April 28, 2015

Re: Public Hearing on Amendments to the Accessory Dwelling Unit Regulations

Dear Property Owner,

The City Council will be holding a public hearing on May 12, 2015 after 2:30 pm in the City Council Chambers to consider an amendment to the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance concerning prohibiting ADU properties from being used as short term/vacation rentals. This notice is being sent to you because as a property owner of an accessory dwelling unit, you may be affected by the proposed amendment.

As you are aware Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) are encouraged by the City because they can contribute needed housing to the community’s housing stock. ADUs provide a much needed housing type within existing neighborhoods for a number of community members including our general workforce, family members, students, the elderly, in-home health care providers, and others. The new proposed amendment would prohibit ADUs from being used as short term/vacation rentals. The purpose of this change is to ensure that ADU properties be available for residents as housing rather than used as short term/vacation rentals, which is inconsistent with the housing purpose of ADUs stated above. The Planning Commission has recommended approval of this amendment. At the upcoming meeting, City Council will consider whether to adopt this change in the rules. You may participate in this discussion if you wish by attending the hearing and/or sending a letter to: City Council 809 Center St. Room 10 Santa Cruz, CA 95060, or an email to citycouncil@cityofsantacruz.com.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 420-5116 or akhoury@cityofsantacruz.com.

Sincerely,

Alex Khoury
Assistant Planning Director