

Sophia Cassam

From: thomaswalterharrell@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 5:29 PM
To: Vacation Rental Comments
Subject: Against moratorium

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Good morning, I previously wrote to you back in July and expressed my concerns about the moratorium. The summary of those expressed concerns follows.

The arguments for a moratorium appear to be primarily about:

- General concerns about tourism and its impact on the islands, an issue only tangentially related to restricting VRs and moratoriums on permitting)
- Affordable housing (A concern universally shared that is only minimally connected to VRs if at all)
- Behavior of tourists in residential areas (HOAs, subdivision covenants, property managers and city rules for compliance and enforcement of same could and should address this, not blanket moratoriums against VRs)

Because of the moratorium in place and discussion of extending it to include the other islands, including San Juan Island, my wife and I applied for and obtained a VR permit for our ADU, even though we are not currently interested in renting it. We simply wanted to preserve our options. This was costly to us and perhaps an unintended consequence of the possible imposition of a moratorium.

Quoting directly from my prior email, "Sometimes the best action is no action. My recommendation is to take a light hand with any proposed regulation that takes aim at perceived social ills. The moratorium has struck me as a solution in search of a problem. For the life of me, I can't understand what it accomplishes other than divide the community and hold VRs up as a scapegoat..... " Do you really need more time to make a final determination? I sincerely hope you will NOT extend the moratorium on VRs and turn your attention to more pressing matters.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Hope your holiday season is filled with joy.

Sincerely,

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