

From: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
To: [Agenda Management Support](#)
Subject: #7 comment_Bieber, E
Date: Monday, March 10, 2025 4:57:44 PM

From: Emily Bieber <emily.bieber@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 8, 2025 3:48 PM
To: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>
Subject: Hosted Rentals & Airbnbs in Santa Cruz County

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Board of Supervisors,

I am a Santa Cruz county resident and property owner in the unincorporated area of the county. We have a hosted-rental that we advertise through Airbnb. It is permitted through the county and has been permitted in good standing for many years (we just renewed last year). This permit and the airbnb platform has enabled us to use a bedroom in our home for hosted short term rentals. I set this up when we bought our home to enable us to pay for the property taxes each year. It has also enabled us to pay local high school kids and others to clean/turn over the airbnb when we are not able to do it ourselves. I am also able to block it when family plans to visit and to host friends visiting from afar. It's a great set up and one we hope to continue. Neighbors have also enjoyed having a local small room to rental for visiting family when their home cannot accommodate all of their visitors from out of state. It has literally helped us make ends meet over the years and I know it has done the same for other young families/property owners, especially those like us (purchasing our first house) and those who are empty nesters who also benefit from being able to bring in a small amount of income from an bedroom in their primary residence when they are on a fixed income during retirement.

I am entirely supportive of the county regulating such rentals. Our airbnb has always followed the rules and paid TOT. We live in a beautiful part of the state and i think it would be lost opportunity to overly restrict airbnb rentals generally. We should find a balance, prioritizing long term sustainable infrastructure, more available housing (greater cooperation between the county and property owners to build more affordable housing in the form of ADUs and other alternative housing options) tourism, tax revenue and regulation that still supports local businesses/property owner's entrepreneurial

engagement with the free market. I am supportive of caps on the number of permits and ensuring any rentals pay their fair share of TOT taxes. I was also happy to see greater enforcement of the permitting process for hosted rentals, especially for those of us who have been following the rules and paying TOT all along.

Thank you for your consideration,

Emily Bieber
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