

Sophia Cassam

From: Leith Templin <leithtemplin@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 11:58 AM
To: Vacation Rental Comments
Cc: Sophia Cassam; David Williams
Subject: Vacation Rental

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April 4, 2022

San Juan County Council Members
CC: David Williams, Sophia Cassam

RE: Vacation Rental (VR) Moratorium, & Caps

Dear County Council Members,

I am listing the following concerns that I am hoping you will consider when you are debating the cap for vacation rentals and the impact that it will have on our county.

1. Please seriously consider your originally proposed option of the county wide cap of 1200 and these are the reason why
 - a. We still do not know the actual number of compliant permits. The number in setting the cap needs to include the inactive permits because these can be activated at any time.
 - b. By choosing a lower number you are continuing a moratorium for at least 10 years. This will dramatically impact our residence and county revenue. As the permits are decreased over the next several years, by people giving them up it will be a loss of income and employment opportunities for mostly women trying to support their families as house cleaners. It will be a loss for maintenance employees, groundskeepers, ect. These people will be out of jobs since there will be no more rentals that will be coming online for them to be employed by. A no growth of rentals with a lower cap will be deviating to our residence that rely on this industry to live in the San Juan's. This loss of hotel/motel tax plus sales tax will compound very year and will be a substantial loss to our county coffers. Over several million over the years in support of our local organizations. We must allow for growth with this larger number and zero growth will have **unintended consequences** that will reach far and wide. One being that many of our residences will be forced to move.
 - c. When you decide on a number, please reconsider the lottery approach. This has been proven to be ineffective and I personally believe that it is not a good approach for a permit application of this type.

For the past two years you all have listened to a lot of emotional testimony and read many letters. I am one to look at the facts and I hope you will in to in reaching your decision. All three for you represent all the islands not just the island you reside on. There has been a very organized group from Orcas that has been very vocal. Their last petition of I believe to be around 700 signatures is not a majority of the approximate 15,000 residence in the county. David Turnoy who you have heard from lives in an area of 135 homes with 7 (maybe 10 now) vacation rentals. I was at a hearing this summer for 2 new permits in Rosario Highlands and he did not send in a concern to the planning department or attend the hearing for those permits. A board member for this community development does not share David's objections. They have more problems with owner's using their houses during the summer for mutigenerational get together and construction trucks on their roads than vacation rentals. Also, you have heard from some from Buck

Mountain who most of all residence sit on 5-acre parcels. The interesting thing is that the most density of vacation rentals on Orcas are on Sunset Road on the North Shore and you have not received one complaint from that area

Leith Templin
Orcas