

Virginia Beach Property Rights Coalition

Virginia Beach has long supported the tourism strategy of attracting families to Virginia Beach. **Short-term** vacation rentals have attracted this market for over eight decades, older than the City of Virginia Beach itself!

This industry is not peculiar to Virginia Beach. In fact, the vacation rental market has been growing as the choice for travelling families that prefer vacationing in a home rather than renting multiple hotel rooms.

We believe in 3 key concepts:

- 1. Vacation rentals with professional management are a benefit to the city, the tax base, the local businesses which depend on visitors for their livelihoods.
- 2. Virginia Beach must respect the property rights of property owners who engage in vacation rentals
- 3. Virginia Beach should continue its reputation as a pro-business city and not take activist steps to curtail or negatively impact the huge tourism market that vacation rentals attract.

<u>Virginia Beach's competitors embrace this rental market while Virginia Beach risks regulating this vacation rental market out of existence.</u>

To keep Virginia Beach competitive as a tourism destination, we recommend the following:

- Vacation Rentals should be designated "by right" in coastal areas, with an emphasis on proper management and enforcement.
- We support elimination of the cumbersome, time-consuming CUP requirements and support administrative review and approval.
- No new regulations should apply to Sandbridge.
- We support local, licensed, professional management for vacation rentals as they must maintain the
 highest professional standards. A designated local representative for the property should be required with
 contact information posted outside each property.
- We support 2 per bedroom occupancy with children under sixteen exempt from the occupancy calculation.
- We support a parking formula of one space for the first two bedrooms and one-to-one thereafter, with garage spaces included in this calculation.
- Second and third floor decks should be inspected every three years.
- Coastal, resort condominium buildings should be considered exempt from the ordinance because they are subject to their governing documents.
- Rental frequency should be limited to 52 contracts per year.

