

Adam Zack

From: Ingrid Gabriel
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 9:19 AM
To: Vacation Rental Comments
Subject: FW: Vacation Rentals

-----Original Message-----

From: Lynne Mercer <lunitatunita@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 10:49 AM
To: San Juan County Council <councilvm@sanjuanco.com>
Subject: Vacation Rentals

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My two cents:

The proliferation of vacation rentals is ruining the island for the residents. Please stop granting more permits.

Already 4 out of 6 homes along my tiny stretch of shoreline have vacation rentals.

There is no where for trades people and middle income families to live here.
My auto mechanic can't get new help - no where for them to live.
The restaurants can't get cooks and wait people - no where for them to live.
The plumbers and electricians can't get enough workers - no where for them to live.
Kayak guides, hotel maids, helpers of all stripes.

We are an island in danger of imploding. If all efforts are turned to tourism, there will be no one here to serve them or us, the locals.

Additionally, the vacation rentals are not subject to the same conditions and inspections as the legit lodging facilities. Is that fair? No health inspections, no permit costs for additional permits that hotels are charged. Not fair.

Please look at the long range picture of over saturating the island with vacation rentals. We need a permanent community here, we have to make room for it.

Thank you,
Lynne Mercer