

Sophia Cassam

From: Adam Zack
Sent: Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:19 PM
To: Sophia Cassam
Subject: FW: Public Comment: Planning Commission Meeting 6/18/21

2021 Annual Docket Comment originally sent to compplancomments@sanjuanco.com.

From: Kai Sanburn <kaisanburn@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 17, 2021 10:23 AM
To: Comp Plan Update <compplancomments@sanjuanco.com>
Subject: Public Comment: Planning Commission Meeting 6/18/21

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Dear Planning Commissioners,

As summer shines and covid vaccination allows things to open up, tourists arrive, adding to the increased occupancy of second homes and a real estate market on full throttle. Growth and its impacts seem to be on the minds of most everyone. Some people and businesses clearly benefit, while others are stranded by housing woes, overloaded ferries and the pace of change that seems to stress the fabric of our communities.

A quick look at soaring temperatures in the southwest and photos of alarmingly low reservoirs there, suggests there will be more migration from regions too hot and too dry. Covid moved work and friendships online and our remote county is now an appealing home for those previously anchored to offices and lives elsewhere.

How does an island county plan for such growth? How can our County truly value what is, resisting the push for ever more consumption and development/destruction of forests, fields, and shorelines?

This is challenging, no doubt, but we know what's at risk. We have seen it in too many other places.

I urge you to proactively address these pressures so that our county defies the norm to become a model of people and nature living in balance.

—Deny requests for expanded development of rural and agricultural resource lands, unless there is a clear and articulated benefit to the larger community.

Keep agricultural lands for farming and forest lands for forests.

Of the Dockets before you, I support the following:

— **CP 21-0003, submitted by Joe Symons**

The request for a build-out analysis is important and addresses concerns I've mentioned above. It's a proposal whose time has come.

It seems that understanding the big picture is required to for comprehensive planning out to 2036.

As the climate changes, how much water will we have available at 20% buildout, at 50% build out, at 100%? What remains of nature at these levels of buildout?

A full build-out analysis will provide the background for proactive planning.

Please support this docket request.

— **UDC 21-0005, submitted by Miles Becker**

I trust the arborists here. They are asking for clarity about tree regulations and seeking to reduce the number of trees taken due to difficulty understanding existing codes or inadvertently damaged during construction, etc.

This is utterly reasonable and the benefit of retaining trees that would otherwise be lost can not be overstated - (from one who loves trees)

The value of single trees is understood by anyone that has sought their shade on a late summers day or enjoyed the songs of birds perched on their branches.

Please support this docket request.

— **UDC 21-0008, submitted by Alexandra Gayek**

This comprehensive request regarding storm and surface water demands your serious consideration and review. Water availability coupled with growth are twinned critical issues in our county.

Please support this docket request.

As always, thank you for your dedication to this important work,

Kai Sanburn
Lopez Island