

From: Son Hawaii [son.hawaii@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 6:58 AM
To: Kobayashi, Ann H.; Marshall, Barbara; Djou, Charles; Dela Cruz, Donovan M; Okino, Gary; Garcia, Nestor; Tam, Rod; Cachola, Romy; Apo, Todd K
Cc: City Clerk; Eng, Henry; Mayor Mufi Hannemann
Subject: Reject Bills 6,7 & 9, Support Bill 8: Belleair Shore-FL Mayor claims short-term rentals a disaster in residential zones



"E Malama i ka Nohona Kaiaulu o O'ahu."
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 CITY CLERK
 HONOLULU, HAWAII

Dear Council Members;

The owners of illegal B&B's and TVU's have repeatedly claimed that "only" Oahu has issues with short-term rentals. Please review the attached PDF file (**Belleair Shore-FL Mayor claims short-term rentals a disaster in residential zones**) that documents their propaganda is false. Visitor lodging businesses such as B&B's and TVU's located in residential zoned neighborhoods are increasingly becoming a problem for many municipalities around the country and the world.

As unanimously recommended by the Planning Commission; Please OPPOSE Bills 6,7 & 9, & SUPPORT Bill 8. Thank you for protecting our residential zoned neighborhoods..

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Archives Article View

Published on TBNWeekly.com - Sept. 5, 2007

Belleair Shore rentals prompt tough response

By DAVE SHELTON

Article published on Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2007

BELLEAIR SHORE – Mayor John A. Robertson has reiterated his claims that short term rentals in the town are “really a disaster.”

During the Town Commission’s Aug. 22 meeting, Robertson was authorized to begin legal action against two property owners who are allegedly renting their homes as vacation sites.

The town began prosecution of the owners of three beachfront homes last month, when he described neighbors complaining of debris littering the beach in front of those homes, noisy parties with cars parked indiscriminately and crowded beaches. The commission authorized the mayor to send registered notices to the two property owners advising them that they might be in violation of town codes that prohibit rentals of less than 30 days.

Now, Robertson said, the property owners have continued to advertise their homes for rent. He said this appeared to be a snub of the town’s warnings.

Commissioners voted to authorize the mayor to send a letter to the property owners ordering them to cease the rentals. To continue prosecution, Town Attorney John Elias said, the town must now hire a special magistrate to determine if the properties are in violation of the town code and, if so, to impose fines of up to \$200 a day.

Robertson identified the property owners as Rhonda Hogan of Hillsborough County, who owns two of the houses in question. She allegedly has told Robertson that she must rent the houses until they are sold to avoid bank foreclosures.

The other property owner, Robertson said, is David Sferrazza of Seminole. Robertson said this owner has not responded to the allegations.

Neither property owner could be reached to comment.

Elias has said the city doesn’t need to prove any of the homes have actually been rented for less than 30 days. He explained that the advertising alone is a violation of both town and county codes that apply to short-term rentals.

The town’s regulations were adopted last winter after Elias explained the cumbersome enforcement procedures of the county codes. He advised the town could more effectively enforce the restrictions with its own codes.

As adopted, the codes call for the appointment of a special magistrate to determine if a violation exists and impose penalties. Elias has proposed three candidates for the position that would be paid on an hourly basis as alleged violations arise. The cost of hiring someone has been left open to negotiations with a candidate.

Article published on Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2007

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