

Sophia Cassam

From: Brad Brown <bradleywaynebrown@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 4, 2022 4:08 PM
To: Vacation Rental Comments
Subject: ---> VR caps opposition

You don't often get email from bradleywaynebrown@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My dear representatives in county government,

The squeaky wheel gets the grease.

Campaign promises are made after local activists create a strategy for a better island and determine that the soft target is vacation rentals. These activists (many of whom are anti-vaxxers and mask refusers) want to reduce the human footprint in the San Juans.

They cannot go up against the building trade in the islands, that would rankle too many powerful feathers in the community and directly affect too many households. These anti-VR folks won't try to stop, cap, or even slow down construction. They would have too hard a fight.

And the council wouldn't ever – in a million years – consider such a move.

But, go up against a handful of homeowners (homeowners!) who rent their property for some days out of the year. That would be easier.

Attack homeowners with passion without facts, this sounds a recipe for failure.

We live in a country that prizes the property rights of individuals through a process of fair and thoroughly considered decision-making that relies on facts. This is the adult version of sitting in judgement.

Shouting along with the shouters makes it hard to hear the facts.

What are the facts?

There is more construction of custom homes in our county by people who are going to move into those houses. The homes never go onto the market. The homes never increase affordable housing. These homes do, however, raise the overall costs of housing in the islands.

Let us cap new construction and require only affordable housing be built.

It is in your power to do this.

But it seems pretty ridiculous, doesn't it.

Why does it?

Because there are too many big people who would oppose this kind of solution.

So, the council would never consider it.

It wouldn't solve the problem anyway – the problem of unaffordable housing.

Well, same with the capping of vacation rentals.

Where are the facts that say capping will lower housing costs?

But, this small group of homeowners are a soft target. They can be conquered. They can be damaged in their homes. Their livelihood can be taken from them. They have no power to fight.

But, fight we will. Just as the Ukrainians are fighting.

A bit hyperbolic?

Is it?

The motive is to roll over a weak group to gain desired outcomes without the luxury of fact.

Be adult and make fact-based decisions to protect all of those in your care.

Thank you. Brad

All the best to you.

Stay Safe

Stay Strong

--

*** IT'S JUST FOR YOU ... 20-22 ***

IT'S IN YOUR HANDS NOW !

All the best to you,

Brad