

## Sophia Cassam

---

**From:** Liz Scranton <cwf@rockisland.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2022 12:33 PM  
**To:** Vacation Rental Comments  
**Subject:** Cap Short Term Vacation Rental permits

You don't often get email from cwf@rockisland.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.

Dear Commissioners

I am writing in support for a cap on Short Term Vacation Rental permits at the July 2021 level of Active and Compliant permits. I believe that limits to the expansion of Vacation Rentals in our island neighborhoods is critical to a thriving island community.

We need young families to have access to affordable year round rental housing if we are to keep vital jobs in the service sectors. These jobs include workers in our grocery stores, restaurants, trades, schools, nurses and the like. We need to be careful to protect our island way of life.

I grew up on Block Island, RI and watched the community deteriorate from unsustainable growth and tourism which leads to a lack of year round housing. The Block Island community now imports workers from eastern Europe and Central America for most service jobs. A large dormitory style building houses them, as well as many substandard and funky "rooms."

These workers are transient and are not invested in the island community. They do not serve on the volunteer fire department or volunteer for other community events. Young people are needed to keep our island way of life!

A cap on short term vacation rentals is necessary to a thriving island community. We also need to create incentives to encourage affordable, long term, year round housing.

Sincerely yours,

Liz Scranton  
4559 Center Road  
Lopez Island

--  
Liz Scranton  
Custom Wood Finishes  
[www.lizscranton.com](http://www.lizscranton.com)