

# Arlington's new "AirBnB" Policy

## By Shirlington Civic Association | January 2017



County Board Wrap-Up, September 2016

[photo: County Board Air B&B 2016-10-04.png - use full size photo, don't post photo file name]

This winter, the County solicited citizen input on what is known as “short-term residential rentals.” To mere mortals, this comes down to whether AirBnB and similar residence “sharing” businesses should be allowed to

operate in Arlington.

The sudden push on this came from two directions – pending legislation in Richmond. The county wanted to get a jump, and presidential inauguration and related events such as the Million Women March, increasing demand for accommodations.

The SCA monitored these discussions but did not submit comments or solicit views after checking with our HOAs. Why? Because short-term rentals can be controlled at the level of the HOAs and rental companies. We have no single-family residences within our boundaries. For what it’s worth, the Arlington regulations struck us as needlessly, if not hopelessly, complex, however well-intended.

We recommend that HOA’s regularly monitor online websites to see whether addresses within their associations are being listed. Those little GPS maps will show you what is or isn’t going on pretty quickly. The County’s policy went into effect on December 31, 2016.