




City of Austin

P.O. Box 1088, Austin, TX, 78767

Memo

AUSTIN CODE DEPARTMENT

To: Mayor and Council
From: Carl Smart, Director, Austin Code Department (ACD) 
Date: June 30, 2015
Subject: Short-Term Rental Program Enhanced Enforcement Pilot

Due to an increase in the number of complaints related to short term rentals (STRs) in residential neighborhoods, staff is prepared to launch a pilot program of enhanced code enforcement. The program will focus on short term rentals that are operating in violation of city codes, including over-occupancy of homes, noisy disturbances, illegal parking, etc. The enhanced enforcement will focus on weekend activities, starting the weekend of July 4th.

This enforcement effort will involve the work of interdepartmental teams, modeled after our successful PACE (Public Assembly Code Enforcement) teams that are deployed during special events. The teams will include Code, Police and Fire, working in concert with 3-1-1, to deploy teams based on complaints, as well as perform proactive spot inspections at known trouble spots. These teams will work from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays throughout the month of July. At the end of the pilot, we will be evaluating the results of the effort to determine its overall effectiveness in protecting the quality of life in our neighborhoods. We certainly plan to share those results with Mayor and Council. We will also be sharing the plan with the media so that word reaches the community that this pilot is underway.

If you have any questions, or need additional information about the pilot, please contact me at 512.974.1970 or via email at carl.smart@austintexas.gov.

cc: Marc Ott, City Manager
Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager
Art Acevedo, Austin Police Chief
Rhoda Mae Kerr, Austin Fire Chief