

August 11, 2023

To: San Juan County Planning Commission

From: Doug Stevenson, Housing Lopez Board Member

Re: 2023 Docket Comprehensive Plan Map Amendment Request 23-0005 DCD

I am writing on behalf of the Housing Lopez Board to urge your support for changing the zoning of the southern two parcels of the Lopez School District land from the Island Center designation to the Rural Farm Forest designation. This will allow a cluster development of much needed affordable housing for school personnel on the southern most parcel.

As an organization dedicated to reducing the affordable housing gap for our most critically needed service workers, we helped support the district in its initial request for change a year and a half or two years ago. We have enjoyed county financial support for our first project for island workers, Fish Bay Cottages, that opened a year and a half ago. More recently, we have also received initial county support for the first phase of our next project in Lopez Village adjacent to the Post Office.

We were very pleased to see the staff report recommends support for the requested change. Please send this proposed amendment on to the County Council with your recommendation for adoption.