

Fw: Opposition to Sandpoint STR Deregulation

From Jason Welker <jwelker@sandpointidaho.gov>
Date Tue 11/18/2025 12:49 PM
To Mandy Brown <mbrown@sandpointidaho.gov>

For PZC

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From: Lisa Barth <dlbarth96@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2025 12:46:53 PM
To: Jason Welker <jwelker@sandpointidaho.gov>
Subject: Opposition to Sandpoint STR Deregulation

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Subject: Appreciation & Added Perspective on STR Deregulation Concerns

Hi Jason,

I hope you're well. I wanted to reach out ahead of tonight's meeting to share my strong opposition to the proposed STR deregulation—and also to thank you for the clarity you've already brought to what this change would mean for Sandpoint.

Having lived here for over 31 years, I'm deeply invested in the long-term health, affordability, and livability of our community. Like you've articulated, stripping away caps and loosening the rules would open the door for investor-driven conversions at a time when our housing market is already fragile. With prices escalating, limited year-round rentals, and employers struggling to find housing for staff, the margin for error is far too small.

I'm grateful that you're naming those risks clearly and advocating for thoughtful policy rather than reactive changes driven by fear of hypothetical litigation. Maintaining strong local control over STR numbers, locations, and enforcement is essential if we want to preserve actual neighborhoods and protect housing for the people who live and work here.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue. I hope tonight's discussion keeps the focus where it belongs: on safeguarding Sandpoint long-term well-being and ensuring it remains a community first—not an investment strategy.

Warmly,
Lisa