

## Adam Zack

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**From:** Asha Lela <ashalela@rockisland.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 19, 2021 3:36 PM  
**To:** Comp Plan Update; Jamie Stephens; San Juan County Council  
**Subject:** vacation rentals

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This discussion of number of permitted vacation rentals MUST consider how these rentals are really affecting and changing Lopez reality and values. Many of these rentals are by 2nd house owners. Obviously the monies go into their pockets and do not help the Lopez community. We full time locals are struggling to deal with the mobs of visitors who have high-jacked ferry reservations and made life miserable for locals to leave the island and come back home. The Lopez Market can not keep up with the demand and some shelves are often empty. There are not enough service people on the island to hire or serve the large numbers of those in need. Parks are over used and becoming degenerated.

I feel co-opted by a county that seems to want to be business-money oriented and not paying attention to the big changes that impact locals. **Why not keep the # of vacation rentals as it has been- not hiking it up to 1/3 more.** . Consider a ban on turning entire residences into VRs. To ensure VR revenues benefit local residents, we should only allow VR permits to live-in resident owners of the VR property.

How about asking the chamber of commerces to limiting the summer vacation advertising to less and instead emphasizing only the shoulder seasons.

And locals need more weight as regards the ferries. We pay the taxes to keep our transportation system healthy , not for all the visitors. WE need a system that puts locals with more security to use "our water road". Now it seems the ferries are plotted to serve mostly vacationers. Locals should have a resident ferry pass that gives some priority to access to better scheduling.

As elected officials and those appointed by elected officials it seems like the locals need your support and attention to keep our islands sane and our values strong. WE do not want to be another Martha Vineyard or Carmel. We want to be stewards of our land and our parks. We want equity. Please pay attention to keeping the vacation rentals at a reasonable level for Lopez that does not stretch us to the point of breaking.

Thank you for your considerations.

Asha Lela

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