

Erika Shook

From: Heather Immoor <heather.immoor@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 9:48 AM
To: Council Public Comment
Subject: Vacation Rental Moratorium

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Dear Councilmembers,

Thank you so much for doing the right thing, I'm sure it wasn't easy. And I'm sure you've got an uphill battle on your hands.

I won't be able to attend the public hearing, so I wanted to comment via email. The vacation rental situation and the transformation of Orcas into an investment opportunity instead of a community is what likely means that I and my young family, who have friends and roots and a small business here, will have to move elsewhere in the next two years. The social impact of what essentially is boiling down to feudalism can't be underestimated; nor can the commercial and residential real estate madness. We have nowhere to buy a house or land; I have nowhere to expand my business to allow us to claw our way out of the working poor. If we stay here, with things as they are, we will never be more than service drones for those wealthier than we.

Continuing the moratorium, and eventually enacting real and lasting laws, rules and penalties that support the community rather than those who consider Orcas a cash cow and/or a luxury resort, will be key to allowing Orcas to be a living community.

Thank you for your time, and stay safe.

Heather Immoor
Orcas