

Adam Zack

From: Lynda Guernsey
Sent: Tuesday, August 17, 2021 3:19 PM
To: Vacation Rental Comments
Subject: FW: Vacation Rental Permits

Lynda Guernsey, Administrative Specialist II – Direct Line (360) 370-7579
SAN JUAN COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
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From: Cynthia Burke <cynthiasofcourse@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 17, 2021 1:29 PM
To: Lynda Guernsey <LyndaG@sanjuanco.com>; San Juan County Council <councilvm@sanjuanco.com>
Cc: keepsanjuanswild@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Vacation Rental Permits

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Date: August 17, 2021
From: Cynthia Burke, San Juan Island
To: San Juan County Planning Commission and San Juan County Council
Re: Establishment of fixed permanent caps on the total number of Vacation Rental Permits

I write to support the letter (located at <http://doebay.net/VR/PCCCaugletter.pdf>) sent to you on 11 August 2021 from David Turnoy and others regarding the establishment of caps on Vacation Rental Permits (VRPs) in San Juan County (SJC).

I have lived on San Juan Island, Friday Harbor for 24 years. I moved here to enjoy the quiet, tranquil, rural, community-minded nature of San Juan Island. I am distressed to see the crowds. I am concerned about the carrying capacity of the islands to provide sufficient water, wastewater treatment, transportation safety as well as the negative impacts created by transient populations on noise levels, road and infrastructure impacts, and acceptable

levels of commerce in activity centers. I am particularly concerned about the loss of community in my neighborhood and in the activity areas on San Juan Island. As a business owner, It is also concerning that I have employees who are unable to find a decent rental as so many have been turned into Vacation Rentals. I have more tourist based customers and less local based employees to service their needs.

Please pay great attention to setting appropriate caps that reduce the current negative impact of VRPs. Ensure that the data used to calculate caps is the most current and most accurate available; caps should be set no greater than the currently existing active and compliant VRPs for each major island. Also ensure that these caps are permanent and that they are re-evaluated every few years to ensure that they are sufficiently restrictive to prevent the challenges that we have been facing for the past several years. Such re-evaluation should be done with the intention of lowering caps as needed to minimize if not eliminate the negative impact of over-tourism.

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Cynthia Burke

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360-317-7178

Owner - Cynthia's- a neighborhood bistro located at 65 Nichols Street - 360-298-8130

Owner - Cynthia's of Course Catering

*" You make a living by what you do,
you make a life by what you give"*

In an effort to find balance in my work/life, I sometimes send emails on weekends or evenings. Responses are never expected outside working hours.