CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty-Two

An Ordinance in Relation to

HOUSING and TAXES—Short Term Rentals
BCO Ch. 18 & Sec. 21-31

Sponsor: Ordinance Committee
Public Hearing Dates:
5
First reading:
Referred to:
Rules suspended and placed in all
stages of passage:
Second reading: 06/27/22
Action:adopted as amended
Date:06/27/22
Signed by Mayor:07/01/22
Published: 07/13/22
Effective: 08/03/22

ORDINANCE 8.24

It is hereby Ordained by the City Council of the City of Burlington as follows:

- 1 That Chapter 18, Housing, of the Code of Ordinances and Chapter 21, Offenses and Miscellaneous
- 2 Provisions, Article I. In General, and Section 31, Restaurant, hotel, amusements and admissions taxes, of the
- 3 City of Burlington be and hereby are amended to read as follows below.

5 That if a dwelling unit operated by a host as a noncompliant short term rental prior to the date in which this

- ordinance amendment, Housing-Short Term Rentals, BCO chapter 18 & Sec. 21-31, comes into effect, the
- host may continue to operate their short term rental until no later than May 31, 2023, provided that: 1) the
- 8 host registers their short term rental and pays any registration fee within thirty (30) days following the
- 9 effective date of this ordinance amendment; 2) the host demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Department of
- 10 Permitting and Inspections that future guest reservations were made for the short term rental prior to the date
- in which the this ordinance amendment comes into effect; and 3) the host may not register more than one (1)
- 12 noncompliant short term rental.

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

- 14 **18-1** Short title.
- 15 As written.

4

- 16 18-2 Definitions.
- 17 For the purposes of this chapter, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivations, shall have the
- meanings given herein:

20 Guest means a person who, in exchange for compensation, rents a short term rental.

19

- , Clerk. ., Clerk. - , Clerk. , Clerk. , Mayor. Rules suspended, and ordinance placed in all stages of , 20_ AN ORDINANC IN RELATION TO Passed in City Council at meeting held , 20___ _ , 20_ ORIGINAL _ , 20_ Read in City Council second time Read in City Council first time Introduced by Attest, Attest, Attest, Attest, Councilor _ Approved passage.

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. City Clerk of the City of Burlington tify that the within written Ordinance has of the City, and in compliance with said	Council of said City, do hereby cert according to Law and the Charter	

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I hereby certify that this Ordinance has been sent to the following department(s)

Distribution

Page 2
An Ordinance in Relation to HOUSING and TAXES--Short Term Rentals, Ch. 18 & Sec. 21-31

22	***
23	Host means a person who operates a short term rental (whole or partial unit). The host is the primary contact
24	for guests to make reservations and to contact during their stay. The host oversees compliance of the short
25	term rental with all applicable rules and regulations, receives guests' payment for short term rental stays, and
26	is responsible for remitting all taxes imposed on a guest's occupancy. The host may be the property owner
27	or tenant.
28	
29	Hotel or motel means an establishment which holds itself out to the public by offering temporary (less than
30	30 days) sleeping accommodations for compensation consideration and is subject to the Vermont rooms and
31	meals tax. Hotel or motel is defined as lodging in the Comprehensive Development Ordinance. Hotel or
32	motel does not include short term rental.
33	***
34	Occupant shall mean any person including an owner living and sleeping in a dwelling unit or rooming unit.
35	***
36	Rental unit shall mean any structure, a part of which is rented out and occupied as a residence by another, for
37	compensation, including duplex units, so called. Rental unit shall also include short term rental. The portion
38	of any such unit being occupied as a residence by the owner shall be considered a rental unit.
39	***
40	Roominghouse shall mean any dwelling or that part thereof containing one or more rooming units in which
41	space is let to three (3) or more persons for thirty (30) consecutive days or more.
42	Rooming unit shall mean any room or group of rooms forming a single habitable unit used or intended to be
43	used for living and sleeping, but not for cooking or eating purposes. A rooming unit does not include short
44	term rental.
45	Short term rental (STR) shall mean a dwelling unit that is rented to guests for less than thirty (30)
46	consecutive days and for more than 14 days during any rolling 12-month period, is subject to the Vermont

rooms and meals tax, and is either a:

ritten Ordinance has	of the City Council of said City, do hereby certify that the within written Ordinance houblished according to Law and the Charter of the City, and in compliance with sa certificate is hereto attached.					
AN ORDINANCE IN RELATION TO	Introduced by Councilor Read in City Council first time City Council City Council City Council City City Council City City City City City City City City	ced in all stages of	Attest, Action City Council second time	Attest, Attest, Passed in City Council at meeting held	Attest, , 20 Attest, Approved , 20 Clerk.	

Adopted _____ Published _____ Effective ____

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	An Ordinance in Relation to HOUSING and TAXESShort Term Rentals, Ch. 18 & Sec. 21-31
48	(a) Partial Unit, meaning a room located within a host's primary residence that is used primarily for
49	sleeping purposes by human occupants and that contains at least seventy (70) square feet of floor
50	area; or
51	
52	(b) Whole Unit, meaning an entire dwelling unit.
53	***
54	Target housing means any dwelling constructed prior to 1978, except any zero (0) bedroom dwelling or any
55	dwelling located in multiple-unit buildings or projects reserved for the exclusive use of the elderly or persons
56	with disabilities, unless a child six (6) years of age or younger resides in or is expected to reside in that
57	dwelling. "Target housing" does not include units in a hotel, motel, or other lodging, including
58	condominiums that are rented for transient occupancy for <u>less than</u> thirty (30) days -or less .
59	***
60	18-3 – 18-14 Reserved.
61	ARTICLE II. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT
62	DIVISION 1. GENERALLY
63	18-15 Registration required.
64	(a) The owners of all rental units subject to inspection pursuant to Section 18-16 and the hosts of all short
65	term rentals shall be required to annually file a registration application and fee with the enforcement agency,
66	which shall be due-renewed annually on or before April 1.
67	(1) The All owners or hosts must complete a rental property information form to be provided by the
68	enforcement agency which contains the following information:
69	$(\pm \underline{i})$ The address of the property.
70	(2ii) The number of dwelling units at that address.
71	(3 <u>iii</u>) The number of rental units at that address.
72	(<u>iv</u> 4) The maximum number of residents <u>or guests</u> in each rental unit.
73	(5 <u>iv</u>) The number of sleeping rooms in each rental unit.

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74	(6) The number of families living in each rental unit.
75	(7) The number of unrelated adults in each rental unit.
76	(8vi) The number of vehicles owned or used by residents of guests at the premises and the number
77	of parking spaces that are dedicated for the rental units at the property.
78	(9 <u>vii</u>) The name, address, phone number, email address, date of birth, drivers license and state and
79	military status (active or not) of the property owner, and if the owner is a corporation, the registered
80	corporate agent and the president of the corporation and their his/her name and address, and if the
81	owner is a partnership, the registered partnership agent, and the names and addresses of the general
82	partners.
83	(10viii) The name, address and phone number, and email address, of:
84	a. any local (within Chittenden County) managing agent. All owners or hosts who do not live within
85	Chittenden County are required to designate a managing agent located in Chittenden County who is
86	empowered to represent the owner or host in matters concerning compliance with this chapter.
87	(11)b. The name, address and phone number of an emergency contact for this property. All
88	properties must have an emergency contact within Chittenden County.
89	(12)c. aA designated person within the state for service of process for this property. All owners or
90	hosts who do not live within Chittenden County are required to designate a managing agent located in
91	Chittenden County for service of process. The name, address, phone number, date of birth, drivers
92	license number and state and military status (active or not) of the designated agent.
93	d. If any of the individuals designated pursuant to this subsection move out of Chittenden
94	County or leave Chittenden County for more than thirty (30) days during the rental unit's annual
95	registration period, the owner or host shall submit updated contact information to the enforcement
96	agency.
97	(2) All owners of rental units rented for thirty (30) days or more (i.e. other than short term rentals) must
98	also provide the following information:
99	

(i) The number of families living in each rental unit.

100

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Page 5
An Ordinance in Relation to HOUSING and TAXES--Short Term Rentals, Ch. 18 & Sec. 21-31

102	(ii) The number of unrelated adults in each rental unit.
103	
104	(13iii) State yes or no to the following question: If the number of unrelated adults listed in
105	paragraph (a)(7) above is greater than four (4), do those adults purport to reside in the rental unit as a
106	"functional family" as that term is defined in the Burlington Zoning Ordinance?
107	(3) All hosts of short term rentals must also provide the following information:
108	
109	(i) The number of whole unit or partial unit short term rentals within the building, or in the case of
110	multiple buildings on a parcel of land, on the entire lot.
111	
112	(ii) For hosts who are tenants, the name, address, phone number, email address, date of birth, drivers
113	license and state and military status (active or not) of the host, and written permission from the owner
114	of the rental unit that the tenant may register it as a short term rental.
115	
116	(iii) Written proof of the host's primary residence. For hosts who are owners of the short term rental.
117	this shall be proven by a declaration of homestead pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5410. For hosts who are
118	tenants, the enforcement agency may accept other written proof of permanent residency at its
119	discretion, relying on criteria such as the address listed on the host's drivers license, car or voter
120	registration forms, on utility bills or bank accounts, or on the host's individual tax returns.
121	
122	(b) Upon purchase or transfer of property containing a rental unit, or upon a change in the host of a short
123	term rental, the purchasers, transferees, or new host shall file a new registration application and a fifty dollars
124	(\$50.00) fee. The payment of this fee shall cover one (1) or more rental properties being transferred to a new
125	owner or host on the same date.
126	(c) Prior to occupancy of any newly constructed rental unit or conversion of use to a rental unit, the owner
127	or host shall file an application for registration with the agency and pay the required fee which shall be the

129 (d) It shall be a violation of the city minimum housing ordinance for an owner <u>or host</u> of any rental unit 130 within the city to fail to register a rental unit as required by this section.

pro rata portion of the fee due for that year based on the date of registration.

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(e) Property owners and hosts shall have a continuing obligation to notify the enforcement agency of any 131 changes in the information required under subsection (a) during the periods between the required filings of 132 133 the registration applications. (f) In addition to registration requirements for all rental units noted in (a) – (e) above, all short term rentals 134 shall be subject to the following standards: 135 (1) A host may register their primary residence as one (1) whole unit short term rental or the host may 136 register up to three (3) rooms within their primary residence as a partial unit short term rental. 137 138 (2) In buildings or lots with less than five (5) dwelling units, a host may register a dwelling unit within 139 the same building or lot as their primary residence as one (1) whole unit short term rental. 140 141 (3) A host may register a dwelling unit that is not within the same building or lot as their primary 142 143 residence as one (1) whole unit short term rental only if either: 144 145 i. the dwelling unit is indicated as a seasonal home by the Burlington Assessor; or 146 147 ii. the dwelling unit is within a building with two (2) or more dwelling units and the host 148 rents another dwelling unit within the same building or lot, in excess of any applicable 149 required Inclusionary Units, that meets the affordability criteria of Article 9, Inclusionary 150 Zoning, of the Comprehensive Development Ordinance or is rented to a tenant receiving 151 Federal or State rental assistance. 152 153 (4) A host may not register more than one (1) whole unit short term rental. If a host registers one (1) 154 whole unit short term rental that is not their primary residence, they may still rent a partial short term 155 rental in their primary residence. A host who is a tenant may only register a short term rental in their 156 primary residence. A host may not use multiple corporations or other entities to register more than one 157 (1) whole unit short term rental. 158

(g) The enforcement agency shall create and maintain a registry of all rental units that includes the

registration data required by Sec. 18-15(a). Upon request and at least annually, the enforcement agency shall

., Clerk. ., Clerk. ., Clerk. , Mayor. Rules suspended, and ordinance placed in all stages of AN ORDINANCE IN RELATION TO ., 20_ Passed in City Council at meeting held _ , 20__ ORIGINAL Read in City Council second time Read in City Council first time Introduced by Attest, Attest, Attest, Attest, Councilor _ Approved passage.

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HOUSING and TAXES--Short Term Rentals, Ch. 18 & Sec. 21-31

- provide to the city council a summary of the registry, including the number of registered rental units, the
- number of registered short term rental units, and any other requested data collected by the registry.

163 18-16 Inspection required.

- The enforcement officer or his/her their delegate shall make inspections of rental units within the city,
- including hotel and motel rooms which are regularly let to the same tenant(s) for a period in excess of thirty
- 166 (30) days or more, for the purpose of determining whether a violation of this chapter exists.
- 167 Excluded from periodic inspection shall be all owner-occupied dwellings containing one (1) or two (2)
- rooms which are rented out for compensation and partial unit short term rentals. Also excluded from
- inspection are university and college dormitories that conduct regular, comprehensive inspection programs
- and annually certify compliance with the minimum housing standards ordinance to the enforcement agency.
- 171 Inspections of dwellings and dwelling units other than those that are subject to periodic inspections, or of
- hospital rooms, hotel and motel rooms or dormitories not subject to periodic inspections as provided for in
- this section, shall be made only upon complaint or upon request of the owner thereof.
- All records, including inspection reports, records of complaints received and investigated, and plan for
- inspections of rental units, shall be available for public inspection.
- 176 **18-17 18-29** As written.
- 177 18-29a Termination of rental housing tenancy; rental housing rent increase.
- 178 (a) (c) As written.
- 179 (d) The provisions of this subsection do not apply to short term rentals, except that if a host terminates an
- existing tenancy in a rental unit or refuses to renew a written rental agreement for the purpose of converting a
- rental unit to a short term rental, the host shall be responsible for paying the costs of relocation for the
- affected tenant, as defined by Sec. 18-28(c), within ten (10) days after the tenant vacates the rental unit, as
- long as all rent due and payable has been paid by the tenant prior to the date on which the unit is vacated.

184 18-30 Fees.

- 185 (a) Registration fee. Pursuant to Section 18-15, a registration fee shall be charged to the owner of every
- rental unit in the city that is subject to periodic inspections and to the host of every short term rental. This fee
- shall be in an amount determined by and dedicated solely to the cost of providing rental housing inspection
- services, clerical, administrative and mediation support services for the housing board of review and

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	Page 8 An Ordinance in Relation to HOUSING and TAXESShort Term Rentals, Ch. 18 & Sec. 21-31
189	landlord/tenant resource services. Any surplus remaining in this fund at the end of a fiscal year shall remain
190	part of the fund and shall be carried forward to the next fiscal year. This fee shall be reviewed annually by
191	the finance board. The fee shall be in the amount of one hundred ten dollars (\$110.00) per unit per year
192	except for owner occupied dwellings with two (2) or less units and partial unit short term rentals, in which
193	case the fee shall be eighty dollars (\$80.00). For whole unit short term rentals, an additional registration fee
194	shall be charged in the amount of one hundred ten dollars (\$110.00) per unit per year.
195	***Remainder of Sec. 18-30 as written.
196	18-31 – 18-69 As written.
197	ARTICLE III. MINIMUM STANDARDS
198	DIVISION 1. GENERALLY
199 200	18-70 - 18-112 As written.
201	18-113 Short Term Rentals
202	
203	The following additional minimum standards shall apply to short term rentals only:
204	
205	(a) Hosts shall comply with all applicable State law and regulations regarding short term rentals.
206	
207	(b) Short term rentals must be serviced and cleaned before each new guest.
208	
209	(c) A host shall include the rental registration number clearly visible on all advertising for the short
210	term rental.
211	(d) Hosto about a mark and the decrease it is a first of the control of the contr
212213	(d) Hosts shall provide guests written documentation with the following information:
214	the name above anyther and small of the heat and if not the heat individually on
214	i. the name, phone number, and email of the host and, if not the host individually, an
216	emergency contact within Chittenden County who is available at all times during a guest's rental.
210	ional.

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Page 9 An Ordinance in Relation to

HOUSING and TAXES--Short Term Rentals, Ch. 18 & Sec. 21-31

217	
218	ii. contact information for the enforcement agency, the State Department of Health, and the
219	State Department of Public Safety's Division of Fire Safety.
220	
221	iii. written instructions on the location and use of fire extinguishers;
222	
223	iv. written instructions on emergency shut-off of heating systems and fuel burnings
224	appliances.
225	
226	v. a diagram identifying emergency egress routes.
227	
228	vi. a copy of Burlington's Noise Control Ordinance.
229	
230	18-114—18-129 Reserved.
221	
231 232	DIVISION 7. MINIMUM ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS
233	18-130 – 18-199 As written.
233	10-130 – 10-199 AS WITHEIL
234	ARTICLE IV. HOUSING DISCRIMINATION
235	18-200 – 18-299 As written.
236	
237 238 239 240	ARTICLE V. REGULATION OF CONVERSION OF RENTAL HOUSING TO CONDOMINIUMS OR COOPERATIVES 18-300 Statement of Purpose.
241	As written.
242	18-301 Authority and applicability.
243	As written.
244	18-302 Exemptions.
	(a) - (b) As written.

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	An Ordinance in Relation to HOUSING and TAXESShort Term Rentals, Ch. 18 & Sec. 21	-31
246	(c) This article shall not be applicable to short term rentals.	
247	18-303 – 18-399 As written.	
248	Article VI. Housing Trust Fund	
249	18-400 – 18-499 As written.	
250	Article VII. RESERVED	
251	18-500 – 18-512 Reserved.	
252	***	
253	21-31 Restaurant, hotel, amusements and admissions taxes.	
254		
255	(I) GENERAL PROVISIONS:	
256		
257	(A) Title: This section may be cited as the "Restaurant, Hotels, Amusements and Admissions Taxes	
258	Ordinance."	
259		
260	(B) Purpose and Authority: This section is enacted to raise revenue for municipal purposes pursuant to) the
261	Charter of the City of Burlington, Act No. 298, Acts of 1949, Sections 48III and 48XXIV.	
262		
263	The city council originally adopted this tax on January 30, 1986. Included in that ordinance was subsecti	on
264	"XVI Sunset." Subsequent to the adoption of the ordinance, the voters recommended and the Legislature	;
265	adopted a change to the City Charter (Acts of 1986, M-21) which established a system of tax classification	on in
266	Burlington.	
267	That city council and each successor city council has construed the 1986 tax ordinance not to have sunset	t, to
268	have been in continuous effect, and each has adopted a city budget which collected and expended funds r	aised
269	by that 1986 ordinance.	
270	On April 2, 1990, the Superior Court construed the intention of the 1986 enactment of this ordinance to tr	rigger
271	a sunset of it effective June 30, 1987, and declared it no longer effective.	
272	The city council hereby enacts this ordinance as both a prospective and retroactive curative adoption. The	city
273	council views the Superior Court's construction of the intention of our predecessor 1986 city council to be	e

Page 10 An Ordinance in Relation to

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I hereby certify that this Ordinance has been sent to the following department(s) on * * * Distribution Attest:

Page 11 An Ordinance in Relation to HOUSING and TAXES--Short Term Rentals, Ch. 18 & Sec. 21-31 erroneous. Despite the fact that an appeal of that decision is pending at the time of this enactment, the city council finds that prudence further necessitates that this curative action also be taken by us as the local legislative body of the city. It is therefore the express legislative purpose of this 1990 enactment of this ordinance to: (1) Adopt the "Restaurant, Hotel, Amusements, and Admissions Taxes Ordinance," Code of Ordinances, Section 21-31, without the sunset clause which appeared at subsection XVI of the 1986 enactment, and which gave rise to the Superior Court declaration of defect in the ordinance's continued effectiveness after June 30, 1987; and (2) Make this enactment, which has eliminated the former sunset clause altogether, retroactive to the effective date of the original tax ordinance adopted January 30, 1986. (II) TAXES IMPOSED: (A) Restaurant Tax: There is hereby imposed a business occupation tax upon all persons engaged in the restaurant business of whatever name or character in the City of Burlington. The tax imposed shall be at the rate of two (2) percent of the gross receipts from taxable business, as defined herein, done per monthly period in accordance with the provisions of this section. (B) Hotel and Motel Tax: There is hereby imposed a business occupation tax upon all persons engaged in the hotel or motel business of whatever name or character within the City of Burlington. The tax imposed shall be at a rate of two (2) percent of gross receipts from taxable business, as herein defined, done per monthly period in accordance with the provisions of this section. Short Term Rental Tax: There is hereby imposed a business occupation tax upon all persons engaged in operating short term rentals within the City of Burlington. The tax imposed shall be at a rate of nine (9) percent of gross receipts from taxable business, as herein defined, done per monthly period in accordance with the provisions of this section and dedicated to the Housing Trust Fund.

Amusements Tax: There is hereby imposed a business occupation tax upon all persons engaged in the

business of operating places of amusement, including, but not limited to, pool halls, arcades, bowling alleys, or

operating any establishment making available use of amusement devices of whatever name or character within

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	ertify that the within w	l of said City, do hereby of fing to Law and the Charreto attached.		peen duly pi
AN ORDINANCE IN RELATION TO	Introduced by Councilor Read in City Council first time , 20 Attest,	ced in all stag	Attest, Attest, Passed in City Council at meeting held	Attest, Clerk. Approved, 20

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	*			I hereby certify that this Ordinance has been sent to the following department(s) on	tion	*
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Page 12
An Ordinance in Relation to HOUSING and TAXES--Short Term Rentals, Ch. 18 & Sec. 21-31

tm/KS/Ordinances 2022/Housing and Taxes—Chapter 18 & Sec. 21-31, Short Term Rentals

304		the City of Burlington. The tax imposed shall be at the rate of two (2) percent of taxable business, as defined
305		herein, done per monthly period in accordance with the provisions of this section.
306		
307		$(\underline{\partial}\underline{E})$ Admissions Tax: There is hereby imposed a tax on admissions to circuses, menageries, carnivals,
308		cinemas, shows of every kind, plays, athletic contests, exhibitions or entertainments for money of whatever
309		name or character except those of educational or nonprofit institutions or organizations or wholly for
310		charitable purposes. The tax imposed shall be at the rate of two (2) percent of the gross receipts from such
311		admissions, as defined herein, done per monthly period in accordance with the provisions of this section.
312		
313		$(\underline{\exists F})$ Compliance Required: It shall be unlawful for any person to transact or carry on any business,
314		occupation or activity subject to the provisions of this section without complying with all applicable provisions
315		herein.
316		
317		(III) – (XV) As written.
318		
319	*	Material stricken out deleted.
320	**	Material underlined added.

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HOUSING and TAXES--Short Term Rentals BCO Ch. 18 & Sec. 21-31

Introduced by

Ordinance Committee Dohhkilbt.

Read in City Council first time

, 20_

Attest,

Rules suspended, and ordinance placed in all stages of

passage.

, Clerk.

Attest,

Read in City Council second time

Attest,

CAO Katherine Schad

Passed in City Council at meeting held

Attest,

Approved

June 27

, Clerk.

, Mayor.

Charter this certificate is hereto attached. been duly published according to Law and the Charter of the City, and in compliance with said and Clerk of the City Council of said City, do hereby certify that the within written Ordinance has / Chty Chetk of the City of Burlington - 'I

	/ <i>P</i> W	PIP/44P/	CAO Schad			
	22/80/80	- Effective	22/81/70	Published_	72/12/90	ЬэрфорА
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Attest:

Lori Olberg Licensing, Voting & records Coordinator

*

been sent to the following department(s) I hereby certify that this Ordinance has Meagan Tuttle, Planning Director

*

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Distribution