

Sophia Cassam

From: James Nelson <bayside25@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 10:59 AM
To: Vacation Rental Comments
Subject: Comments for May 17,2022 VR public hearing

[You don't often get email from bayside25@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>.]

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.

Attn: San Juan County Council

I am opposed to the proposed cap on vacation rental permits. However, if you feel that you must approve some form of the current proposal in order to place some limit on the number of VR permits, please approve Option "C" which would limit the number of permits to 500 on Orcas and San Juan and some reasonable number that would allow for growth on Lopez.

It is important to remember that while some people feel inconvenienced by vacation rentals there are already rules in place to mitigate their impacts. Most vacation rental owners that I know are very concerned and proactive about limiting the impact of their rental on their neighbors. They are active contributors to our community. They are simply trying to financially support their life on Orcas Island. They are just trying to earn a living.

Limiting new permits to those that exist now deprives others of the future opportunity to earn extra income. It will harm our local economy and reduce local government revenues. It will result in more economic hardship, particularly for younger people who are trying to get started in life.

People who operate vacation rentals and those who stay in vacation rentals are just ordinary people. In the case of *Greene v San Juan County* that has been provided to you, Judge Hancock said: "In looking at the various kinds of impacts that a transient rental might have, we're really dealing with the kinds of things that ordinary people do when they own a piece of property or rent a piece of property long-term." I hope that you will not be convinced by all of the fear mongering and misinformation that has been put into the public record on the subject of vacation rentals.

Instead, please think of the of the people who live here that can benefit by the economic opportunity that a vacation rental permit might provide. Think about the people who visit here as being just ordinary people who are no different than you & I. They just want a decent life or a vacation in a quiet rural environment. What is so wrong with that?

Thank you for your efforts.
Jim Nelson
Orcas Island

Sent from my iPad