

Sophia Cassam

From: Jessa Madosky <jessa.madosky@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 10:12 PM
To: Vacation Rental Comments
Subject: Vacation rental cap

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Dear County Council,

I respectfully request that the county council continue the moratorium on adding more vacation rentals to our islands. Instead I would request that the council focus on finding ways to ease the housing crisis for the people who already live and work here such as increasing the permits for ADUs for local housing (not ADUs for short term rentals), changing zoning to allow for agricultural tiny home communities, and incentivizing long term rentals rather than adding short term rental units. Additionally, I would like to see a residency requirement enacted for all renewals on vacation rental permits to ensure that anyone running a vacation rental is a full time resident of San Juan County, rather than a corporation or someone from outside the community benefiting from the community we create without understanding community needs or issues.

I know many islanders currently looking to secure long term housing who are unable to find homes to rent or to buy and affordable housing is at a crisis point in our communities. This impacts the ability of local businesses to hire workers to support the demands of tourists during the busy tourism season and without these local workers there is no tourism economy. We need to make sure that we can support sustainable tourism and work to fix the housing crisis rather than add more vacation rentals that reduce the local housing supply.

Thank you
Jessa Madosky

Jessa Madosky, PhD
Pronouns: they/them, she/her

Past President - North America Section of Society for Conservation Biology
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