Original Signatures

Memorandum

CITY OF SAN LEANDRO

MAY 2 0 2019

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

May 20, 2019

To: San Leandro City Council / Mayor Cutter, Vice-Mayor Lopez and Councilmembers Cox, Hernandez, Aguilar, Lee and Ballew.

CC: Tom Liao, Director and MaryAnn Sargent, Housing Specialist

From: Mission Bay Homeowners Assn.

RE: Mobilehome Rent Stabilization Ordinance, 1st Reading

Mission Bay Mobilehome Owners Assn. is urgently requesting the following changes to the proposed Rent Ordinance. To support this request, we are attaching a petition signed by 155 Mission Bay Mobilehome Owner / Residents collected by volunteers going door-to-door over the past 2 weeks.

1. [4-39-212] Annual Rent Increases:

a. ".... A Mobilehome Park Owner may impost a Rent Increase for a Mobilehome Space that shall be equal to the lesser of CPI-W¹ or three (3) percent of the Rent charged for the Space in the preceding year....."

2. [4-39-220] Method to Determine a Fair Return

a. Financial information provided to support Park Owner appeal must be, at minimum, CPA compiled, preferably CPA audited.

3. [4-39-255] Rent Stabilization Administration, Fees

a. Fees should be assessed with maximum transparency to Mobilehome Owners. Ordinance allows for 50% passthrough to Mobilehome Owners – we need to ensure that pass-throughs do not exceed this amount.

Failure to adopt the requested CPI-W index will increase Mission Bay space rents beyond the annual 3% increases we currently receive in most years. We need your help to decrease the impacts of annual rent increases, not make our situation worse.

Thank you.

¹ Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) on a monthly basis. CPI-W is used to annually adjust benefits paid to Social Security Beneficiaries and Supplemental Security Income recipients.

CITY OF SAN LEANDRO MAY 2 0 2019

We, the residents of Mission Bay Park, ask the Mayor and City Council of San Leanth Soffeth us control escalating Mission Bay Space Rent costs!

We ask that the following changes are made to the proposed Mobilehome Rent Stabilization Ordinance:

Annual Space Rent Increase

- Limit maximum increase to 3% annually: Right now the City is proposing that lot rents shouldn't be able to go up more than 4% a year. We need the City to limit that increase to 3% a year.
- Lot rents must not go up faster than our Social Security checks: If the amount that Social Security is raised is less than 3% in any year, we don't want our lot rents to go up by 3%. We want the amount of our rent increase to match the amount that Social Security payments are increased. In other words, let's say that in 2020 people on Social Security are going to get paid 1% more than they did in 2019. We want our lot rent to only go no more than 1% that year.
- **To Summarize**: The ordinance should be revised as follows: Annual space rent increases may not exceed the lesser of the increase to the Consumer Price Index-W (CPI-W) or 3%.

So whatever is the lower increase, 3% or the percent Social Security goes up, that's the increase we want.

Method to Determine a Fair Return

The proposed ordinance provides Park Owners the option of requesting an annual rent increase **above** the maximumallowed if financial hardship can be proved. There is no requirement for an independent review of these statements before submission to the City.

We insist the Mobilehome Ordinance be revised to require that Park Owners submit financial statements reviewed or audited by a qualified, independent Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

Rent Stabilization Administration, Fees

Park owners will be charged a fee by the City of San Leandro to administer the Rent Stabilization Program. The owners can pass half of these fees on to us, their tenants. We request that the amounts of these fees be made transparent to the Mobilehome Owners who are tenants of the Park. It's important to be able to hold both the City and the Park Owners accountable for any fees passed through to us.

This flyer left by a Mission Bay Neighbor on behalf of Mission Bay Mobilehome Owners Assn. For more information, email us at mbhoasl@gmail.com.

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	MISSION BAY PARK RENT CONTROL SURVEY	CITY OF SAN LEANDRO
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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

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CITY OF SAN LEANDRO MAY 2 0 2019

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	MISSION BAY PARK RENT CONTROL SURVEY	MAY 2 0 2019		
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CITY OF SAN LEANDRO
MAY 2 0 2019
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

riello,

I'm your neighbor at Mission Bay Park. I live on Sexta Susana).
I'm part of the Homeowners Association at Mission Bay.

I knocked on your door today to ask you to sign a petition that we want to send to the San Leandro Mayor and City Council.

The petition asks the Mayor and City Council to help us keep our annual rent increases under control. We cannot afford to have our rents going too high. Right now, every year we get an increase of 3%.

If you want to keep your lot rent down, please help us try to do that.

We need to give this to the Mayor and City Council as soon as possible. They will decide on this by May 20 but we need to show them this petition much sooner than that.

I will knock on your door again today or tomorrow. I will only take a few minutes of your time. I will show you the petition and ask you to sign it if you agree.

Your opinion counts! Thank you.

Volunteer's First Name (optional)

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MEMORANDUM

To: City Council of San Leandro

From: Andrew F. Pierce

Date: May 20, 2019

RE: Initial Analysis of Proposed Regulation of Hosted Short Term Rentals.

CITY OF SAN LEANDRO MAY 2 0 2019 CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

I. INTRODUCTION

Pierce & Shearer LLP has been retained by a group of San Leandro homeowners who host short-term rentals. Our firm has previously been involved in this and similar issues in other cities, perhaps most notably in South Lake Tahoe where we successfully obtained an injunction against the voter passed Measure T initiative.

Since we were just retained last week, we have not had time to comprehensively analyze the ordinance under consideration in San Leandro that will regulate hosted short-term rentals. As an initial observation, the current draft seems extreme, as though the interests of all stake holders were not being considered, only those of enemies of short-term rentals. It takes an unwarrantedly punitive approach in such areas as 1) prohibiting hosted short-term rentals in secondary dwelling units; 2) limiting the number of calendar days in an arbitrary fashion; 3) requiring notification regarding advertising; 4) restricting parking in public areas; 5) taxation; and 6) the permit approval, renewal and allocation procedures, all of which are draconian.

II. LEGAL ISSUES

The following are some excerpts from the brief we presented to the courts in El Dorado County which resulted in an ongoing injunction against enforcement of the South Lake Tahoe Initiative Ordinance.

Under California law a property owner may gain vested rights under the common law if the party has performed substantial work and incurred substantial liabilities in good faith reliance on a permit issued by the government. *Avco Community Developers, Inc. v. South Coast Regional Commission* (1976) 17 Cal.3d 785, 791. Recently in *Stewart Enterprises, Inc. v. City of Oakland* (2016) 248 Cal.App.4th 410, the Court of Appeal held that the city could not impose new conditional use permit requirements after a land owner had obtained a building permit.

Clauses regulating conditional use permits that do not reasonably relate to the property itself are non-enforceable. The Court of Appeals has found that the local zoning authority did not have the power to condition use permits upon non-transferability. *Anza Parking Corp. v. City of Burlingame* (1987) 195 Cal.App.3d 855, 858-860. They concluded that a conditional use permit creates a right which does not attach to the permittee but rather runs with the land. *Id.; See also, Olevson v. Zoning Board of Review* (1945) 71 R.I. 303, 44 A.2d 720, 722 (which held that after issuing a permit allowing a property to operate a boarding and rooming house in an area zoned for residential use, the city cannot impose a condition that the property owner must remain the owner).

MAY 2 0 2019

It has long been the case in California that existing uses cannot be outlawed by Carring Tak's OFFICE Jones v. City of Los Angeles (1930) 211 Cal. 304. The California Supreme Court held that where "a retroactive ordinance causes substantial injury and the prohibited business is not a nuisance, the ordinance is to that extent an unreasonable and unjustifiable exercise of police power." Id. at 321. Here my clients are engaged in the use which the City now seeks to outlaw. As the court noted in Anderson v. The City Counsel of The City of Pleasant Hill (1964) 229 Cal.App.2d 79, 88-89, "[t]he activity of the owner in the use of his property at the time it becomes subject to a zoning ordinance ... determines the scope of the nonconforming use excepted from the restrictions imposed by the ordinance ... [t]he property owner acquires a vested right to continue a use 'actually instituted' ..."; See also, County of San Diego v. McClurken (1951) 37 Cal.2d 683, 690 (recognizing "the rule that a lawful use existing at the time a zoning ordinance becomes effective cannot be prohibited when it is not a public nuisance.")

In Goat Hill Tavern v. City of Costa Mesa (1992) 6 Cal. App. 4th 1519, the court concluded the owner's right to continue operation of the business was a fundamental vested right. It added that "the right to continue an established business ... is sufficiently personal, vested and important to preclude its extinction by a nonjudicial body." *Id.* at 1529.

In the present case, property owners have invested a great deal in their property to make improvements and alterations that would allow their properties to be rented.

There is also a plethora of case law holding that local laws purporting to limit occupancy are unconstitutional.

Article I Section I of the California Constitution is a statewide constitutional right of privacy adopted by the voters. As interpreted in the leading case of *White v. Davis* (1975) 13 Cal.3d 757, "[t]he right of privacy is the right to be left alone. It is a fundamental and compelling interest. It protects our homes, our families, our thoughts, our emotions, our expressions, our personalities, our freedom of communion and our freedom to associate with the people we choose ... [the] right should be abridged only when there is a compelling public need." *Id.* at 774-775.

The ballot argument for the initiative that enacted Article I Section I of the California Constitution indicated the voters' intent to ensure the right of privacy not only to one's family but also one's home. See, City of Santa Barbara v. Adamson (1980) 27 Cal.3d 123, 130. "In general, zoning ordinances are much less suspect when they focus on the use than when they command inquiry into who are the users." *Id.* at 133.

In states, such as California, with a state constitutional right of privacy there is a strong presumption against laws that regulate the occupants in a discriminatory manner. In *Chula Vista v. Pagard* (1981) 115 Cal.App.3d 785, the court found that a zoning ordinance that limited the number of unrelated individuals in a residence had only a tenuous relationship to the government interests articulated in support of the ordinance and therefore was invalid. The court found that restrictive limitations on population density may be constitutional but only if they do not distinguish between traditional and unrelated groups or interfere with their constitutional rights.

Similar efforts to bar tourists and visitors from renting properties through the use of occupancy restrictions have been struck down as unconstitutional in other states. In *Kirsch Holding Company v. The Borough of Manasquan* (1971) 59 N.J. 241, 281 A.2d 513, the New Jersey Supreme Court found

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that a restrictive definition of family enacted for the purpose of restricting summer canal consideration of the court noted that where the intensity of use was a problem consideration might be given to limiting the number of occupants in reasonable relation to sleeping and bathroom facilities or habitable floor space, but the court did not permit the imposition of strict and discriminatory numerical limits on rentals that is not applicable to residential family in the same zoning districts. In Larson v. The Mayor and Council of The Borough of Spring Lake Heights (1968) 99 N.J. Super. 365, 240 A.2d 31, an ordinance which prohibited occupancy by groups of unrelated persons enacted to deter the rental of summer units to groups of unrelated persons was found to be overbroad. The court held that the ordinance bore only a tenuous relationship to the problem sought to be eradicated and that it barred many kinds of occupancies which did not cause a threat to the public order. In Gabe Collins Realty, Inc. v. City of Margate City (1970) 112 N.J. Super 341, 271 A.2d 430, the court noted that dwelling units of a size sufficient to accommodate a family were also of sufficient size to accommodate more than two unrelated persons without any accompanying threat to the public welfare.

In *McMinn v. Oyster Bay* (1984) 482 NYS 2d 773, Aff'd 66 N.Y.2d 544, a New York court found that occupancy limits that were not based on any investigation by the city could not be supported. In *Holy Name Hospital v. Montroy* (1977) 153 N.J. Super 181, 379 A.2d 299, the court held that any numerical limitation would have to be of general applicability and reasonably related to the habitable floor area or sleeping and bathroom facilities.

Case law has also recognized that laws affecting land use may not be arbitrary or discriminatory separate and apart from the state right to privacy. *Arnel Development Company v. City of Costa Mesa* (1981) 126 Cal.App.3d 330.