

## Sophia Cassam

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**From:** Naomi Aldort <naomi@aldort.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 18, 2021 3:34 PM  
**To:** Council Public Comment  
**Subject:** Vacation Rental Moratorium

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Dear council members,

A temporary moratorium is only useful when the time is used for a permanent solution. In my eyes, the solution is a permanent moratorium on any more vacation rentals, as well as not renewing existing ones from off island owners, and not allowing a permit to pass on with property sales.

We are not in a position of trying to prevent future damage: *Plenty of damage is already done.* We have already lost neighborhoods, have too much traffic, noise, dirt and even crime from vacation rental visitors, harm to hotels and resorts, loss of rural nature, and the biggest one: Lose of rental housing for local working people. NO we don't need to build more (damage the islands), but to get the houses that used to be year around rentals back to being so.

I personally know three different families who lived here for years, contributed, worked, and had to leave the island because they could not find housing. In each case I was personally involved trying to find a house for them. And in each case all the houses that I knew of that used to be local housing... have become vacation rentals. It was incredible and sad. Practically 95% of local rentals have turned into 'hotels' leaving local working families with nothings.

I have a year around local renter on my property. For a couple of years my husband and I tried to turn it into vacation rental.

We stopped after two seasons, because: We realized that our rental is needed by locals!!!!!!  
But, it would be useful to know that it also wasn't making more money.

***We don't need to accommodate more tourism but less. We must accommodate our own community; not by building more and increasing traffic and density, but by renting to locals year around - the existing houses.***

Thank you,

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