



July 12, 2023

Tillamook County Commissioner Mary Faith Bell
Tillamook County Commissioner Erin Skaar
Tillamook County Commissioner David Yamamoto
BY EMAIL

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of the Cape Meares Community Association Board we are asking for your assistance in addressing a very pressing problem in our community--namely, the lack of any serious enforcement of violations of the short-term rental regulations.

This has been an ongoing problem in Cape Meares and throughout the county and was brought to a dramatic and urgent focus by the events of Saturday, July 8th, when residents of an STR in Cape Meares were involved in an incident resulting in the shooting death of one person, gunshot wounds to another, and the frightening of our otherwise peaceful community. The people involved, previous to the crime, had been causing concern to nearby residents by shooting off illegal fireworks (including at 5 am in the morning), playing loud music, and generally disturbing the neighborhood. Complaints were lodged with the rental agency, but were ineffective and no one intervened. If there had been any sort of effective enforcement in place, this incident may have been stopped well before this tragedy ensued.

Though not all violations are so extreme as this, STR violations have been an ongoing problem. Some residents have had to go so far as to sell their homes because of the constant noise and disruption coming from the rental homes nearby, realizing that there would be no effective intervention on their behalf.

We realize that the county is involved in a process to come up with clear and fair regulations for short term rentals, and we are appreciative of that effort, but need to make it clearly known that without a serious enforcement component, none of these regulations will be effective. What we are calling for is a dedicated full-time enforcement officer who has the authority to respond in a timely manner to violations and disruptions. We request you use TLT funding for such an officer. Even those home

owners and agencies who seem intent on having as few restrictions as possible on short-term rentals would likely agree that the enforcement of codes is vitally necessary for the protection of all of us. We urge you to make an enforcement component of primary importance in all further discussions regarding short term rentals.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beverly Stein".

Beverly Stein, President
Cape Meares Community Association

cc CMCA Board Members