

## Adam Zack

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**From:** Lori Ann David <la@loriann david.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 15, 2018 2:49 PM  
**To:** Comp Plan Update  
**Subject:** ag amendment comments from aurora farm

Dear SJC Planning Commission,

**I would like to request the addition of a new stand-alone section to the Vision Statement dedicated to Agriculture. This is important because there are varying references, over-lapping incomplete references, but nothing that addresses our critical need for supportive language to foster us into the future with agriculture here in the San Juan Islands..**

*I started farming in the San Juan Islands in the late 70's-I have never stopped, despite moving away in the later 80's to continue farming in many diverse ways-to produce, to educate, to mentor, to teach, to farm in other places and returned to continue farming here in 2015, as I have done for almost 40 years, I can tell you all the changes that have occurred, and why we must make agriculture and agricultural products, education, farm-stays, agro-tourism, succession farming and in general farms that produce large or small an integral part of our community. It is not enough to "preserve" farmland and only look at it, and not use it. We must farm it. I did not need to do this-I chose to do it because there is a need, and as I was mentored, so I mentor and teach-it is how we learn, especially in agriculture.. We are one of the most abundant and resilient places on earth, and can supply not only our and nearby islands with locally produced first source nutritious food, but set a regional example of how to do it in a supportive community.*

*I will be at the meeting tomorrow morning.*

*Statement-I do not know the legal on this but here is what I am trying to say-*

*The San Juan Islands County and Legislative Representatives recognize and fully support with legislation, updated county codes and variances, including necessary permitting and designations to foster the growth of agriculture in our community, and recognize the need to fulfill a regional example of first source locally produce food and value added products, as well as support agrotourism, support the right to farm act, support our non GMO county, support local famers and producers, and assist with succession planning and preserve farmland to farm, not just look at, so we can keep the integrity of the agricultural heritage which was the number one industry which made this area grow for over 200 years.*

*I am sure there is more but that is my point.*

*There are many example of successful communities that blend growth, agriculture, tourism, seasonal tourists, a large permanent population and retain a rural character with great success. Balance. WE can achieve that here.*

The second most prevalent theme in the [Vision final report](#) was the community's desire to take bold measures to strengthen our local agricultural. Our updated Vision should reflect that desire with the addition of a Vision element dedicated to Agriculture.

Please help make this happen.

In deep regard

Lori Ann David, successful farmer/business woman, Aurora Farms, Friday Harbor

*Be impeccable with your words*

*Don't take anything personally*

*Don't make assumptions*

*Always do your best*

*Listen and watch in stillness....nature knows everything.....*

Ho' Oponopono

thank you and many blessings

***Lori Ann David***

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