

Erika Shook

From: Paul D. Hart <pdudleyhart@rockisland.com>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 1:40 PM
To: Council Public Comment
Cc: Janie Hart
Subject: Vacation Rental Moratorium

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Dear Council Members,

This is to state that I fully support the vacation rental moratorium for a full 12 months until a wise and balanced policy can be arrived at and implemented.

In no way do I seek a draconian outcome but rather one that determines and then actively enforces a workable equitable solution. Vacation rentals are an important part of our archipelago's economic fabric. Without them we would be plagued with everything from mega-resorts to low cost motels or be left with little or no tourist income. The status quo has been so invasive as to distort the local housing market making a community with an already high cost of living unaffordable for those we depend on to have it function. It would also be interesting to learn how much of existing vacation rental income remains on the island vs. flowing to off-island owners.

It is probable we already have too many permitted rentals and certainly a significant number that are not permitted. As such you are faced with a very difficult balancing act but one in which I think you have the support of the electorate to address with an open and objective process. I look forward to seeing it unfold.

Thank you for taking this on!

Paul Dudley Hart
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