

## Adam Zack

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**From:** Naomi Aldort <naomi@aldort.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 25, 2020 7:41 PM  
**To:** San Juan County Council; Comp Plan Update  
**Cc:** vacationrentalsorcass@gmail.com; naomi Aldort  
**Subject:** Vacation Rental Concerns

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Hello council members,

I have written before with strong conviction to the need to eliminate industry based vacation homes on the islands and the importance of keeping the rural nature of our county as declared in the vision statement, and of supporting local affordable housing.

Now I am writing with what we are learning from the Covid 19 situation; more than ever it is clear that we need a community that can, if necessary, survive without tourism or with much less of it. Right now two many tourists bring in Covid in addition to pollution, noise, traffic etc. We let them in for the economy at the potential cost of lives and quality of lives. We must look at how to keep the islands rural while creating a vibrant local economy by coming up with opportunities for young people and families to live here.

This means ending all vacation homes by off island investors and rewarding renting year around to local workers, family and young people.  
We should have a back bone of local economy that can survive without tourists if needed, and is mostly local services for locals; allowing young people and families to live here.

We are living on these islands for the love of rural beauty, quiet, care for nature, clean air, and remote environment. We are here to be a small community with its own whole life, welcoming guests in a way that helps the economy without destroying the rural nature of the island and the local coherence.

If we keep the train going where it is going now, we will end up with a retirement unaffordable community served by off island young people. We must change this destination by getting outside of the train and laying new tracks.

Thank you,  
Naomi Aldort  
Orcas Island

*"Transforming parent-child relationship from reaction and struggle to freedom, power and joy."* - Naomi Aldort

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