

Short-Term Rentals-Proposed Bylaws & Options

Presented at General Purposes Committee March 6, 2017

Short-Term Rentals-Context

Enablers

- Sharing Economy
- Web-based listing services with a world wide reach

Opportunities

New business opportunity for home owners

Issues

- Unregulated short-term rental listings
- Illegal operations causing impact on neighbourhoods
- Uneven playing field (hotel tax, etc.)



Time Line

3 reports to Council/Committee since Jan 2017

	Report Title	Report Dated	Presented to Committee/Council
1.	Regulation of Short-Term Rental Units	November 29, 2016	General Purposes Committee on January 3, 2017
			Council Meeting on January 9, 2017
2.	Short-Term Rental Regulations	January 26, 2017	General Purpose Committee on February 6, 2017
3.	Short-Term Rentals – Enforcement and Bed & Breakfast Regulations	February 9, 2017	Closed General Purposes Committee to provide legal advice on options related to referral items



Changes Endorsed

- Enhance existing regulations
- Intensify enforcement of illegal short-term rental operations
- Define "short-term rental"
- Increase fines and penalties
- Require rezoning for "agri-tourism accommodation" on sites in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR)



Changes Endorsed

- Prohibit B&B's in homes with secondary suites, granny flats or coach houses
- Require and verify annually that B&B is the primary residence of the operator
- Limit all B&Bs to:
 - maximum of 3 bedrooms for rent
 - Maximum 2 guests/room
- Implement a 500m separation between B&Bs (new applications)



Illustration of 500 m Buffer Proposed between B&Bs



Changes Endorsed

- B&B operators to notify neighbours of the operation and provide contact information
- Encourage B&B operators to carry adequate liability and property damage insurance

(Note: Summarized in Attachment 3 of the staff report)



Consultation Opportunities

For Actions Endorsed by Council:

- Statutory Requirements
 - Public Notification and Public Hearing for Official Community Plan, Zoning and other bylaws amendments

Communication Plan

 Notify current operators, assist applicants and notify public of changes



Consultation Opportunities

If Council instructs staff to Prepare Options for Community Consultation:

- Public Engagement
 - Staff to report back to Council with options, presentation material and consultation plan ahead of drafting bylaw amendment



Requirements for B&B Business

- Home must comply with Zoning, Building and Fire Bylaws
- No cooking facilities in guest rooms
- One parking stall required per room
- Home must be operator's primary residence
- Owner consent is required for the operator
- Maximum of 3 rooms
- Maximum of 2 people/room
- Operators must notify neighbours
- New businesses to be 500m from existing businesses



Conclusion

- Issues are complex and evolving
- Phased approach:
 - Address the most egregious cases
 - Regulate compliance of licenced businesses
 - Adopt enhanced regulations and guidelines
 - Communicate new regulations & encourage compliance
 - Further public consultation if additional options are to be considered



Referrals from Council/Committee

Referral Questions		Action	
1.	Require Proof of Insurance	Incorporated	
2.	Amend definition of Operator of a B&B to require Owner/Operator	Not Recommended	
3.	"Spot" Rezoning	Recommend 500 m buffer instead	
4.	Short-term Rental Tax/Hotel Tax	Not Applicable	
5.	Summary of Various Approaches	Detailed in Report	
6.	Adequacy of "Boarding and Lodging" Definition	Detailed in Report	
7.	Number of Short-Term Rental Listings in ALR	Detailed in Report	
8.	Licence/Permit Fees for Boarding and Lodging	Detailed in Report	

