pandemic and eviction crisis has brought on renters like me is like none we have ever seen before,” said Liliana Hernandez a renter, UNITE HERE Local 11 member and laid off hospitality worker who is scared of losing her home of 13 years.

The [review](https://bit.ly/LAHSOrev) details various tactics short-term rental platforms and hosts are using to avoid compliance with the Ordinance. For example, although the HSO requires that short-term rental hosts and platforms provide their registration number on each listing, the platforms allow hosts to list properties with no registration number or with fake HSO registration numbers. Of short-term rental listings reviewed, nearly half failed to include a registration number or claimed an exemption. In addition, the platforms allow hosts to list multiple properties in direct violation of the law. Moreover, the platforms list hundreds of non-residential buildings for rent, including driveways, trailers, and vehicles as rental housing. The Ordinance strictly prohibits the short-term rental of such properties. As a result of the City’s failure to enforce the Ordinance, illegal rentals have skyrocketed.

Randy Renick, executive director of Better Neighbors LA said “This review reflects the pressing need to prioritize short-term rental enforcement in LA. During a pandemic and economic downturn is the most important time to protect our housing and neighborhoods and to make sure every Angeleno has a home for the holidays.”

Recently, the Los Angeles Planning and Land Use Management Committee, led by Councilmember Harris-Dawson, voted 3-1 to move to the full council a Vacation Rental Ordinance that would allow nearly 15,000 short-term rental Airbnb-type units. The ordinance would create a loophole for the ultra-wealthy with vacation homes in the existing Short -Term Rental Ordinance.

[The review raises the question of why the City Council is not moving to effectively enforce the law](https://bit.ly/LAHSOrev) and is instead considering voting on a loophole to the Home Sharing Ordinance that would take even more housing units off the market to benefit the wealthiest Angelenos and commercial operators. The full Council is expected to vote on the Vacation Rental Ordinance in early December, at the same time that LA faces a growing housing and eviction crisis.

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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 and the community: by curbing illegal commercial activity in the short-term rental industry.

UNITE HERE Local 11 is the union of more than 32,000 workers in hotels, restaurants, airports,

sports arenas & convention centers in So. California & Arizona.