From: Barbara Rossing
To: CD STRComment
Subject: Re: STR absentee-owners switching voter registration
Date: Friday, September 4, 2020 9:15:24 AM

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TO: Planning Commission
From: Barbara Rossing

I am writing to call to your attention a problematic note from STRACC to their members, urging STR owners to change their voter registration to Chelan County, because "we need all the votes we can get."
I believe this is illegal to urge people to register to vote where they do not have their primary residence. This highlights the problem of absentee-owner short-term rental owners' undue influence in County processes and deliberations. Only residents should be voting. Owning a STR business property does not make a person a resident.

Here is the excerpt from the STRACC note to their members in July http://www.straccwa.org/blog/archives/07-2020, in which STRACC also endorsed Tiffany Gering for County Commissioner, in addition to recruiting voters to change address:
"Remember, you can still **register to vote online** at **http://votewa.gov** **until July 27 or in person until Aug 4**. Keep in mind that if you own property in Chelan County, you are eligible to vote here. To do so, you can simply change your voter registration address using the same link above. Also, please spread the word encourage other owners to do the same! **We need all the votes we can get to protect our STR property rights and businesses in Chelan County.** Thanks, **The STRACC Executive Board"**

I trust the Commissioners will check with Auditor Skip Moore about the legality of this campaign to try to stack the voter rolls with absentee owners who don't actually live full-time here in Chelan County, but who want to use their absentee-owner STR business as their voting address in order to influence the County Commissioner election.
Thank you for your attention to this irregularity.

Sincerely,
Barbara Rossing, 7785 E. Leavenworth Rd, Leavenworth