From: keri heniff
To: CD STRComment
Subject: please protect residential neighborhoods
Date: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 12:01:09 PM

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Hi.

I'm writing to offer my comments regarding short term rentals. I've been a Leavenworth resident since 2003, my husband since 2008, as renters until 2018. We relied on the availability of long term rentals in order to live and work here in Leavenworth. When the owner of our last rental we were in decided to turn it into their primary residence, we were forced to look for another place to live. We had a very hard time finding a long term rental and were fortunate enough to be able to buy a piece of land and build a small home for our family.

We've loved living in Leavenworth and want others to be able to live here too. In order for that to happen, we strongly believe in addressing the short term rental issue that has become a problem in this area, especially over the past five years. We're asking you NOT to legalize absentee-owner short term rentals in residential neighborhoods! We also agree with many of the points that Residents United for Neighbors have come up with, including the following:

- Phase out existing absentee-owner short term rentals within the next 2-5 years.
- Limit occupancy to no more than 10 guests at a time.
- Owner must live on site during rental and allow only one short term rental in the owner's primary residence or accessory unit.
- Prohibit permit transfers when house/unit is sold
- Limit short term rental permits to one per owner, in order to reduce short term rentals to a 5% density of all housing.

Please help keep Leavenworth as an affordable and accessible place for people to live.

Thank you,
Keri Heniff