New York State City/County Managers Association





Housing Trends and Best Practices in Short-term Vacation Rentals

Agenda

Introductions

- Understanding the Challenge
- Best Practices for Enforcing STR Regulations
- Available Solutions to Help
- Questions



Introduction:



- Over 120 City and County customers coast to coast
- First provider of efficient short-term rental permitting, compliance monitoring and enforcement solutions for local governments
- Team of seasoned local government technology executives and data-scientists



Paul Hetherington *Co-Founder & CCO*

- Providing technology solutions to Local Government for over 20 years
- Launched Host Compliance when asked by local town council to study possible ways to address its short-term rental compliance issues
- Met with over 400 cities and counties on the topic of Shortterm Vacation Rentals.



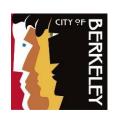
More than 120 leading cities and counties are looking to Host Compliance for guidance, data and solutions to their short-term rental challenges

Select Metropolitan City Clients



















































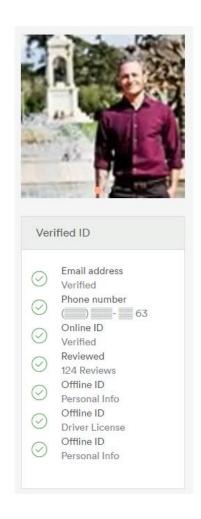


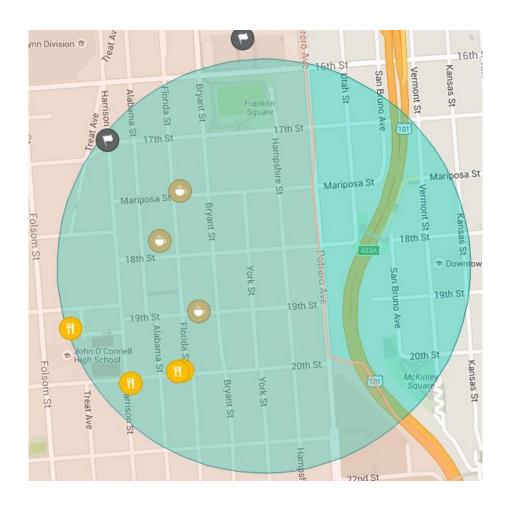
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The Challenge: Address and Contact info is Hidden on Host Platform Listings

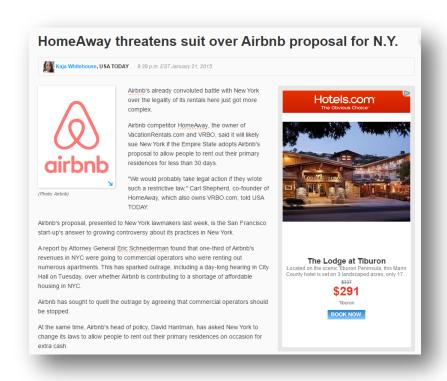






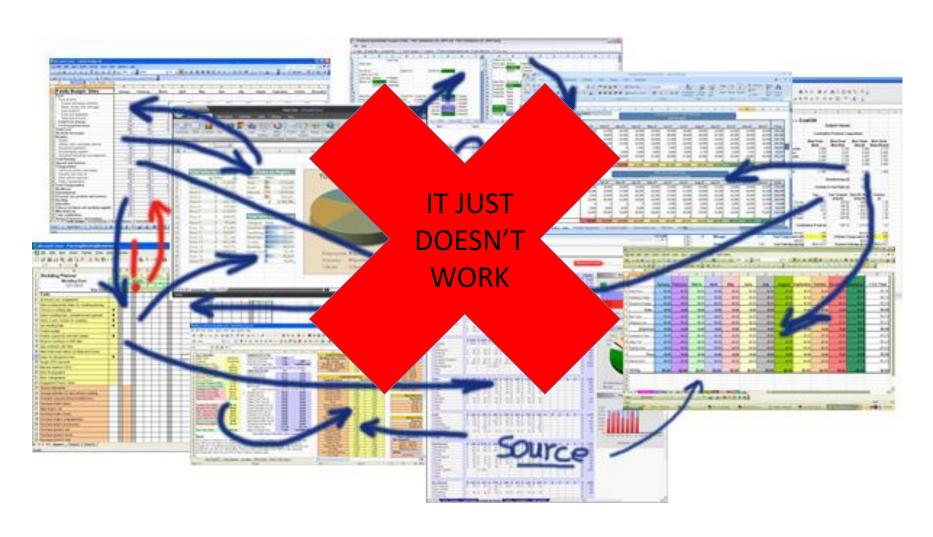
The Vacation Rental Platforms Refuse To Exchange Detailed User Data With Local Governments







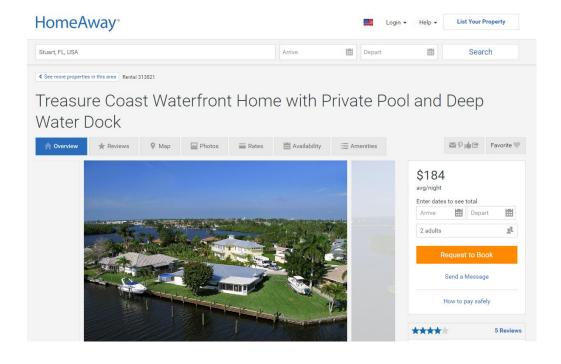
Keeping Track Of 100s Or 1,000s Of Str Listings Is A Spreadsheet Nightmare





Listings (And Duplicates) Change, Come And Go All The Time

HomeAway Listing



FlipKey Listing





Market Context: AirBnb, VRBO and 100's of other vacation rental websites have turned vacation rentals into a booming (underground) economy...

The short-term rental market has grown 800% since 2011

Millions of STR listings 8.0 0.8 5.3 1.5 0.8 3.9 0.8 2.9 0.8 1.2 0.4 1.9 0.7 4.5 0.30.6 0.9 1.0 0.9 1.0 2013 2011 2012 2014 2015 2016 2017 ■ Booking.com ■ TripAdvisor Airbnb HomeAway

Market is fragmenting





















100+ other web platforms

Sources: AirBnB, Expedia, TripAdvisor and Booking.com

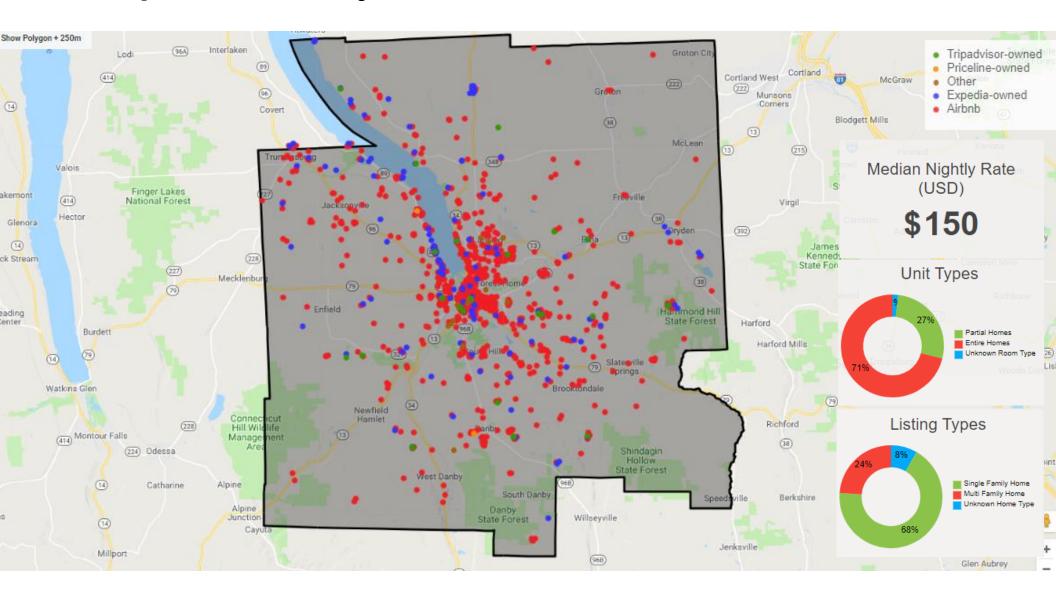


Short-term Rental By Jurisdiction (Top 10)

		Airbnb	Expedia	Tripadvisor	Priceline	Other
City/County	Listings In					
Tompkins County	1,234					
Jefferson County	432					
Livingston County	126					
Schenectady County	74					
City of White Plains	70					
City of New Rochelle	56					
Town of Hamburg	28					
Town of Ossining	27					
Village of Mamaroneck	26					
Village of Ossining	22					



Tompkins County Data Breakdown





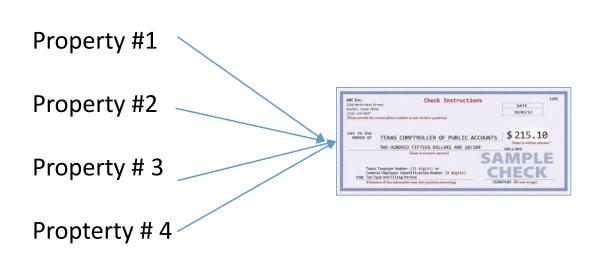
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Best Practice # 1: Require hosts, property managers (and platforms) to register and provide detailed records of their rentals, rental activity and TOT remittances by rental unit

Allowing permit holders to register multiple units under one permit number or remitting TOT for multiple properties in one payment makes it impossible to verify compliance







Best Practice # 2: Make sure the ordinance is enforceable by specifying that advertisement of unpermitted STRs will be considered prima facie evidence of illegal activity

Best practice ordinance language example 1:

"An advertisement promoting the availability of short term rental property in violation of City code is prima facie evidence of a violation and may be grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation of a license"

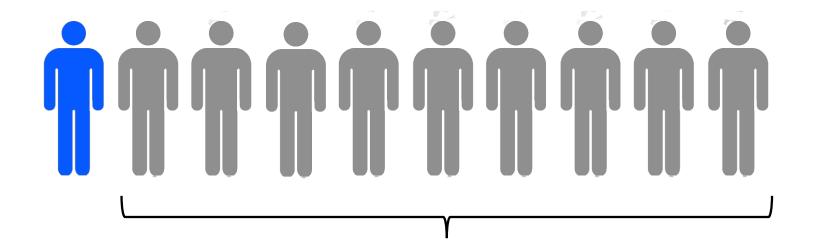
Best practice ordinance language example 2:

"Advertising that offers a property as a Residential short-term rental shall constitute prima facie evidence of the operation of a Residential short-term rental and the burden of proof shall be on the owner, operator, or lessee of record to establish that the subject property is being used as a legal Residential short-term rental or is not in operation."



Best Practice # 3: Plan for the reality that without systematic and proactive enforcement, only a fraction of short-term rentals will get permits and pay their fair share of taxes

IN GENERAL LESS THAN 10% OF STR OWNERS VOLUNTARILY GET A PERMIT AND PAY ALL OF THEIR HOTEL TAXES

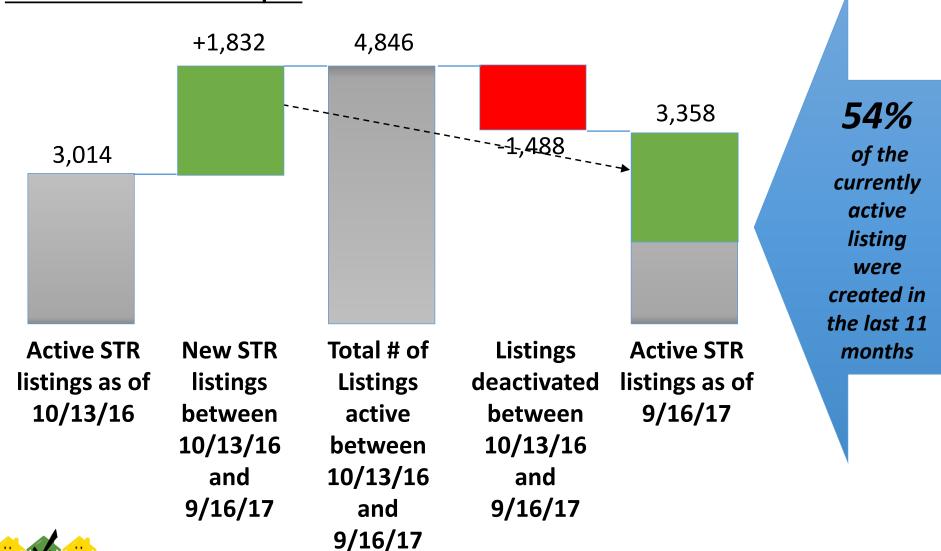


Large potential for increasing permit fee and tax collection



Best Practice # 4: Understand that the STR market is in constant flux so the City will need to constantly monitor 50+ websites for new non-compliant operators

South Lake Tahoe example:





Best Practice # 5: Don't expect that traditional codeenforcement techniques and processes can ensure compliance



Santa Monica has strict Airbnb laws, but few hosts follow them: report

The vast majority of illegal listings go undetected by city officials

By Dennis Lynch | February 21, 2018 01:00PM





A report by the city of Santa Monica details the uphill battle the beachside community must wage against illegal short-term rentals, and the novel methods homeowners and tenants deploy to skirt city taxes and laws regulating them.

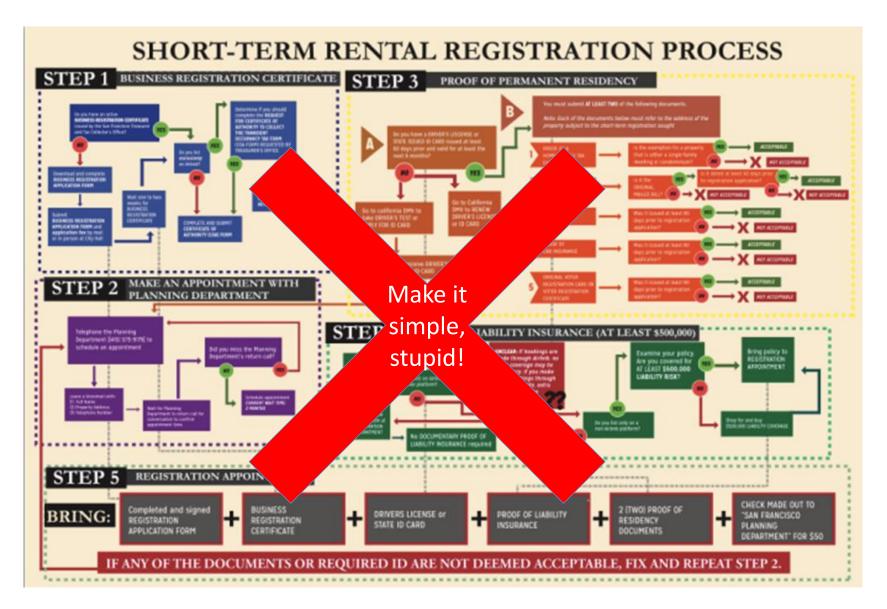
The study says that only 187 of the 950 estimated short-term rentals in Santa Monica between June 2015 and October 2017 were licensed with the city according to its 2015 Home-Sharing Ordinance Rules.

The local ordinance only allows home-sharing, but only when at least

- Rental property listings are spread across 100s of different websites
- ✓ Address data is hidden from listings making it time-consuming or impossible to locate the exact properties and identify owners
- There is no easy way to manually find out how often each property is rented and for how much
- The vacation rental platforms refuse to provide the detailed data necessary for enforcing local ordinances
- Manual compliance monitoring and complaint-based enforcement often leads to claims of selective enforcement

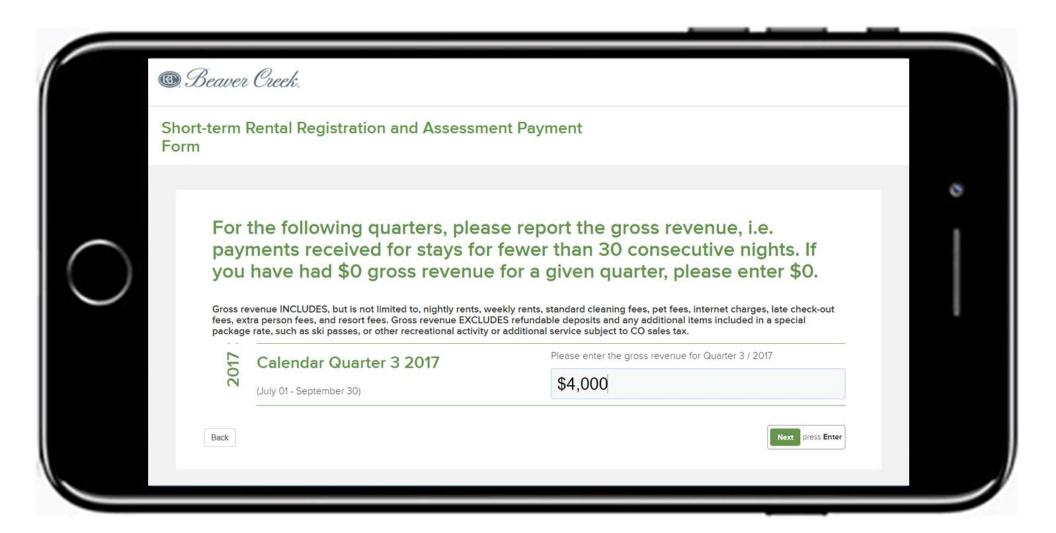


Best Practice # 6: Make it easy for STR operators to register and pay their taxes



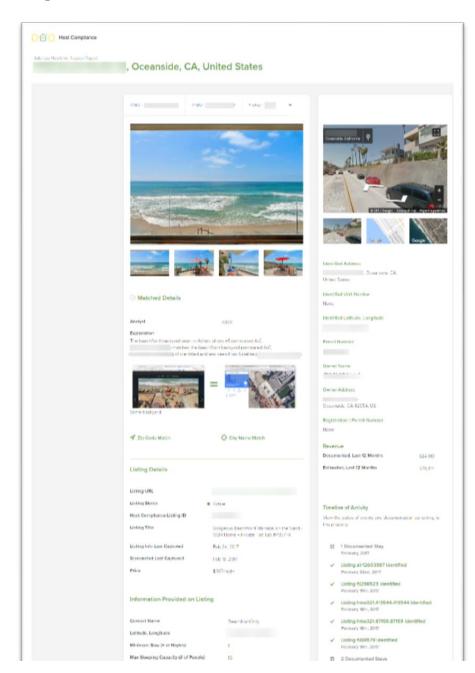


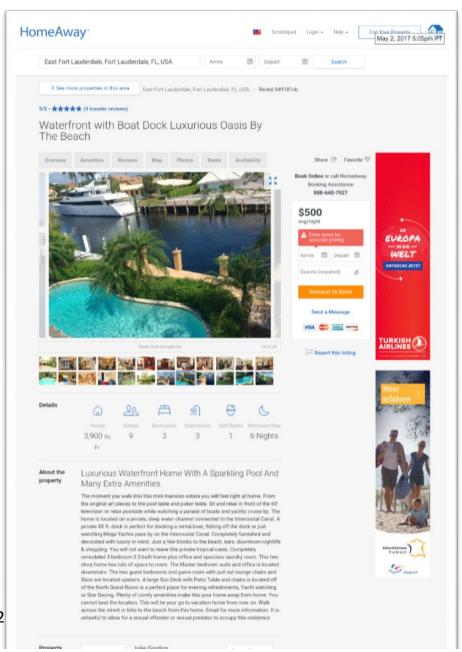
Best Practice # 7: Allow STR operators to get permits and pay their taxes online (and make the online forms mobile friendly!)





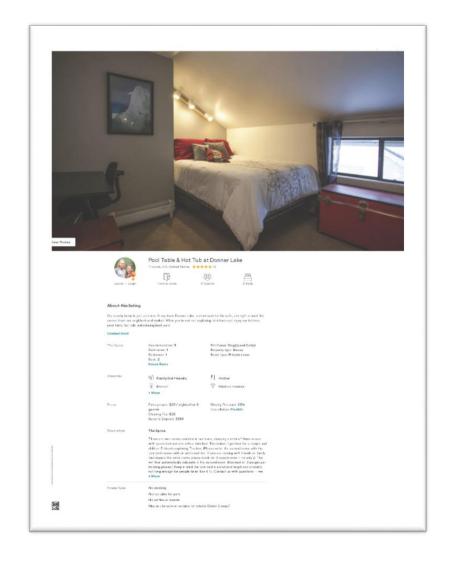
Best Practice # 8: Systematically capture evidence of advertisement and rental activity and take weekly screenshots to prove it





Best Practice # 9: To eliminate "gaming", quickly mail notifications to owners of illegal rental units and include evidence to maximize response







Best Practice # 10: Make it easy for neighbors to report, prove and resolve non-emergency STR related problems in real-time

Step 1

Concerned neighbor calls 24/7 short-term rental hotline



Step 3

If property is registered, Host Compliance immediately calls host to seek resolution





Step 2

Complainant provides info on alleged violation and is asked to provide photo, video or other proof of the alleged violation



Step 4

Problem solved or escalated – Complaints saved in database so serial offenders be held accountable



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Available Services To Help



Mobile Enabled Permitting and Registration: Mobile/web forms and back-end systems for streamlining Los Angeles' permitting and registration processes and capturing payments, signatures and required documents



Address Identification: Online dashboard with complete address information and screenshots of all identifiable STRs in Los Angeles' jurisdiction



Compliance Monitoring: Ongoing monitoring of STRs for zoning and permit compliance coupled with systematic outreach to illegal short-term rental operators (using Los Angeles' form letters)



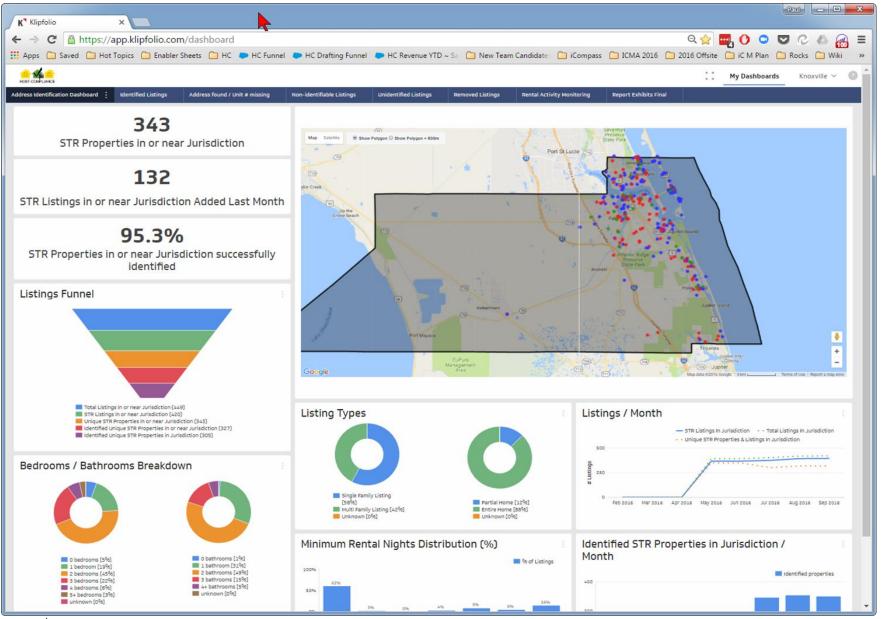
Rental Activity Monitoring and Tax Collection Support: Ongoing monitoring of Los Angeles's STR listings for signs of rental activity. Enables data-informed tax compliance monitoring and other enforcement practices that require knowledge of STR activity level



Dedicated Hotline: 24/7 staffed telephone hotline for neighbors to report non-emergency STR problems

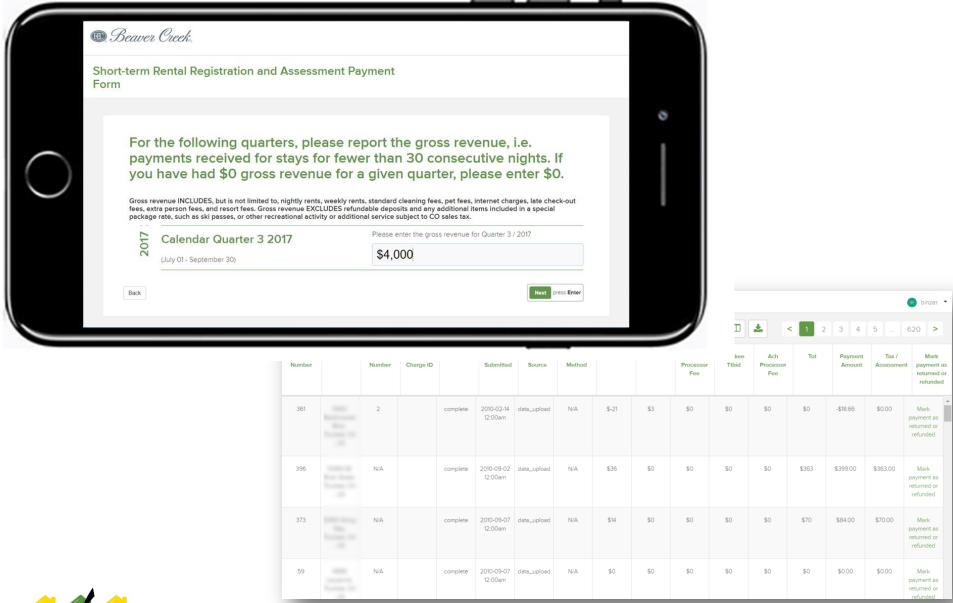


Address Identification: Access your jurisdictions short-term rental activity incl. complete address information and screenshots of all identifiable STRs





TOT Collection: Host Compliance's online tax collection tools makes it easy for hosts to report, calculate and pay their taxes





Enforcement: Host Compliance advanced call center and web reporting solution makes it easy for concerned neighbors to anonymously report incidents and keep hosts accountable

Step 1 - Concerned neighbor calls 24/7 short-term rental hotline

Step 2 – Complainant provides info on alleged violation and is asked to provide photo, video or other proof





Step 3 – Host compliance immediately calls host to seek resolution



Step 4 – Problem solved or escalated to code-enforcement – violation saved in database and serial offenders can have permits revoked





Benefits to using this approach

- ✓ Ensures fair, continuous and consistent compliance monitoring and enforcement across all platforms
- ✓ Provides the most citizen and staff friendly user-experience possible
- ✓ Frees up valuable IT, code-enforcement, tax collection staff time that can be focused on higher-value added activities
- Minimizes the impact on law and code enforcement agencies as complaints are first handled by our 24/7 hotline and routed to the appropriate property owner before further enforcement actions are triggered
- Maximizes tax and permit fee collections
- ☑ REVENUE POSITIVE the additional permitting fees alone will pay for Host Compliance's services. The incremental TOT revenue makes ROI very compelling!!!
- Requires NO up-front investment or complicated IT integration-> we can be up and running before the new ordinance goes into effect!



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Questions





Contact info

Please feel free to contact us anytime if you have any questions about home-sharing regulation and how to best address the associated permitting, monitoring and enforcement challenges.

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www.hostcompliance.com

