

Dear Homeowner,

In a very questionable fashion, **San Juan County passed a Vacation Rental Moratorium on January 12th, 2021** (this moratorium vote, and the discussion related to it, were not originally on the meeting's agenda). The Resolution bans new permits for at least 6 months (and they have a draft 'Work Plan' that extends this moratorium to about 18 months). Here is a link to the moratorium: <https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/21695/Resoultion-03-2021-Vacation-Rental-Moratorium> and the draft 'Work Plan', which is a tactic to extend the moratorium, is attached. During the Moratorium and 'Work Plan', the Council is seeking to restrict vacation rentals... ideas on the table are a permanent moratorium, caps on new permits, limits on how long a vacation rental can operate, changes to permits so that they don't stick with a property during a sale... and much more. In addition this moratorium and 'Work Plan' is a full attack on tourism as a whole.

We aren't being over dramatic and highly urge that **every** homeowner get involved and make it very clear to the County Council how you feel about their plans. It is important to note that the Council made major changes to vacation rentals about two years ago and those changes have been very effective in bringing properties into compliance and getting rid of illegal vacation rentals (which have clearly been shown to be the problem vacation rentals in San Juan County).

We also urge you to tell your friends to get involved in this issue... as it will affect anyone with property in the islands or who is considering to someday own property in the islands.

### **Ways to get involved...**

Write to the individual Council members...

Write to the County Council...

Speak or submit written testimony at the Council hearing on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00am...

Spread the word...

There is also a local owner's group called *Hosting On the Rock* which has formed to bring host opinions to the Council. They hope to be part of the decisions that are being made that will impact hosts' livelihoods. To get involved or just follow their progress, visit the website <https://www.hostingontherock.com> and Subscribe there to be on their email list, or join the Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/407462562953054>. The group's email is [HostingontheRock@gmail.com](mailto:HostingontheRock@gmail.com).

The group's Mission Statement is:

*Short term rentals are a worldwide phenomenon.*

*As hosts we want to serve our guests while preserving peaceful neighborhoods, our livelihoods and the beauty of the islands.*

We do stress that communicating your opinion via "Hosting On The Rock" is a good start, but typically a letter or statement by one group with many voices, does not have

as much weight as many voices speaking individually. In the past a very vocal minority has influenced the County Council, but now it is time for the historically silent majority to make their voices heard. **Please don't sit on the sidelines and let others fight for you!**

Thank you and please let us know if you have any questions or thoughts,

Johannes, Erin, Chris, Audrey and all of the San Juan Property Management Team

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