

## Adam Zack

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**From:** Suzanne Roundy <s.roundy@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 14, 2018 6:06 PM  
**To:** Comp Plan Update  
**Subject:** Comment regarding Second Draft Vision Amendments of March 1, 2018

Dear Members of the SJC Planning Commission,

This email is a comment for the SJC Planning Commission meeting March 16, 2018. In my opinion the San Juan County Vision Statement will be greatly improved by adding a section stating the significance of Agriculture to our county. As a local food advocate, president of the Lopez Locavores, and the project manager for BOUNTY - Lopez Island Farmers, Food, and Community (a book celebrating the food culture on Lopez) I am passionate about local food and local farms.

As you know farming and fishing have been a way of life on islands of the Salish Sea beginning with Native Americans 7,000 to 9,000 years ago. Europeans who arrived in the mid-1800's were attracted by the abundance of nourishment provided by the sea and land. In the 1930's Lopez Island had 134 farms producing food for local families as well as sending cream, eggs, poultry, and fruit off the island.

Agriculture in the San Juans is not only an historic heritage but has real economic, environmental, and social impacts today. The recent resurgence of farming in our county is creating new economic opportunities to island residents. San Juan County farms are a vital resource which provide fresh, healthy food and protect the scenic open space beauty we all cherish. Now is the time to recognize and strengthen our local agricultural economy. Please add a separate section in the Vision which will accurately reflect the importance of agriculture to our community and to our future.

Thank you for considering my comments.  
Suzanne Roundy



S&S Farm farm stand - BOUNTY photograph by Summer Moon Scriver