

## Erika Shook

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**From:** jo@centurylink.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 1:50 PM  
**To:** Ingrid Gabriel  
**Subject:** Vacation Rentals

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Dear County Council Members:

I strongly support the continuation of the moratorium on vacation rental permits.

Small towns rely on its residents to be a cohesive community, the people know one another and care for each other in times of need. I am so sorry to say that with so many homes occupied by transients we are being left without a "community".

Studies should be conducted so that the County can re-evaluate the number of permits that will be allocated.

Friends who own homes and previously rented them year-round, now rent weekly for the tourist season and can receive more money than long term , so those homes have been removed from being long-term rentals. Realtors and letters are constantly trying to find homes to purchase for VRBO/AirBnB rentals all of which try to appeal to basic greed without one thought of the potential devastation to the development of community.

We are being virtually forced to build housing projects such as OPAL for those workers to be able to live here and provide their valuable and necessary services. In the past people were able to enjoy rental homes long term because they can't yet afford to buy their own homes. Temporary housing for seasonal workers is virtually nonexistent unless provided by an employer. This is clearly an untenable situation.

I understand there are differing opinions on the issue of vacation rentals. However, we only have to look around the communities of America to view the unintended consequences of runaway permits for vacation rentals and the fallout from these decisions.

Thank you for your efforts and I hope that we can make the changes necessary to go forward to preserve our unique community and treasured quality of island life.

Sincerely,  
Jo Ann Frances  
PO Box 387  
Eastsound WA  
Full time 31 year resident of Vusario