

Adam Zack

From: flora wiegmann <florawiegmann@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 1:29 PM
To: Comp Plan Update
Subject: Vacation Rentals on Lopez

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Hi there.

I'm writing to discourage adding more vacation rental properties in the community of Lopez, specifically. Our small community suffers from a very real lack of housing. For people who want to live here, work here, farm here, and build businesses here, taking additional properties off the market that could be long-term rentals is going to magnify the challenges we all face. Already our local economy is being affected by a housing shortage: businesses have trouble finding workers, mostly due to the fact that anyone who wants a job would have no place to stay. And it's not just limited to lower paying jobs. All professions are at risk and we are starting to see some very real gaps in the services we need to live here. Our dental hygenist. Our veterinarian. If anything, more regulation of rental properties needs to be administered. I have witnessed neighborhoods being ruined by AirBnB, leaving very few apartments for residents and inflating the cost of an apartment by 40% in just a couple of years. Please have the foresight to acknowledge that these rental businesses are not healthy for communities. It is your job as the Planning Commission to plan for the needs of the community, not the monetary success of a few property owners. They can still rent out their places for long term rentals and make money. Doing that, they can add to the prosperity of an entire island. THAT is what planning should focus on.

Thank you for your time.
Flora Wiegmann

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Flora Wiegmann
661 Grime Riker Ln
Lopez Island, WA 98261
florawiegmann.com