

Can I operate a short-term rental on my property?

DO YOU OWN PROPERTY IN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (CBD), BUSINESS DISTRICT (BD), OR A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD)?

YES, MY PROPERTY IS IN A CBD, BD, OR PUD ZONE.

Congratulations! You are eligible to operate a STR on your property. You can obtain your zoning permit from City Hall.

NO, MY PROPERTY IS NOT IN A CBD, BD, OR PUD ZONE, BUT OPERATED AS A REGISTERED STR PRIOR TO JULY 8, 2021.

Congratulations! You are eligible to operate a STR on your property. You can obtain your zoning permit from City Hall.

NO, MY PROPERTY HAS NEVER PREVIOUSLY OPERATED AS A REGISTERED STR.

According to Article 3 of the UDO, no new STR will be permitted outside of the CBD, BD, or PUD zones.

Please be advised that the City of Southport adopted a Short-Term Vacation Rental Ordinance on July 8, 2021. This ordinance prohibits short-term vacation rentals within the residential districts of the City of Southport but does allow short-term vacation rentals existing on the date of the adoption of the ordinance to continue as lawful nonconforming uses. The City is no longer using a registration program to monitor the operation of shorter term vacation rentals or homestays, but the property must still comply with the zoning districts and standards of the Unified Development Ordinance.

Homestays are a private, resident occupied dwelling unit, with up to two guest rooms where overnight lodging accommodations are provided to transients for compensation and where the use is subordinate and incidental to the primary residential use of the building. A homestay is considered Accessory Lodging Use under the current UDO.

The permanent resident is present during the rental stay.

