

Erika Shook

From: Brian Wiese <brian_wiese@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 5:02 PM
To: San Juan County Council
Subject: Vacation Rental Moratorium

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Good Morning Councilmembers,

I am writing to you to ask that you extend the time period for the Vacation Rental Moratorium, per Resolution 03-21, for an additional two years or whatever time is necessary for the Council and San Juan public to formulate policies to balance locally owned vacation rental businesses with the need to accommodate a reasonable tourist economy while preserving the Islands' natural beauty and the tranquility.

Contrary to some comments which have been made, this moratorium would only prohibit new vacation rental permits, and would thus temporarily pause the GROWTH of vacation rentals, giving us the opportunity to take a breather to evaluate the situation and the effects of the tourist economy on us. Much of the groundwork on this has already been accomplished through almost two years of research, public meetings and recommendations by the Vacation Rental Group and Eastsound Planning Advisory Committee, which have studied specific issues and the solutions found in other locales. This should alleviate some of the burden on the planning staff and council and may shorten the timeline as well. After this work, commitment, and strong public demand, I urge the council to extend the moratorium to provide adequate time to study and engage the community in dialogue to develop a comprehensive set of regulations of vacation rentals.

--Brian Wiese
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