



## **Short Term Rental (STR) Registration & Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) information**

The Village of Surfside Beach City Council voted to enact changes in the HOT rate and STR registration for 2025. Summary of the changes approved by City Council and impact on STR owners/managers are below:

### **Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT):**

- Effective January 1, 2025, the Village of Surfside Beach HOT increased from 4% to 5%. This will take effect in billing on the first HOT remittance for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter, for months January through March, due on April 20, 2025.
- The increase was made to take advantage of a new TX tax code (**351.105 - Allocation of Revenue: Eligible Coastal Municipalities**) that applies to coastal municipalities like the Village of Surfside Beach. Moving to 5% allows that "no lesser amount than the amount of revenue derived from the application of the tax at a rate of one percent shall be used for beach patrol, lifeguard services, marine water safety, and park law enforcement". Therefore, this change will provide funding to better maintain and provide emergency services to our beach, in order to better attract tourism and overnight visitors who enjoy the beach.
- Improvements to the Muni-Revs remittance system and database is also underway which may require input, or re-input of data on each STR property. This will allow for "cleaner" data in the STR system which will result in better management of HOT remittance, and collections from those who are not properly remitting HOT.

### **What this HOT increase mean for your STR?**

- *You will be required to submit 5% HOT through Muni-revs system due on April 20, 2025 for the period beginning January 1, 2025.* This new 5% HOT rate will be applied through Muni-revs and align to all city ordinances.
- You may need to input or re-input data on your STR into Muni-Revs in order to clean up and standardize our Village of Surfside Beach STR system.

### **Short Term Rental (STR) Registration:**

- Effective February 11, 2025 the STR Registration fee was increased to \$200 annually. This will take effect on the same day as the first HOT remittance for the year, April 20, 2025, for this year and April 20<sup>th</sup> for each year annually. If you had already registered and paid \$50 to do so, that amount will be credited to your 2025 registration fee, therefore you would owe a balance of \$150 for any property that was registered previously as a STR with the Village of Surfside Beach.
- The increase was made to provide annual funding for general expenses not covered by HOT funding, such as, but not limited to, infrastructure maintenance and improvement, roads & parks maintenance and improvement, etc.
- Improvements to STR management is also underway which will include a Registration License that will be required to be posted and visible from street view that will enable easy enforcement of our STR ordinance and HOT collections.

### **What does this STR Registration increase mean for your STR?**

- *You will be required to submit a \$200 STR Registration fee due on April 20, 2025.* The initial fee will be discounted \$50 if you have previously registered your STR with the Village of Surfside Beach.
- A Registration License will be issued upon initial STR Registration in 2025. Once received from the Village of Surfside Beach, this license must be posted and visible from the street view.
- Your annual STR Registration shall be due at the same time as the first quarter remittance of HOT, or April 20<sup>th</sup> annually. *You will be required to submit a \$200 STR Registration fee due annually on April 20<sup>th</sup>.*