

## Erika Shook

---

**From:** Bill Watson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 8, 2017 9:44 AM  
**To:** Ingrid Gabriel  
**Cc:** Mike Thomas; Erika Shook  
**Subject:** FW: Comments on vacation rental permit discussion

Please forward to council.  
Thanks, Bill

---

**From:** STEPHANIE [mailto:sl.picconi@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 7, 2017 1:59 PM  
**To:** Bill Watson <Billw@sanjuanco.com>  
**Subject:** Comments on vacation rental permit discussion

Hi Bill,

Hope you are doing well. I just watched the council meeting from yesterday and had some comments to pass along.

Erika said that they have had four complaints about vacation rentals on the island. Let's not over reach because of four or even six complaints of noise, parking, speeding, etc. With over 900 vacation rentals on the island you must admit that permitted owners are doing a good job of policing themselves, setting policies for their guests, communicating with their guest, and respecting their neighborhood and neighbors.

Each vacation rental dwelling should have a separate VR permit. In 2005 we were required to have a separate permit for each of our rentals. We obtained a separate UBI number for each rental/business. I recommend no commingling of rental income for excise tax reporting. San Juan County will be able to track compliance easier if they can attach a individual UBI number to each permit. That's coming from my accounting brain.

B & B's need and want signage because they are a business similar to a small hotel. They want tourists to see their signs. It is a form of advertising. A vacation rental does not need a sign for advertising. Our neighbors would have a fit if we posted a sign. Our house numbers are in a prominent place for our guests to see and there is a reflective material if someone arrives at night.

The annual inspection is overkill. This could be done every five years when the permit renews. I can see why a B & B has an annual inspection because they are open year round, have far more guests on an annual basis, and they are serving food. Many vacation rentals close during off season because there isn't enough business so many are only open 5-6 months. Besides, I think it would be next to impossible to inspect over 900 vacation rentals annually and the cost to us owners would be a burden.

It might be good to split up the current vacation rental permit renewals into a five year period by month. If everyone renews in the same year it would be a disaster trying to get an inspection. The county must mail a notice of "renewal due" to each VR permit holder.

Permitted owners should not have any fees associated with renewing their permit. We paid for the permits 12

years ago.

I would really like to see the county focus on going after the rentals that are not permitted and not paying excise tax.

Thanks for your time!

Stephanie