

B.7

MOTION ON NOTICE

7. Action to Strengthen Regulation of Short-Term Rentals

MOVER: Councillor Meggs

SECONDER:

WHEREAS

1. The city of Vancouver has an extremely low rental vacancy rate at less than 1%;
2. Access to affordable, quality rental housing is limited in Vancouver;
3. The City's *Zoning and Development By-law* prohibits rentals for less than thirty days, unless in approved zones for Hotel and Bed & Breakfast businesses, accompanied by an appropriate City business licence;
4. New online technologies such as AirBnB and other popular websites (Vacation Rental by Owner (VRBO), Tripping, Roomorama), are enabling short-term rentals in cities throughout North America;
5. Recent third party reports potential counts of more than 4000 units being offered on AirBnB listings in Vancouver;
6. It is probable that many of these units are being offered in violation of the *Zoning and Development By-law* with a negative impact on vacancy rates, building security and public safety considerations;
7. Enforcement of existing bylaws is complaint-driven and requires more evidence than a simple listing to prove a violation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT City staff report to Council as soon as feasible on work under way to study the issue of short-term rentals in Vancouver, the impact of short-term rentals on housing stock; options to mitigate negative impacts, both in rental and home ownership housing stocks; and steps that other cities are taking to address these issues;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to seek co-operation from AirBnB and other listing services, including detailed data on listings, to ensure an accurate assessment of the issue; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to consult with the Renters Advisory Committee, the tourism industry, and others as needed on the City's response to this issue.

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