

Donna DePamphilis

From: Robert Gerfy <rgerfy@interisland.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 14, 2017 11:47 AM
To: Ingrid Gabriel
Subject: Population

I think that, prior to discussing population, the County should do an island-by-island study to determine how many people can be supported by our water resources. This should include estimates of rising water levels due to climate change and the resultant salinization of coastal wells and aquifers.

We also need to measure our farmlands in order to calculate how many people can be adequately fed on our own resources.

Once those are accomplished, the County needs to limit population increase. Perhaps this can be done with zoning and planning. Limiting house size to 2,000 or even 1,500 square feet might create more affordable housing and make us less a target of rich investors. So would limiting B&B permits.

Given our National Monument status, it seem right to keep the County as it is today — or even a few decades ago.

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