

ORDINANCE NO. 20

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE
COUNTY OF SUMMIT
STATE OF COLORADO**

AN ORDINANCE FOR SHORT-TERM VACATION RENTAL REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, over the last five to ten years, the advent and increasing popularity of individuals and companies purchasing, advertising, and renting out residential properties as short-term lodging has resulted in approximately 30% of Summit County's housing stock being utilized as such short-term vacation rentals; and

WHEREAS, the conversion of residential properties to short-term vacation rental units has a variety of effects on the neighborhoods in which such units are located, as well as on the community as a whole, including issues with increased noise at all hours, parking problems, and trash not being kept or disposed of properly; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to address these problems and the concerns of the community, the Board of County Commissioners previously adopted an amendment to the Summit County Land Use and Development Code ("Development Code"), which sets forth numerous regulations applicable to short-term vacation rentals and requires that short-term vacation rental operators obtain a permit from the Summit County Planning Department; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the aforementioned Development Code amendment, Summit County has contracted with an outside monitoring company to monitor the internet spaces where short-term vacation rentals are advertised to determine compliance with the regulations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. §30-15-401(s), the Summit County Board of County Commissioners now has broad authorization to promulgate, through an ordinance, regulations concerning the licensing and operation of short-term vacation rentals located within the boundaries of unincorporated Summit County;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to improve the existing regulations regarding short-term vacation rentals with a licensing ordinance incorporating the existing regulations and providing additional provisions addressing the granting, enforcement, and revocation of a short-term vacation rental license; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners also desires to designate a department responsible for processing applications for short-term vacation rental licenses; and

WHEREAS, given the existence of comprehensive regulations already in the Land Use and Development Code, and the Planning Department’s familiarity and experience with regulating short-term rentals, the Board of County Commissioners wishes to designate the Planning Department as the licensing entity for short-term vacation rental licensing; and

WHEREAS, to achieve these goals the Board of County Commissioners wishes to set forth the following rules and regulations in a Short Term Vacation Rental Licensing Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Summit County Land Use and Development Code is concurrently being amended to ensure consistency between the regulations set forth herein and the Development Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners finds such rules and regulations are reasonable and necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare for both residents of and visitors to Summit County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF SUMMIT, STATE OF COLORADO, that Ordinance 20, “Short Term Vacation Rental Regulations” is hereby adopted setting forth rules and regulations that shall apply to the licensing, advertising, and operation of short-term vacation rental units:

SUMMIT COUNTY SHORT TERM VACATION RENTAL REGULATIONS

SECTION 1: GENERAL

1.1 Definitions.

- a. Unless otherwise defined the words and terms used in this Ordinance shall have the meaning as set forth in the Summit County Land Use and Development Code (“Development Code”).
- b. For purpose of this Ordinance, the term “short-term vacation rental property” is defined as a residential dwelling unit, or any room therein, available for lease or exchange for a term of less than thirty (30) consecutive days (“Property”).

1.2 Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is to

- a. Designate a department of Summit County Government to process applications for licenses for Short-Term Rentals (“STR”) in unincorporated Summit County and to provide the structure by which such entity will process and review the applications.
- b. Establish comprehensive licensing regulations to safeguard the public health, safety and welfare by regulating and controlling the use, occupancy, location and maintenance of short-term vacation rental properties within the unincorporated areas of Summit County.

- c. Ensure that short-term vacation rentals are operated in a manner that is compliance with all applicable rules, laws, and regulations, as well as compatible with the surrounding neighborhood and protects the overall community character.

1.3 Applicability. The regulations set forth in this Ordinance shall apply to short-term vacation rental Property only, as defined herein. This Ordinance shall not apply to the furnishing of lodging services in hotels, motels, lodges or bed and breakfast establishments, timeshares / fractional ownership units within a building operating akin to that of a hotel / motel with a central check-in located within such facility, or to properties with long-term leases.

1.4 Severability. If any part or parts of this Ordinance or the associated rules and regulations are for any reason held to be invalid, such provision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution and these rules and regulations.

SECTION II: PROCEDURES

2.1 Licensing Authority. The Summit County Planning Department is hereby designated as the review authority and enforcement agency for all STR applications and operations and is responsible for collecting fees, providing application forms, assisting the applicant with the application process, and monitoring and enforcement of this Ordinance and any applicable sections of the Development Code (collectively, the “STR Regulations”). The Planning Department shall be authorized to promulgate all reasonable administrative rules and procedures necessary to the operation and enforcement of the STR Regulations.

2.2 License Required. No person or entity may advertise or operate an STR without a valid license.

2.3 Review Process. An application for an STR license shall be reviewed by the review authority as a Class 1 Development Code Application in accordance with the applicable criteria set forth in this Ordinance.

2.4 Review Criteria. The Review Authority shall consider all of the required application materials and submissions and determine that all criteria have been met prior to issuing an STR license.

2.5 Decision. A decision regarding the issuance of a license under this Ordinance shall be issued by the review authority pursuant to timelines set forth in the Class 1 Development Code Application Review Process once the application has been deemed complete.

2.6 Appeal. If an application for a short-term vacation rental license is denied, the applicant may appeal that decision to the Community Development Director within ten (10) days of receipt of written notice of such denial; otherwise, the license denial shall be final and not subject to appeal. All decisions by the Community Development Director may then be appealed to the BOCC pursuant to the applicable appeal procedures set forth in Section 13200 of the Development Code.

2.7 Length of Validity and Renewal

- a. A short-term vacation rental license shall expire on September 30 of the calendar year following the year of initial license issuance, or when title of the short-term vacation rental Property transfers to a new owner, whichever occurs first. Each change in ownership of a short-term vacation rental Property shall require a new license.
- b. An application for renewal of a short-term vacation rental license shall be submitted at least thirty (30) days prior to expiration of the existing license.
- c. A short-term vacation rental license which is not renewed prior to expiration shall be considered expired, with the exception of the following grace period provided:
 - i. When title of a short-term vacation rental Property transfers to a new owner, the new owner or Responsible Agent shall be given a 30-day grace period to submit a new STR license application within 30 days of closing on the Property. Applicants submitting a new STR license application within this 30-day grace period are not subject to a penalty fee.

2.8 Transfer of Ownership. Ownership of a license may not be transferred.

2.9 Property Owner. The owner of the STR Property shall be the holder of the license, i.e. the licensee. A property manager or other individual may submit the application for an STR license, but the license will be issued in the Property owner’s name and the Property owner is ultimately liable for compliance with the STR Regulations.

SECTION 3: RESPONSIBLE AGENT REQUIRED

3.1 Responsible Agent. Each owner of a short-term vacation rental Property shall designate a person or company to serve as the responsible agent (“Responsible Agent”). An owner of a short-term vacation rental Property may designate himself/herself as the Responsible Agent.

- a. The Responsible Agent shall have access and authority to assume management of the unit and take remedial measures. The Responsible Agent shall be available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week to respond to complaints, issues of concern, and violations related to this Ordinance. The Responsible Agent must be able to affirmatively respond to complaints within an hour of notification of such complaint. Failure of a Responsible Agent to affirmatively respond to a complaint and attempt to resolve such complaint within an hour of notification shall be considered a violation of the Ordinance.
- b. In the event of a fire ban within Summit County, the Responsible Agent is required to notify renters of the current fire restrictions and provide renters with instructions on how to access the Summit County Alert System for real-time emergency information during their stay.
- c. The owner shall notify the Planning Department in writing of any modification to the Responsible Agent appointment within five (5) days of any such modification.

SECTION 4: APPLICATION

- 4.1 Application. At least thirty (30) days prior to any advertising for or lease, licensing, or other authorization to occupy a short-term vacation rental Property, the owner shall file a written application for a short-term vacation rental license with the Planning Department, on forms supplied by the County. The application shall not be deemed complete until all required information is submitted.
- 4.2 Application Materials. An application for a short-term vacation rental license shall include the following, and may be electronically submitted in accordance with the submittal process as may be established by the County:
- a. Application form.
 - b. Application fee as established by the Board of County Commissioners in this ordinance or as subsequently established by resolution by the Board.
 - c. Self-Compliance Affidavit, signed by the owner under penalty of perjury, certifying that the short-term vacation rental Property is in habitable condition and complies with the health and safety standards set forth in subsection 5.1 below, the site and operation standards for mitigating community impacts set forth in subsection 5.2 below, and the advertising requirements set forth in subsection 7.1.
 - d. A short-term vacation rental Responsible Agent and Owner Authorization Form. This form appoints and provides contact information for the Responsible Agent, who shall be available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, in accordance with the requirements set forth in Section 3 above.
 - e. Documentation of an adequate water supply and sewer service to serve the proposed use (i.e. special district, well, septic system).
 - f. A parking plan for the Property, which complies with the parking requirements set forth in subsection 5.2 below.
 - g. A trash disposal plan for the Property, which complies with the requirements set forth in subsection 5.2 below.
 - h. Proof of all required state and local sales tax licenses and personal property tax declaration forms.
 - i. A copy of the Good Neighbor Guidelines, signed by the owner, certifying that owner has read and understands the guidelines for responsible operation and will make these guidelines available to all renters in the rental agreement and by posting it in a prominent location within the STR unit.

SECTION 5: CRITERIA FOR REVIEW

5.1 Health and Safety Sandards

- a. Buildings, structures or rooms shall not be used for purposes other than those for which they were designed or intended.
- b. Roofs, floors, walls, foundations, ceilings, stairs, handrails, guardrails, doors, porches, all other structural components and all appurtenances thereto shall be capable of resisting any and all forces and loads to which they may be normally subjected, and shall be kept in sound condition and good repair.

- c. Smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and fire extinguishers shall be installed and operable per CRS 38-45-104, and all wood-burning fireplaces and stoves shall be cleaned on an annual basis.
- d. An operable toilet, sink, and either bathtub or shower shall be located within the same building, and every room containing a toilet or bathtub/shower shall be completely enclosed by walls, doors, or windows that will afford sufficient privacy.
- e. There shall be a sufficient number of trash receptacles to accommodate all trash generated by those occupying the short-term vacation rental Property.
- f. Permitted occupancy shall be limited to the following maximums for each residential unit type:
 - i. Single family, duplex and townhome units: a) two (2) persons per bedroom plus four (4) additional occupants; OR b) 1 person per 200 square feet of living area, whichever allows for a greater occupancy.
 - ii. Condominium units: a) two (2) persons per bedroom plus four (4) additional occupants, or two (2) persons per bedroom plus two (2) additional occupants in buildings with interior egress components less than 44 inches wide and without a sprinkler system; OR b) 1 person per 200 square feet of living area, whichever allows for a greater occupancy. When a condominium unit contains a County-approved lock-off room that meets the definition of a lock-off room set forth in Chapter 15 of the Development Code, the lock-off room shall be allowed a total of 4 occupants.
 - iii. Units on OWTS: the maximum overnight occupancy of the unit shall be limited to the capacity established on the OWTS permit. OWTS systems in Summit County are typically designed to accommodate a maximum occupancy of 2 persons per bedroom.
 - iv. For the purposes of these regulations, a loft which meets the Summit County Building Department requirements for a potential sleeping room shall be allowed 2 occupants. Studios will be treated as one-bedroom units for the purposes of this Section.
- g. Partial home short-term vacation rentals are rentals of rooms within a dwelling unit where access and cooking facilities are shared by other occupants within the home. Partial-home rentals may not be advertised as separate units, such as but not limited to, a separate lockoff, studio, or apartment; and advertisements for such Properties shall contain language about shared access and cooking facilities. Lockoff units that have been approved by Summit County shall be permitted to be used as separate short-term rental units in accordance with the regulations in this section, unless such lockoff units have been encumbered by a covenant that expressly prohibits short-term rentals. The permitted occupancy of a Property containing both a primary STR unit and a secondary STR lockoff unit shall be calculated as the combined maximum occupancy, considering each of the two units operating as separate individual short-term rental units.
- h. Outdoor fire pits on a Property shall be permanently installed improvements that are permitted and inspected by the applicable fire district and/or the County Building Department, if required per applicable building and fire code requirements. STR owners/applicants should check with their applicable fire district and the County Building Department to determine if permits are needed. The use of portable outdoor fireplaces is prohibited.

- i. Electrical panels shall be clearly labeled.
- j. All short-term vacation rental properties shall have reliable cellular or VoIP service available or provide access to a landline telephone to enable tenants to call 911 in the event of an emergency.
- k. Sanitary Standards and Rules for Public Accommodations – Where Applicable, all short term rental Property owners shall understand and maintain compliance with the Sanitary Standards and Regulations for Public Accommodations set forth in the Code of Colorado Regulations, Official Publication of the State Administrative Rules Section 6 CCR 1010-14. The purpose of these regulations is to provide minimum requirements for the protection of the health and safety of the occupants of public accommodations and community residents.
- l. All hot tub / spa installations require both a building permit and an electrical permit from the County Building Department, in accordance with existing County regulations. Hot tubs / spas and swimming pools shall be properly maintained in a way to prevent the spread of illness and shall comply with the requirements set forth in the Colorado Regulation Pertaining to Swimming Pools and Mineral Baths 5CCR 1003-5.
- m. Occupancy of a recreational vehicle is prohibited on any Property that has obtained a short-term vacation rental license.
- n. STRs on Well or Septic:
 - i. If a short-term vacation rental Property is connected to an On-site Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) for sewer service, a septic tank pumping shall be completed by a Summit County Licensed System Cleaner every 3 years, or more frequently as determined by the Summit County Environmental Health Department during each County review of a STR license renewal application for the Property. Upon initial application, a pumping report will be accepted within 3 years of the date of that inspection. If the OWTS is in a state of malfunction, the Short Term Rental license will not be issued until repairs are made and approved.
 - ii. If a short-term vacation rental Property is served by an on-site well for domestic water use, an adequate water supply in terms of quantity, quality, and dependability for the proposed use per the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation 5 CCR 1002-11 where applicable.

5.2 Site Plan and Operations Standards

- a. Parking: A minimum of one (1) parking space is required per unit, up to a maximum of five (5) cars permitted to be parked outdoors on any Property; provided, however, if a customized parking arrangement has been previously authorized by the County for the subject development, the applicant shall demonstrate compliance with the existing parking plan previously approved through the relevant site plan review or PUD for the subject residential development. If a lockoff unit is proposed for separate occupancy (i.e. 2 STR units on the same Property) a minimum of one (1) additional parking space will be required for the lockoff unit, in excess of the parking provided for the primary unit. Designated parking spaces shall comply with all applicable parking requirements set forth in Section 3700 of the Development

Code. All vehicles shall be parked on-site in designated parking areas; parking is prohibited on County roads, in any landscaped area, or in a manner that blocks egress for adjacent residents (driveways, sidewalks, alleys or mailboxes). A copy of the County-approved parking plan for the short-term vacation rental Property shall be provided to all renters in the rental agreement and posted in a prominent location within the Property.

- i. The allowable number of parking spaces shall be clearly stated in all short-term vacation rental advertising.
 - ii. A Property owner may request an increase in the maximum number of allowed parking spaces through a Class 2 Development Code administrative review conditional use permit if the proposed parking meets all applicable regulations and criteria, and is found to be consistent with neighborhood character, including location and visual buffering from adjacent properties.
- b. **Trash Disposal and Collection:** All short-term vacation rental Properties shall provide a trash disposal and collection plan to ensure that trash containers are not left outdoors where they can cause issues for wildlife or snow removal operations. The proposed trash disposal and collection plan shall be reviewed and approved by the County during initial license review and during review of any license renewals and shall comply with all applicable County regulations including the Summit County Disposal District Regulations. Examples of acceptable trash disposal and collection plans may include but are not limited to:
 - i. Indoor storage of trash with concierge/valet collection service provided by the waste hauler at the time of pickup.
 - ii. Storage of trash containers in garage, with trash containers to be put out by the Responsible Agent no earlier than 6:00 a.m. and returned to the garage by 7:00 p.m. on the day of pickup.
 - iii. Trash disposal is managed by the development's homeowner's association, and renters will be instructed on the location and requirements for trash disposal.
 - iv. Trash is stored in bear proof trash containers located outside of the right-of-way and any snow storage areas.
- c. **Noise:** Renters shall be informed of the Summit County noise ordinance, which is enforced by the County Sheriff's Department for all properties located in unincorporated Summit County.
- d. **Outdoor Lighting:** All outdoor lighting shall comply with the exterior lighting requirements set forth in Section 3505.07 of the Development Code.
- e. **Pets:** If pets are allowed, renters shall be informed of applicable requirements for controlling pets, pet waste disposal, and barking/noise provisions set forth in the Summit County Animal Control and Licensing Regulations; such regulations are enforced by the County Sheriff's Department for all properties located in unincorporated Summit County. All short-term vacation rental Properties shall comply with the County Animal Keeping Regulations set forth in Section 3802 of the Development Code, and all pet food shall be stored indoors.
- f. **Winter Traction and Snow Removal:** Renters shall be informed in advance of arrival and via the Good Neighbor Guidelines of winter driving conditions and the need for appropriate

vehicle traction, including Colorado Department of Transportation's Traction Law. Snow shall be removed from parking areas as necessary to accommodate the approved parking plan.

SECTION 6: SIGNAGE

- 6.1 An owner shall post a sign or notice conspicuously inside the short-term vacation rental Property, which includes the Responsible Agent's current contact information and/or the owner's current contact information, the street address of the short-term vacation rental Property and the short-term vacation rental license number.
- 6.2 The Good Neighbor Guidelines, permitted occupancy, parking plan and trash disposal requirements shall be posted in a prominent location within the short-term vacation rental Property.
- 6.3 Any exterior signs advertising a short-term vacation rental must first be reviewed and approved in accordance with the Summit County sign regulations contained in Chapter 9 of the Development Code.

SECTION 7: ADVERTISING

- 7.1 All advertising for a short-term vacation rental Property shall include the Summit County short-term vacation rental license number, immediately following the description of the short-term vacation rental Property, along with the relevant occupancy and parking limitations.

SECTION 8: TAXES

- 8.1 All property taxes lawfully assessed against a short-term vacation rental unit shall be paid to the County Treasurer prior to approval of the short-term vacation rental license, and payment of such taxes shall continue thereafter. Non-compliance may result in suspension, revocation, non-renewal, or denial of the short-term vacation rental license.

SECTION 9: NOTICE

- 9.1 Any notice required by this Ordinance to be given to an owner is sufficient if sent by first-class mail to the address provided by the owner on the most recent permit or renewal application. Notice given to the Responsible Agent, by first-class mail to the address provided by the owner, shall also be sufficient to satisfy any required notice to the owner under this Ordinance.
- 9.2 The County shall provide written notice to all contiguous property owners and the homeowners association (HOA), if applicable, notifying them of any STR license application that includes proposed changes to the exterior of a property or building.

SECTION 10: VIOLATIONS, ENFORCEMENT AND REVOCATION

10.1 Ongoing Compliance Obligations of Licensee.

- a. Issuance of a license is expressly contingent upon the licensee maintaining compliance with all requirements set forth in the STR Ordinance. If at any time a licensee fails to maintain such compliance as is required, the licensee shall be in violation of this Ordinance.
- b. A licensee shall avoid any illegal, dangerous, or harmful practices or conditions which are detrimental to the public property, health, welfare, peace or safety.

- c. A licensee shall refrain from engaging in business on the licensed premises during the period the STR license is revoked or suspended.

10.2 Complaints.

- a. Complaints concerning a short-term vacation rental Property shall be first directed to the Responsible Agent. The agent shall respond to the complaint, including visiting the site if necessary. Failure of a Responsible Agent to affirmatively respond to a complaint and attempt to resolve such complaint within an hour of notification shall be considered a violation of the Ordinance.
- b. The County may investigate any complaint received, in order to determine if it is a substantiated complaint that represents a documented violation of any provision(s) of this Ordinance. Violations of this Ordinance shall be subject to the enforcement provisions set forth herein. If violations are not corrected or if there are repeat offenders of the Ordinance, Summit County may pursue action as provided for herein.
- c. Remedies for Non-compliance: If there is one or more unresolved substantiated complaints for a short-term vacation rental Property, or if upon review at any time, Summit County determines that the license holder has failed to comply with any of the requirements, performance standards, conditions or restrictions imposed by this Ordinance, Summit County may take such action as is deemed necessary to remedy the noncompliance, including but not limited to suspension or revocation of the license as set forth in Subsection 10.6 below.

10.3 Enforcement. Enforcement of this Ordinance shall be by the Planning Department and the Sheriff's Office, as deemed necessary and appropriate.

10.4 Violations. Violations of the STR Ordinance shall be a class 2 petty offense, and punishable by a penalty assessment procedure as provided for in Sections 16-2-201 and 30-15-402, C.R.S.

10.5 Graduated Fine Schedule. A graduated fine schedule is hereby adopted:

- a. 1st offense: \$250
- b. 2nd offense: \$750
- c. 3rd offense: \$1,000

10.6 Revocation.

- a. A license issued pursuant to this Ordinance may be revoked by the Review Authority following a hearing for any violation of the Ordinance, or violation of the short-term rental regulations in the Development Code, and the Review Authority shall commence revocation proceedings if any of the below occurs:
 - i. A licensee has been cited for 2 or more offenses within a 3 month period;
 - ii. A licensee has had 3 or more substantiated complaints within a 3 month period;

- iii. A licensee submits a license application or other document as part of the license review process that contains or represents fraud, misrepresentation, or a false statement of material fact;
 - iv. A licensee has violated or is currently violating the STR Ordinance or the prior in a manner that significantly endangers the public health, safety, and/or welfare;
 - v. A licensee fails to pay sales and/or property taxes as required.
- b. Hearing on Revocation:
- i. Notice of a hearing pursuant to this Subsection 10.6 shall be given to a licensee in writing at the address shown on the license application, and to the Responsible Agent identified in the license application. Such notice shall be mailed via certified mail at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the date set for the hearing.
 - ii. The licensee may appear with or without representation, and may appear remotely by telephone or video conference.
 - iii. The licensee may present evidence at the hearing and shall provide copies of such evidence to the hearing officer at or before the hearing.
 - iv. The hearing officer shall consider the following:
 - 1. The nature and seriousness of the violation
 - 2. Impact of the violation on the neighborhood and/or community
 - 3. Corrective action, if any, taken by the licensee or the designated Responsible Agent
 - 4. Prior violations
 - 5. The likelihood of recurrence of the violation or violations
 - 6. Entirety of the circumstances surrounding the violation
 - 7. Willfulness or lack thereof on the part of the licensee
 - 8. Length of time the licensee has held a license
 - v. The hearing officer shall be the Summit County Community Development Director or his or her designee.
 - vi. Following the hearing, if the hearing officer determines that good cause exists for the imposition of a sanction against the licensee, the hearing officer may impose the following sanctions:
 - 1. License suspension for a time period not to exceed six months.
 - 2. License revocation.
 - vii. Any action taken pursuant to this subsection 10.6 shall be commensurate with the seriousness of the violation(s) and the action or lack thereof taken by the licensee to resolve the violation(s).
 - viii. The hearing officer shall provide his or her decision in writing to the licensee within 15 days of the hearing.
 - ix. Individuals or entities who have had their license revoked may reapply for a new license after the expiration of one year from the time of revocation.

10.7 Appeals of License Revocations.

- a. A licensee who has had their STR license revoked or suspended may appeal the revocation or suspension to the Board of County Commissioners by emailing, mailing, filing, or otherwise submitting a letter of appeal to the Office of the Summit County Manager within ten (10) days after the date the letter of decision by the hearing officer is emailed. The date of an appeal letter shall be the time it is marked as received by the Manager's Office.
- b. The Board of County Commissioners shall conduct a de novo hearing on the appeal at a regular or special meeting held within 30 days of the date of the appeal letter.
- c. Any such hearing shall be conducted pursuant to the parameters set forth in Section 13200 of the Development Code.

10.8 Costs of Enforcement, Revocation, and Appeal. In the event it is necessary for the County to take action for enforcement of the STR Ordinance, there shall be added to any fees due hereunder all reasonable costs and fees incurred by the County, including reasonable attorney fees. If any action is brought in a court of law by or against the County relating to the enforcement, interpretation or construction of this chapter, or of any document provided for herein, or of any proceeding hereunder, the prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to reasonable attorney fees as well as all costs incurred in the prosecution or defense of such action.

10.9 Additional Remedies. In addition to the remedies set forth herein and in the Development Code, the County reserves the right to employ all other remedies that may exist at law and in equity to enforce the STR Regulations.

SECTION 11: LICENSING FEES

11.1 License Fee. The application fee is established by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and set forth in the Planning Department's Fee Schedule.

SECTION 12: EFFECTIVE DATES

- 12.1 Effective Date of Ordinance. The Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption in accordance with the following provisions:
- a. Owners of short-term vacation rental units who have been legally operating with a permit under the previous Development Code allowances will:
 - i. Have until September 30, 2021 to convert their permit to a license; and
 - ii. Have their permit expire on September 30, 2021 after which time if the permit-to-license conversion has not taken place, the Owner will be in violation of this Ordinance if they continue to advertise and/or utilize their unit as a short-term vacation rental.
 - b. Upon adoption of the Ordinance, Owners who do not have a Development Code Permit approved at the time of adoption of this Ordinance will be required to obtain a license prior to advertising or utilizing their Property for a short-term vacation rental.

- 12.2 Necessity of Ordinance for Immediate Preservation of Public Health and Safety. This Ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of public health and safety because, without limitation:
- a. The proliferation of short-term vacation rentals in the unincorporated area of Summit County is substantially impacting Summit County’s neighborhoods; and
 - b. There are hundreds of unpermitted short-term vacation rentals that continue to defy permit requirements under the Development Code and require additional enforcement remedies.

INTRODUCED, READ, AND ORDERED PUBLISHED IN FULL AND SET FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2021.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
SUMMIT COUNTY, COLORADO**

Elisabeth Lawrence, Chair

READ, PASSED AND ADOPTED AFTER PUBLIC HEARING AND ORDERED PUBLISHED BY TITLE ONLY THIS _____ DAY of _____, 2021.

**COUNTY OF SUMMIT
STATE OF COLORADO
BY AND THROUGH ITS
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Elisabeth Lawrence, Chair

ATTEST:

Kathleen Neel, Clerk & Recorder

3821: Short-term Vacation Rentals

A short-term vacation rental property, for the purpose of this Section, is defined as a residential dwelling unit, or any room therein, available for lease or exchange for a term of less than thirty (30) consecutive days. A short-term vacation rental property as regulated by this section is differentiated from a bed and breakfast establishment, which is regulated by Section 3803 of this Code.

3821.01: Purpose and Applicability

- A. The purpose and intent of this section of the Code, together with the Short Term Rental (STR) Ordinance No. 20 is to establish comprehensive licensing regulations to safeguard the public health, safety and welfare by regulating and controlling the use, occupancy, location and maintenance of short-term vacation rental properties within the unincorporated areas of Summit County.
- B. These regulations are also intended to ensure that short-term vacation rentals are operated in a manner that is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood and protects the overall community character.
- C. The regulations set forth in this Code section shall apply to short-term vacation rental property only, as defined herein. This Code section shall not apply to the furnishing of lodging services in hotels, motels, lodges or bed and breakfast establishments, timeshares / fractional ownership units within a building operating akin to that of a hotel / motel with a central check-in located within such facility, or to properties with long-term leases.
- D. This Code section shall not supersede any private covenants or deed restrictions prohibiting short-term vacation rental property.
- E. In addition to the requirements set forth herein, short-term vacation rentals shall abide by all other applicable sections in this Code, the STR Ordinance, and other applicable Summit County laws, rules, and regulations.

3821.02: Zoning Districts Where Permitted

- A. Figure 3-2 identifies where short-term vacation rentals may be allowed in various County zoning districts. Short-term vacation rentals are also allowed in the antiquated residential zoning districts remaining in effect listed in Section 3305.01, unless specifically prohibited in that zoning district.
- B. PUDs: A short-term vacation rental may be permitted in specific PUDs that allow residential uses, without necessitating a PUD modification, provided such use complies with the licensing requirements of the STR Ordinance and Section 3821 et seq. A PUD may be amended to provide for standards and criteria that differ from those of the STR Ordinance and Section 3821 *et seq.* provided the purpose and intent of the STR Ordinance and Section 3821 continues to be met. Short-term vacation rentals shall not be permitted in a PUD which specifically prohibits such use.
- C. Short-term vacation rentals of deed restricted affordable workforce housing or employee housing properties is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the deed restriction for the property.

3821.03: License and Review

- A. License Required: A license issued by the Local Licensing Authority is required for each short-term vacation rental property in unincorporated Summit County. A person seeking to obtain a license shall file an application with the County Planning Department in accordance with the requirements set forth in this section of the Code and Summit County Ordinance No. 20 setting forth the licensing requirements for short-term vacation rentals.
- B. Review Process for STR License: Short-term vacation rental applications will be reviewed through the Class 1 administrative review process. If the Planning Department finds that the application complies with the STR Ordinance, Section 3821 of the Code, other applicable Summit County laws, rules, and regulations, the Planning Department shall issue a short-term vacation rental license. The license shall be issued in the name of the owner and shall not be transferable. All short-term vacation rental properties shall receive a license prior to advertising or operation.
- C. Additional Review Process for STRs Requiring a CUP: For any short-term vacation rental which proposes an occupancy of 20 or more persons, or outdoor parking of 6 or more vehicles, the application shall be reviewed as a Class 2 conditional use permit as further described in Section 3821.04.

3821.04: Criteria for Review for Conditional Use Permit

- A. A Class 2 administrative conditional use permit application shall be required for any proposed short-term vacation rental which proposes an occupancy of 20 or more people or outdoor parking of 6 or more vehicles.
- B. There may be instances in which unique characteristics of a property would allow for site standards such as occupancy and parking in excess of what is prescribed by the STR Ordinance. In those instances, a property owner may apply for a Class 2 conditional use permit to request differing occupancy and/or parking standards.
- C. The conditional use permit application shall be reviewed in the context of the property and neighborhood to consider whether the types of uses in the neighborhood, the home size, lot size and distance to neighboring properties can potentially enable these properties to accommodate higher occupancies and/or additional cars parked on site. Applications shall be referred to referral agencies such as the water and sanitation districts (or State Engineer and Environmental Health Department for units on well and septic), fire department, building department, etc., in order to evaluate whether the unit is able to adequately accommodate the proposed occupancy and vehicle parking, given the capacity of the existing services and infrastructure and the potential impacts to the adjacent residents. Criteria for review of the application shall include the following:
 - 1. The proposed use and occupancy of the STR property meets the applicable building and fire code requirements for maximum occupancy of the structure, and protects the public health, safety and welfare.
 - 2. The existing services and infrastructure (e.g., water supply, sewage disposal capacity, access, on-site parking spaces) can support the proposed use and occupancy of the property, or the applicant has obligated himself/herself to provide the necessary services and infrastructure in sufficient time to serve the proposed use.
 - 3. The proposed operation of the STR will ensure preservation of the residential character of the neighborhood where it is located. The amount of traffic and noise from lodging guests will not result in significant adverse impacts to the adjacent neighborhood.
 - 4. There is adequate separation and buffering of the STR use from adjacent residences and public rights-of-way to mitigate potential impacts on the surrounding neighborhood, including traffic, additional parking and noise. Standards for demonstrating adequate separation and buffering include but are not limited to: orientation of the STR unit on the property away from nearby residential structures; linear separation from other residential structures; separation from other structures by an intervening right-of-way; topographic features such as rock formations or grade differences; and mature vegetation or fencing.
- D. Public Noticing for a Class 2 conditional use permit shall consist of a public notice sign posted at the property, in accordance with Section 12000.10.