

Sophia Cassam

From: Lynda Guernsey
Sent: Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:10 PM
To: Sophia Cassam
Subject: FW: Population Planning in SJC

Hi Sophia,

Please see the email below in regard to the Docket.

Regards,
Lynda

Lynda Guernsey, Administrative Specialist II – Direct Line (360) 370-7579
SAN JUAN COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
(360) 378-2354 | 135 Rhone Street | PO Box 947 | Friday Harbor, WA 98250

From: Karen Hays <swnkeh@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 17, 2021 2:08 PM
To: Lynda Guernsey <LyndaG@sanjuanco.com>
Cc: Erika Shook <erikas@sanjuanco.com>; Sheila Gaquin <sheilag@sanjuanco.com>; Nicholas Knoellinger <nicholask@sanjuanco.com>; Steve Smith <steves@sanjuanco.com>
Subject: Population Planning in SJC

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Dear Lynda et al.,

We have been property owners and taxpayers on Orcas Island since 1988.

We are writing to support Joe Symons' docket request for San Juan County to perform a build-out analysis (BOA) to study the impact of population growth on our resources and quality of life.

I can think of no other action that the county leaders can take that will address and integrate all of the issues listed so beautifully on the San Juan County Vision and Missions statements. In particular, I draw your attention to the following from the Mission Statement and its Guiding Principles (1997):

- Provide those public services necessary for the health, safety, and general well-being of the citizens [and residents] of San Juan County.
- Strive to **preserve the heritage of the islands**, both environmentally and culturally.
- Conduct the public's business in a manner which is responsive, accessible and open to county citizens
- Encourage a strong local economy consistent with our rural lifestyle
- Protect our physical environment as our most precious natural resource

Further down in the Guiding Principles, there are statements about protecting property rights and fostering private property responsibilities. I challenge the County government leaders to undertake a rigorous and thoughtful analysis to discover ways that those principles can align with all the others in such a way that acknowledges that expanding the county's population to over 130,000 would create an unlivable dystopia for humans, plants, and animals alike. Loving the islands to death is not an option.

Please use Joe Symon's request as a challenge to think carefully about what the rest of the century will hold for these precious jewels of the Salish Sea. As you have probably heard before, failing to plan is planning to fail. Don't let that be the legacy of our county's government in the early 21st century.

Thank you for your time and attention,
Karen Hays and Scott Norquist
224 Cypress Lane, Olga 98279