

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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Greetings,

It has come to my attention that there will be a hearing on October 17th concerning Airbnb (Short term rental) operation in the District of Columbia. It happens to be, I own and manage this Airbnb in the City, and I would like to point out in support of the operation, the following:

- Airbnb can generate much needed income for the City through the collection of taxes.
- Airbnb will help many DC residents make ends meet due to the opportunity to generate additional personal income.
- Economic benefits will accrue to neighborhoods that have traditionally not benefited from tourism spending.
- There is also has a ripple economic effect of creating jobs and generating extra income for others in the community; such as housekeeping businesses: cleaning of the guest rooms, and cleaning of the bed sheets, towel and other toiletries.

Here are some facts that bolster my support for Airbnb:

- To date, millions of travelers have chosen Airbnb to experience cities not as tourists, but as locals.
- Airbnb travelers stay longer and spend more in diverse neighborhoods throughout the City.
- Hundreds of thousands of hosts worldwide have welcomed these travelers into their homes allowing the hosts to generate additional income while affording their guests places to stay at reasonable and affordable prices.

In essence, I believe that incentivizing individuals to leverage their existing fixed assets (such as their home) to supplement their income and participate in the economy is a win-win proposition. It benefits not only these individuals but the community at large. It allows for better and fair competition with established public companies, and the marketplace participants, including the end users, are afforded quality and reasonably priced facilities during their visit to the City.

Based on the above statements, I'm in full support of Short-term rentals in the City.

Yebeltal kebede

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