

**From:** [Planning Clerk](#)  
**To:** [McNamara, Cade](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Short term rental ordinance  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2023 11:46:03 AM

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Please see the public comment below.

**Laura McClenagan**

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**From:** C.E. Fait <mrcefait9@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 19, 2023 7:00 PM  
**To:** Bohn, Rex <RBohn@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Arroyo, Natalie <narroyo@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Madrone, Steve <smadrone@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Wilson, Mike <Mike.Wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Bushnell, Michelle <mbushnell@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Planning Clerk <planningclerk@co.humboldt.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Short term rental ordinance

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Hi Board of Supervisors,

Please ask yourselves: why allow Short-term rentals in Humboldt County at all? I've attended a handful of the Planning Commission's meetings where the topic of Short-term rentals was up for public comment and I fail to see the long-term benefits of short-term rentals. I tell others that Humboldt County is a special place, but it is highly unlikely that it will be exempt from "The Airbnb Effect" that has been detrimental to other regions of the country. This phenomenon occurs because STRS raise local rents and local housing prices since residential areas are now being viewed as lucrative businesses. And according to a Forbes article a healthy housing market is the bedrock of a healthy economy, not the profit margins of STR operators.

The two major arguments that I came across during these meetings and workshops were; *This is my property and I have the right to do whatever I want on it* If that were the case then my neighbor could run a tiny nuclear power plant in his front yard while eating a bald eagle sandwich. So please, disregard that argument

The second argument is about how personal financial troubles can only be relieved via STR profits. This was the most common argument that I witnessed. STR operators would claim that there was a blood relative in dire straits and the only solution was STR dividends. Now, I can't claim to know the validity of these pleas to care about families (that own homes and want to make money off them), but I do know that there are in fact multiple avenues of making money, one being long-term rentals. There are not a lot of housing options for those people who simply want to live here, and allowing STRs will most likely diminish those housing opportunities. In addition it will probably result in forced economic displacement of current long-term renters.

Thank you,

Chris Vasquez-*Eureka*