

**City Council - This meeting will be broadcast live on CTN Cable Channel 16, ATT Channel 99, and online at a2gov.org/watchCTN
 To speak at public comment call: 877 853 5247 or 888 788 0099
 Enter Meeting ID: 982 6320 8392**

Meeting Time: 07-20-20 19:00

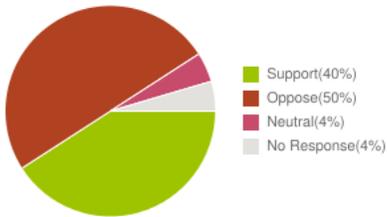
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
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Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



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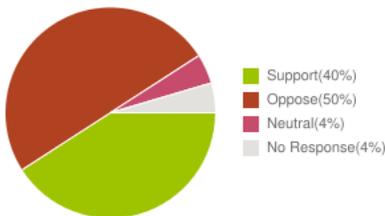
07-20-20 19:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
CA-9 20-0927 Resolution to Approve a Services Agreement and Land and Building Lease with Recycle Ann Arbor (RAA) for Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) Transloading, Re-Equipping and Recyclables Processing (10-Year term, with two Potential 3-Year Extensions)	2	2	0	0
PH-3 20-0984 An Ordinance to Amend Section 1:312(20) of Chapter 14 (Purchasing, Contracting and Selling Procedure) of Title I of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor (Ordinance No. ORD-20-21)	2	2	0	0
B-2 20-0984 An Ordinance to Amend Section 1:312(20) of Chapter 14 (Purchasing, Contracting and Selling Procedure) of Title I of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor (Ordinance No. ORD-20-21)	1	1	0	0
C-3 20-1042 An Ordinance to Amend Title VII (Businesses and Trades) of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor by Adding a New Chapter Which Shall be Designated As Chapter 97 (Short-Term Rentals)	13	1	11	1
DC-5 20-1082 Resolution Affirming Washtenaw County Resolution Declaring Racism as a Public Health Crisis in Washtenaw County	1	1	0	0
DC-6 20-1096 Resolution to Order Election and to Determine Ballot Question for Charter Amendment for the 2021 Affordable Housing Millage (7 Votes Required)	3	2	0	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

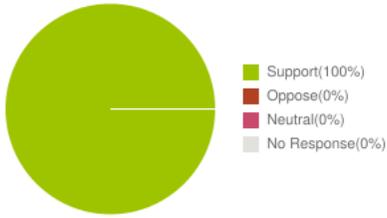
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Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for CA-9 20-0927 Resolution to Approve a Services Agreement and Land and Building Lease with Recycle Ann Arbor (RAA) for Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) Transloading, Re-Equipping and Recyclables Processing (10-Year term, with two Potential 3-Year Extensions)

Overall Sentiment



Nancy Stone

Location:

Submitted At: 3:05pm 07-20-20

I appreciate your past support of the A2 Zero Sustainability Plan & Integrated Pest Management Strategies. Please accept tonight's MRF operation contract to further advance the city's local resilience in an environmental, cost-effective manner. Thank you.

Ian Robinson

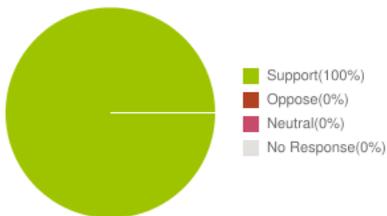
Location:

Submitted At: 10:12am 07-18-20

I have been following this matter closely, on behalf of HVALF and the UAW local whose members work for Recycle Ann Arbor. I'm very glad to see that negotiations between the City and RAA have resulted in this agreement. I believe that the environmental community, with which HVALF has been working closely on this matter, will also be very happy with this result. I urge City Council members to support this outcome.

Agenda Item: eComments for PH-3 20-0984 An Ordinance to Amend Section 1:312(20) of Chapter 14 (Purchasing, Contracting and Selling Procedure) of Title I of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor (Ordinance No. ORD-20-21)

Overall Sentiment



STEVEN GULICK

Location:

Submitted At: 12:34pm 07-18-20

I strongly support this amendment. It will provide the City of Ann Arbor a more prudent means in spending of taxpayer dollars by hiring responsible contractors, contributing to safer construction processes, and higher quality outputs. By passing this amendment, the City of Ann Arbor will join Washtenaw County, which has already passed a similar ordinance. HVALF has also reached out to the Regents of the University of Michigan and the Trustees of the Ann Arbor School District, and we expect that they will also implement responsible contractor requirements within the next year. The cumulative impact of these vital public institutions all shifting in this direction at the same time will be substantial. I hope that you will support this measure, which makes Ann Arbor a leader, in our region and our state, on this important aspect of our economic development model.

Ian Robinson

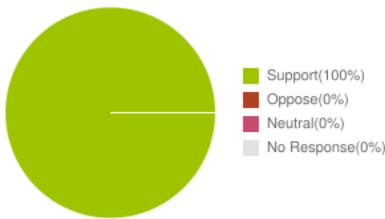
Location:

Submitted At: 9:49am 07-18-20

I strongly support this amendment. It will make the City of Ann Arbor a more effective agent for shifting labor markets in our city and county toward middle-class-supporting wage levels, while also contributing to safer construction processes, and higher quality outputs. By passing this amendment, the City of Ann Arbor will join Washtenaw County, which has already passed a similar ordinance. HVALF has also reached out to the Regents of the University of Michigan and the Trustees of the Ann Arbor School District, and we expect that they will also implement responsible contractor requirements within the next year. The cumulative impact of these vital public institutions all shifting in this direction at the same time will be substantial. I hope that you will support this measure, which makes Ann Arbor a leader, in our region and our state, on this important aspect of our economic development model.

Agenda Item: eComments for B-2 20-0984 An Ordinance to Amend Section 1:312(20) of Chapter 14 (Purchasing, Contracting and Selling Procedure) of Title I of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor (Ordinance No. ORD-20-21)

Overall Sentiment



STEVEN GULICK

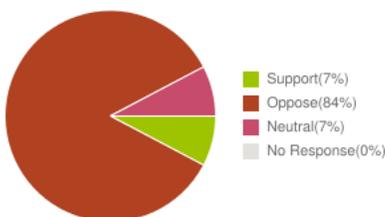
Location:

Submitted At: 12:30pm 07-18-20

I strongly support this amendment. It will provide the City of Ann Arbor a more prudent means in spending of taxpayer dollars by hiring responsible contractors, contributing to safer construction processes, and higher quality outputs. By passing this amendment, the City of Ann Arbor will join Washtenaw County, which has already passed a similar ordinance. HVALF has also reached out to the Regents of the University of Michigan and the Trustees of the Ann Arbor School District, and we expect that they will also implement responsible contractor requirements within the next year. The cumulative impact of these vital public institutions all shifting in this direction at the same time will be substantial. I hope that you will support this measure, which makes Ann Arbor a leader, in our region and our state, on this important aspect of our economic development model.

Agenda Item: eComments for C-3 20-1042 An Ordinance to Amend Title VII (Businesses and Trades) of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor by Adding a New Chapter Which Shall be Designated As Chapter 97 (Short-Term Rentals)

Overall Sentiment



Alex Gross

Location:

Submitted At: 3:05pm 07-20-20

It's hard to imagine a less progressive ordinance in a progressive city. Many (if not most) of the most impactful benefits of STRs are from dedicated locations. You cannot have a family from the hospital stay for months in an owner-occupied unit, or a person self-quarantine themselves with limited contact, or a couple on a budget looking to stay in downtown Ann Arbor. This ordinance, which effectively bans 99% of full-time STRs - even those located downtown - will tint how every single person coming to Ann Arbor and looking to stay at an STR sees the city. It will tint how every person they are coming to visit sees the city. I sincerely hope the council will consider adjustments to the Ordinance.

Rebecca Zurier

Location:

Submitted At: 11:50am 07-20-20

The comments below indicate good reasons to be careful in framing the regulation, and good reasons to consider postponing the imposition of new regulation until we are through the COVID crisis. But I still support a regulation that discourages or bans most forms of non-owner-occupied short-term rentals. The use of housing stock, by non-residents, as a form of investment drives up the cost of housing (both for those looking to purchase homes and for rentals) for all the rest of us. Many of the visitors who like to rent short-term can meet their needs in an owner-occupied rental.

Cyndi Dodson

Location:

Submitted At: 3:17pm 07-19-20

I live out-of-state but my family and I visit Ann Arbor (AA) often. We stay for 2 plus weeks and will only rent an Airbnb. An Airbnb gives us the feeling of being part of the community, that home-like feeling. Hotels don't provide that. Hotels are inconvenient, cramped, noisy, depressing. We prefer a non-occupied Airbnb but have stayed in owner occupied. Non-occupied Airbnb provides peace of mind (COVID-19), privacy and a quiet home-like environment, a friendly place to stay. Fewer Airbnb choices will end our visits to AA.

Kevin Gurtowsky

Location:

Submitted At: 2:54pm 07-19-20

As written, this ordinance truly represents peak Ann Arbor NIMBY-ism all under the guise of "maintaining neighborhood and community character". The banning of Non-owner occupied STRs throughout most the city severely harms the rights of property owners and limits options for this city's many visitors - especially without an option of grandfathering responsible STR hosts. Many prefer the comfort and privacy non-owner occupied STRs have to offer. A more responsible, and simplified STR regulation that focuses on registration/licensing and cracking down on problematic properties would have near universal support, and can be achieved without the blanket banning of certain STR types. Also, why has City Staff circumvented both the Planning Commission, which regulates property land use, and the Housing Code, which regulates rentals within the City, on an issue they purport to be based on zoning and housing? The specifics of this overly punitive ordinance need to be reconsidered.

Benjamin Ranta

Location:

Submitted At: 7:52pm 07-18-20

This ordinance is a violation of homeowner rights and should not be allowed to pass. The city has produced no data that shows Non-principal Residence Short-term Rentals are a nuisance to our community. Register STRs - no problem. Regularly inspect properties just like traditional rentals, absolutely. Require a registration fee, sure. Rationally use this information in the future to make informed decisions that deeply impact the rights of property owners, yes! Families from all over love visiting our city and their preferred lodging are STRs - just like all Ann Arborites when they travel (including councilmembers). A move to ban Non-principal Residence Short-term Rentals only hurts our community socially and economically.

Bridget O'Connor-Ranta

Location:

Submitted At: 7:23pm 07-18-20

I strongly oppose C-3 20-1042 for a number of reasons but mainly due to its racist nature. The purpose of this ordinance is for "maintaining neighborhood and community character." The US Census data shows Ann Arbor to be primarily white, affluent, and highly educated. The ordinance language therefore implies that a guest who has a different culture from our neighbors would not be welcome. This is a racist policy. This ordinance tries to parade itself as protecting guests along with residents by ensuring "health, safety, and welfare ... by re-affirming police, fire, and building safety guidelines." However the true history behind why this ordinance was called for is due to fears of the neighborhoods changing, becoming influenced by those who may be different from us. Removing the option of STRs not only further discriminates against those who aren't of the same population but it eliminates the exposures of the Ann Arbor neighborhoods to these different cultures. This is racism.

Barry Hart

Location:

Submitted At: 10:19am 07-18-20

I am U of M graduate with a PhD in chemistry. I love Ann Arbor and the Univ of Michigan. I own several STRs in Ann Arbor.

The benefits of STRs has never been more clear than during the pandemic.

We hosted front line medical workers from out of town

We hosted front line medical workers from Ann Arbor who wanted to distance from their families

We hosted people who came back to A2 to be with their family and needed to quarantine or distance

We hosted international students who could not return home.

We never turned anyone down due to cost

The we are humbled to provide a home for these people during a difficult time. Going forward the needs to separate and will not go away. We are in the middle of a pandemic. A hotel is not a home. We provide a home for people who's lives have been disrupted by the pandemic.

This is not the time to consider this ordinance. The availability of STRs is a critical component of helping people manage their lives when the world has turned upside down

Nancy Bowerbank

Location:

Submitted At: 3:28pm 07-17-20

It does not appear that this ordinance will take away peoples rights to be an AirBnB or other short term rental....it does however create a record of these types of properties and does not allow someone renting to then lease out short termI would like to know more about the fee structure before I decide on support.

Kellen Smithson

Location:

Submitted At: 9:36am 07-15-20

Short term rentals are essential to the health of the Ann Arbor community. Hundreds of people utilize them each year as a more affordable option to visit the university, the hospital, their family, go to football games, and dozens of other reasons. There simply isn't the hotel capacity to accommodate the number of visitors who come to this city. Since the pandemic, STRs have become even more crucial. Many people have decided to or have been forced to stay here longer term due to health and travel risks. Most don't have the financial means to commit to a year+ long lease and understandably feel unsafe staying in a hotel. This ordinance unfairly punishes both primary residence and non-owner occupied hosts, students, medical professionals, families, and everyone who lives in or visits Ann Arbor.

Jennifer Dodson

Location:

Submitted At: 7:06pm 07-13-20

We love visiting A2, and always stay in an STR in one of A2's beautiful neighborhoods. We love enjoying all that A2 has to offer and then coming "home" at night where we can relax and get a good night's sleep without hotel traffic/noise. We like to go to the farmer's market and use the kitchen or go to restaurants and bring home leftovers, all things you can't do in a hotel. Think of those who travel for medical care and need a quiet place to

stay with family. We've looked at hotels in A2 and they were unappealing/unaffordable. We are good, quiet neighbors who respect rules. We've been lucky to have great hosts who love A2 and take good care of their properties. I'm sure there are nuisance STRs, but that's where simple regulations would be helpful to shut down problem properties. Please don't punish good hosts (both Primary Residence & Non-Owner Occupied hosts) and don't punish people who love visiting and spending \$ in A2 by taking away so many great alternative lodging options.

Kim Touzeau

Location:

Submitted At: 7:05am 07-11-20

This is just one more way to stifle the economy from recovering and preventing non owner occupied from using an asset to generate income. If you prevent this kind of short term housing, you need to restrict the rental of hotel rooms which are essentially the same thing. Owners will not knowingly rent their places to invite COVID infection...in contrast they will probably be even more careful and prudent about vetting potential renters. Also, short term rentals like this are helpful to people who come into town for extended medical treatments at the hospital, or for students and grad students who have a short term monthly need and cannot afford to commit to an annual lease.

Adetokunbo Adefeso

Location:

Submitted At: 6:09pm 07-10-20

1. The # of houses in AA that are non-owner occupied STR is tiny and the cause of the high cost of housing in AA!
2. Many families look for NON-Owner occupied, STRs during our travel for critical reasons. In our case, my son's deathly allergy to nuts, which means we need to make his meals during our travels. Non-owner occupied STR accommodation is our only option. For families that utilize UM hospitals from afar, this is also the case for many of them. The AA ordinance would eliminate this opportunity, forcing many of these families to hotels that are not close to the hospital.
3. Non-owner occupied STRs have been lifesaving during the COVID19 pandemic. Most have helped individuals and health care workers needing to quarantine from their families. Again, the new ordinance set to pass in the middle of a pandemic will take this option away!
5. STRs close to the city center bring revenue to our downtown restaurants and shops due to these businesses being within walking distance.

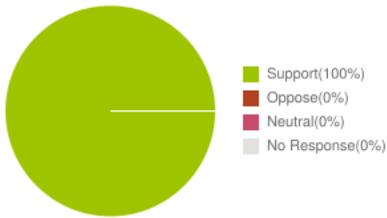
Noah Hoffman

Location:

Submitted At: 5:42pm 07-10-20

This ordinance discriminates against residents and property owners who have been following all the rules for renting their homes. Separately, please think about all the families with loved ones in the U.M. hospital who can't afford to stay at a hotel, eat out, pay for parking, and deal with tons of people every night. Non-Principal Residence Short-Term rentals offer a home-away-from-home for people who, in many cases, desperately need it. Please oppose this ordinance which will rip that option away from families who need a place of refuge in our beautiful city.

Overall Sentiment



Bridget O'Connor-Ranta

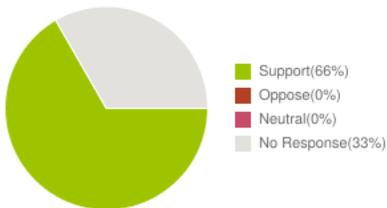
Location:

Submitted At: 3:46pm 07-19-20

I strongly support the city of Ann Arbor recognizing Racism as a Public Health Crisis. I implore the city to put more efforts into the recognition and removal of such racist policies that continue to make Ann Arbor segregated. There is much work to be done but the first step is recognizing the problem.

Agenda Item: eComments for DC-6 20-1096 Resolution to Order Election and to Determine Ballot Question for Charter Amendment for the 2021 Affordable Housing Millage (7 Votes Required)

Overall Sentiment



Anne Jackson

Location:

Submitted At: 1:25pm 07-20-20

As a MNA delegate to the HVALF, life long resident of Ann Arbor and one of the few nurses at U of M who actually lives in the city I urge the council to let the voters decide whether to fund expanded construction of affordable housing in Ann Arbor. Affordable housing in the city leads to less traffic congestion as more folks can walk or use public transportation. That would solve parking issues downtown and at U of M. I have watched as this city has become one only for the affluent due to housing prices. Time to give the people a chance to vote on making a difference.

STEVEN GULICK

Location:

Submitted At: 12:21pm 07-18-20

I strongly support this resolution. At our July 7th delegate meeting, the HVALF voted unanimously to support this resolution, with a view to letting the voters decide whether to fund expanded construction of affordable housing in Ann Arbor. Most working people have seen their real (i.e., after inflation) income declining and (in addition to rising health care costs) one big source of that deteriorating standard of living is the rapidly rising cost of housing. Ann Arbor is a prime case of this widespread problem and we have a responsibility to tackle it head on. The market will not do this for us -- we've tried that for 30 years and we've seen the result.

Ian Robinson

Location:

Submitted At: 10:47am 07-18-20

At our July 7th delegate meeting, the HVALF voted unanimously to support this resolution, with a view to letting the voters decide whether to fund expanded construction of affordable housing in Ann Arbor. The labor movement has traditionally focused on promoting just compensation for all, and the City will help to advance that agenda if it passes the Responsible Contractor ordinance on Monday. But we recognize that we are only able to reach a minority of working people through collective bargaining and the purchasing policies of public entities such as the City. Most working people have seen their real (i.e., after inflation) income declining and (in addition to rising health care costs) one big source of that deteriorating standard of living is the rapidly rising cost of housing. Ann Arbor is a prime case of this widespread problem and we have a responsibility to tackle it head on. The market will not do this for us -- we've tried that for 30 years and we've seen the result.