

**Adam Zack**

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**From:** Rob Thesman <robthesman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 15, 2021 3:57 PM  
**To:** Vacation Rental Comments  
**Subject:** Regarding VR CAPs

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September 17, 2021

Members of the San Juan County Planning Commission  
PO Box 947  
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

**Re: Proposed Use of "Caps" for Regulation of Vacation Rentals in San Juan County**

Dear Members of the San Juan County Planning Commission, I urge you to rescind your decision to recommend an ordinance to the San Juan County Council implementing both a county cap and island-by-island cap on the issuance of new permits for vacation rentals.

Rather than base public policy on an emotional appeal by a small group, my suggestion is that you seek out and rely upon **facts** as you craft your recommendations. Basing recommendations upon unsubstantiated claims from a vocal minority is irresponsible. Despite their cries to the contrary, the facts show that caps will do nothing to free up an inventory of affordable housing, protect our environment, slow the movement of tourists or permanent residents to our islands, nor steady the rise in real estate prices afflicting our entire nation. The current draft is essentially a ban. If implemented, it would be an unconstitutional retroactive law and an uncompensated taking of private property from owners who have violated no laws.

Please do your due diligence. Choose not to recommend the current draft and vote to engage in a gathering of the data instead.

Very truly yours

Rob Thesman  
Lopez Island