

Dear San Juan County Council Members,

Along with our owner and operator partners at Hosting on the Rock, Vacasa is urging the county council to reconsider the widespread moratorium on short-term rentals. These sweeping limitations are not rooted in data and do not address the underlying issues, including overtourism and increased availability of affordable long-term rentals, that were listed as concerns.

Our model is to empower Vacasa teams not just at the county or even city level, but at the neighborhood level. Our area managers are local and there to work with full-time residents and officials to address concerns and comply with occupancy limits, rule enforcement and inspections. Vacasa is in favor of common sense regulation and we ask that you allow time to reveal the true impact of the 2018 amendments to vacation rental operations (San Juan County Code 18.40.275), rather than piling on more restrictions.

As a full-service vacation rental management company, we can offer accountability and assurance that our properties operate legally on the island, adhering to local regulations, paying required taxes and supporting tourism that boosts Orcas Island's economy. We also have homeowners who reside on the island, and their short-term rental provides valuable, consistent income that they depend on. Overreaching restrictions can have an unintended and devastating impact on area businesses and locals, and we want to continue to see Orcas Island thrive.

We ask you to take everything you hear today into consideration, along with the opportunity to work together to find a resolution, before prematurely voting to further limit short-term rentals.

Sincerely,

Luke Furnas, on behalf of Vacasa and our Washington Operations Team