

Council member Rita Lamb on Short Term Rentals. (From CV Independent, 10/15/20)

The City Council recently voted unanimously to approve an ordinance phasing out short-term vacation rentals in much of Cathedral City. Since resident supporters of vacation rentals have issued threats of legal action against the city as a result, do you think the City Council should revisit this issue in the coming year?

You know, I can't speak for every member on the City Council, but first, I'd like to say how proud I am of the city staff, the city manager, our council liaison—who was Mayor John Aguilar—and all of the residents who were part of the task force and who willingly stepped up to the plate and advocated for their positions for over a year. Talk about doing the business of the public in public—this was a herculean effort, and I'm just so proud of everyone involved.

Between all the City Council meetings and the time devoted to individual public comments, there were two large town halls (held as well). One was at the Cathedral City Library, and there was another one at City Hall. And then the task force met monthly in person until COVID hit. Still, there were at-length discussions about all the possibilities. Then, when recommendations came to us in July, we devoted a whole day to all of the materials, all of the documentation and more public comments. And we had a chance to review all of the recommendations from the task force, of which I think there were a little over 90. So, in the final analysis, the decision contained something for everybody.

The residents wanted their neighborhoods to be preserved. That was the original issue—that neighborhoods were being compromised because of the activities around these short-term rentals. So now, the neighborhoods are restored. There is enough time for people to repurpose their property, if that needs to happen. Homeowner associations that have quality control and a service component as part of their CCRs stay the same. For those folks who have home-sharing, that's fine. So I thought it was brilliant. I'm glad to be part of such a well-rounded and thought-out solution.

Full article: https://www.cvindependent.com/index.php/en-US/news/politics/item/6201-candidate-q-a-meet-the-two-candidates-running-for-the-cathedral-city-district-1-city-council-seat?fbclid=IwAR2jwx4-Vx5Bhm4wYtOmvzpDvFsgoW7t_nPJWUSf6QwDwOWdXNoJeq3vp9s