



SAN JUAN COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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TRANSMITTAL MEMO

TO: County Council
CC: Erika Shook, AICP, Director, DCD
Mike Thomas, County Manager
FROM: Adam Zack, Planner II 
Linda Kuller, Planning Manager, DCD
SUBJECT: 2036 Comprehensive Plan Update: Vision amendments
DATE: March 29, 2018
BRIEFING: April 9, 2018
ATTACHMENTS: A. Staff report to Planning Commission dated March 29, 2018
B. Background report dated March 29, 2018 including public comment

Issue: Amendments to the Vision.

Briefing Purpose: To inform the Council of the progress on proposed amendments to the Vision and to obtain preliminary suggestions.

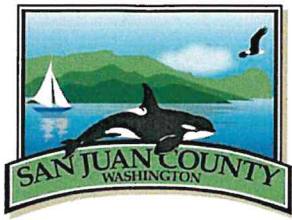
Background: A first draft of Vision amendments dated February 2, 2018 was prepared with direction from the San Juan County Planning Commission. A second draft, dated March 1, 2018, was prepared after considering public comments received on the first draft. A third draft of proposed amendments was prepared by Planning Commission on March 16, 2018. Planning Commission's recommended amendments are found in Attachment A. Attachment B provides the background, explanation of amendments, and public comments received as of March 29, 2018.

On March 16, the Planning Commission also identified several issues that were unresolved and which will be addressed at their April 20 meeting:

- Should separate tourism and agriculture sections be added to the Vision; and
- Should the order of the Vision statements be changed?

Council will be briefed on the Planning Commission recommendations on April 23. A joint County Council and Planning Commission public hearing about the proposed Vision amendments is scheduled on May 18, 2018.

Public Comments: Written comments may be emailed to compplancomments@sanjuanco.com, or mailed to Adam Zack, SJC Department of Community Development PO Box 947 Friday Harbor, WA 98250 prior to the Planning Commission meeting on April 20. Proposed changes should refer to the page and line numbers on the amendments proposed in the attached document. For questions, please contact Adam Zack at (360) 370-7580 or adamz@sanjuanco.com.



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STAFF REPORT

TO: Planning Commission
CC: Erika Shook, AICP, Director, DCD
Mike Thomas, County Manager
FROM: Adam Zack, Planner II 
Linda Kuller, Planning Manager, DCD
SUBJECT: 2036 Comprehensive Plan Update: Vision amendment process
DATE: March 29, 2018
BRIEFING: April 20, 2018
ATTACHMENTS: A. Planning Commission's March 16 proposed Vision amendments (strikeout/underline)
B. Planning Commission's March 16 proposed Vision amendments (clean)

Background: On March 16, the Planning Commission considered public comments about the Vision and agreed to recommended changes to the Vision. Please see the attached recommendations in attachments A and B.

Several issues were unresolved at this meeting

- Should separate tourism and agriculture sections be added to the Vision; and
- Should the order of the Vision statements be changed?

Staff Analysis and Recommendations:

1. **Tourism:** Tourism comprises a significant portion of the economy in the County. Most public input regarding the economy summarized in *San Juan County Vision 2036* related to tourism. Its impacts to resources, services, infrastructure and housing have been highlighted in many recent community discussions. Some of the concern expressed in these public comments were related to the seasonal and low-wage employment associated with this sector and the extent to which the County is living up to the Vision which currently emphasizes stable year round activities.

Because of the high volume of comments and concerns expressed about tourism during the early public participation events, Planning Commission asked staff to analyze and recommend options for how those comments might be addressed. Despite the amount of feedback received about tourism, there were few specific comments that proposed changes to the Vision and none requested a separate tourism statement.

Option A – No action – Recommended by Staff.

The Planning Commission's proposed Vision discusses tourism at a high-level which is appropriate for a Vision statement. In the proposed Vision, tourism is considered as one part of the County's economy.

Public input summarized in *San Juan County Vision 2036* indicates that implementation, not Vision statement language, is the proper place to address tourism impacts. Tourism can be further addressed in the Economic Development Element of the Comprehensive Plan which is where specific goals, policies and implementation activities related to tourism belong.

Option B – Incorporate tourism further into the Economy section.

One commenter requested that “and seasonal tourism” be added to the statement to make the statement because the County does depend on seasonal tourism activities. These recommendations are presented below in the Planning Commissions March 16 draft statement):

ECONOMY We support a diverse, resilient, and sustainable economy while respecting the natural world on which we and our economy depends. This economy serves the needs of our community, and reflects the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands. Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of stable, year-round activities **and seasonal tourism** that provide living or family wages, allowing islanders to live, work, and thrive locally. We support and encourage traditional industries such as forestry, agriculture, aquaculture, construction, fishing and tourism without jeopardizing the natural environment. We support and encourage home occupations and cottage enterprises that are compatible with surrounding areas. We encourage new ideas and new technology for improving the quality and profitability of our goods and services. Advanced interactive communication systems support our economy.

This addition was not addressed at the March 16 meeting.

Option C – Add a stand-alone tourism section to the Vision.

While discussing the Economy statement with Planning Commission, it was suggested that tourism is different from other sectors of the County’s economy and ought to be addressed with its own section. As noted earlier, the proposed Vision statement appropriately discusses tourism at a high-level consistent with a vision statement. Goal and policy guidance regarding tourism and implementation details will be addressed in the Economic Development Element.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends Option A. The Vision is a high-level picture of where the community would like to be in the future. The granularity of a stand-alone tourism statement is too specific for the Vision. Tourism is adequately addressed as a sector of the County’s economy in the Economy section in the currently proposed Vision.

Additional concerns about the impact of tourism can be addressed in the goals and policies of the Economic Development Element. The overall public comments did not recommend adding a tourism section of the Vision. Many of the comments received during the public involvement fall of 2017 centered on implementation actions.

2. **Agriculture:** Agriculture is regarded as an important part of the County’s economy. The value attributed to agriculture extends beyond its economic and financial impact. Public comments point out the historic importance of agriculture, the scenic qualities of agricultural lands, and the sense of place farmlands provide as unique qualities agriculture provides.

Thirty-eight public comments and the Agricultural Resources Committee (ARC) requested the addition of a stand-alone agriculture statement. The ARC proposed statement is included below:

“AGRICULTURE The San Juan Islands have a rich agricultural heritage that remains culturally and economically significant. We invest resources to ensure that agricultural lands are preserved and to maintain and enhance agricultural viability. We encourage regenerative practices and recognize the integral role that agriculture plays in the stewardship of our soils and water resources. Agricultural activities are essential to the health and well-being of our community, contributing to the social, economic and environmental fabric of our islands.”

Option A – No action – Recommended by Staff.

The Planning Commission's proposed Vision statement addresses agriculture at a high-level as one part of the County's economy. This is appropriate for a Vision statement. Several statements found in the Vision seem to address the concepts suggested in the Agricultural Resource Committee's proposed stand-alone agricultural section. These would guide the development of more specific goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan. The following excerpts of the March 16 Planning Commission proposal show how agriculture is addressed:

ENERGY AND RESOURCES (excerpt) Our community fosters resource and energy conservation. Energy independence is encouraged. Water, soil, and local food production resources are proactively managed to meet the needs of our community and future generations.

ECONOMY (excerpt) We support a diverse, resilient, and sustainable economy while respecting the natural world on which we and our economy depends. This economy serves the needs of our community, and reflects the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands. Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of stable, year-round activities that provide living or family wages, allowing islanders to live, work, and thrive locally. We support and encourage traditional industries such as forestry, agriculture, aquaculture, construction, fishing and tourism without jeopardizing the natural environment.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT (excerpt). The natural environment is central to the ecological health, quality of life, and the economy in the islands.

LAND USE (excerpt) Hamlets, villages, towns, and other activity centers are clearly defined to conserve rural, agricultural, forest, mineral resource lands and critical areas. These areas define our heritage and sense of place; providing for commerce and community activities without losing their small scale and attractive island ambiance.

The ARC's proposed agricultural statement supported by many commenters should not be lost during the update and would be appropriate for an introduction to the Agricultural Resource Land component of the Comprehensive Plan and/or portions could be used for specific goals and policies. Additional consideration for agriculture may be addressed in the Economic Development, Land Use and Natural Resource Land Elements and goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

Option B - Incorporate agriculture further into the Heritage and Historic Preservation section.

Some commenters indicated that mentions of agriculture in the Vision are insufficient and that its presence in the Vision should be increased. If this is desired, an additional change could be to add the following to the Planning Commission's proposal:

HERITAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION Our community is enriched by a strong sense of identity, tradition, legacy, and continuity, where past and present freely mingle. We recognize the contributions to our rural, agricultural and maritime heritage made by indigenous peoples, explorers, and island pioneers. We encourage preservation of our heritage, historic sites, structures, and traditions for the enjoyment of all.

Option C – Add a stand-alone agriculture section to the Vision.

Commenters suggested that agriculture is different from other sectors of the County's economy and ought to be addressed with its own section, an example of which is included in the opening discussion of this topic above. Portions of the ARC statement are more detailed and could provide goal and policy guidance in the Comprehensive Plan.

Recommendation: Staff recommends Options A and B. The Vision, as proposed by Planning Commission, addresses agriculture in several places at a high level. The ARC recommended statement above is composed of four sentences. The second sentence in the ARC proposal addresses preserving agricultural land, a concept covered in the first sentence of the Land Use statement. The third sentence in the ARC proposal relates to soil, water and food resources, this concept is covered in the second sentence of the Energy and Resources statement. The fourth sentence in the ARC proposal addresses the social, economic and environmental value of agriculture; this idea is included in the second sentence of the Economy section. The second sentence of the Economy section links agriculture with the 'nature of the islands'. Environmental health is tied with agriculture in the fourth sentence of the Economy section. The first sentence of the ARC proposal refers to the agricultural heritage of the islands. Agriculture is a part of the heritage this can be addressed with Option B.

3. **Vision Statement Order:** Four public comments were received regarding the order of the statements. For additional information, please see the *Background Report* dated March 29, 2018.

Staff Recommendation:

After reviewing the comments, staff recommends the following order of Vision statements (underlines indicate statements whose order changed):

EXISTING	PROPOSED
1 Community	1 Community
2 Basic Human Needs	2 <u>Governance</u>
3 Education	3 Basic Human Needs
4 Economy	4 <u>Housing</u>
5 Natural Environment	5 Education
6 Land Use	6 <u>Natural Environment</u>
7 Transportation	7 <u>Energy and Resources</u>
8 Energy and Resources	8 <u>Climate Change</u>
9 Arts, Culture, and Recreation	9 Economy
10 Heritage and Historic Preservation	10 Land Use
11 Governance	11 Transportation
12 Housing	12 Arts, Culture, and Recreation
13 Climate Change	13 Heritage and Historic Preservation

If new sections were proposed to be added to the Vision, additional discussion about organizing the statements would be needed.

4. **Recommended Edit for Clarity.**

While reading the "clean version" (attachment B) of the Commission's draft, another edit proposed by staff is highlighted below for clarity.

ECONOMY We support a diverse, resilient, and sustainable economy while respecting the natural world on which we and our economy depends

ATTACHMENT A. PLANNING COMMISSION'S MARCH 16 PROPOSED VISION AMENDMENTS IN STRIKEOUT/UNDERLINE FORMAT

PREAMBLE: **WE THE PEOPLE** of San Juan County ~~recognize~~ value our healthy natural environment, vibrant and diverse community, ~~independence,~~ self-sufficiency, interdependence, privacy and personal freedom. ~~that~~ These rural islands are an extraordinary environmental treasure; of natural beauty and abundance, and that independence, privacy and personal freedom are values prized by islanders. Being a diverse people as a community bound together by these shared values, we declare our commitment to work towards this vision of the San Juan Islands. in 2020 A.D.

COMMUNITY We envision a community that is primarily rural, made up of islands of varying character, each with its own unique qualities. The islands are places of peace and mutual tolerance, where ~~citizens~~ people of differing backgrounds and beliefs respect each other's dignity, privacy, and freedoms. We communicate effectively and openly and work together toward goals identified as being for the common good. We foster a sense of neighborliness, of self-sufficiency, and community pride that has long been a part of our island character.

BASIC HUMAN NEEDS Our islands are places ~~where all citizens can safely walk or play~~ people are safe, day ~~or~~ and night. The drinking water supply is clean, and adequate, and conserved as a vital resource. Health care, elder and child care, and help in time of need are accessible and affordable. ~~The supply of affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population. Making a life here is not limited by lack of access to basic human needs.~~

EDUCATION Learning is a continuing lifelong process ~~which~~ that is encouraged and aided by the community. A partnership of families and community creates a supportive and challenging environment founded on academic excellence, ~~and~~ artistic expression, and availability of a wide range of educational opportunities. This educational environment produces ethical, environmentally conscious, self-directed, compassionate, and responsible world citizens, alive with the love of learning.

ECONOMY We support ~~a pattern of economic growth and development~~ a diverse, resilient, and sustainable economy while respecting the natural world on which we and our economy depends. which serves This economy serves the needs of our community, and ~~which recognizes~~ reflects the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands. Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of stable, year-round activities that provide living or family wages, employment for allowing islanders- to live, work, and thrive locally. We support and encourage traditional industries ~~including such as~~ forestry, farming agriculture, aquaculture, construction, fishing and tourism without jeopardizing the ~~resources- natural environment on which they depend.~~ We have support and encourage home occupations and cottage industries ~~which enterprises that are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods areas.~~ We encourage new ideas and new technology for improving the quality and profitability of our goods and services. Advanced interactive communication systems are encouraged support our economy. Value-added activities are encouraged. Environmental conservation and sustainable development are balanced.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT Our islands have exceptional natural beauty and healthy diverse ecosystems surrounded by pollution-free marine waters. The air is fresh and clean, the water quality is excellent, and the soil is uncontaminated. As careful stewards of these islands, we conserve resources, protect our shorelines and critical areas, preserve open space, and take appropriate action to assure healthy land and marine environments. The natural environment is central to the ecological health, quality of life, and the economy in the islands. Native plants and animals of the islands thrive, and are identified, appreciated and conserved.

LAND USE ~~Neighborhoods, hamlets, villages, and towns, and other activity centers~~ are clearly defined so as to conserve rural, agricultural, forest, mineral resource lands and environmentally sensitive lands critical areas. These areas define our heritage and sense of place; provide providing for commerce and community activities without losing their small scale and attractive island ambiance. ~~There is housing for people of all incomes.~~ The unique character of our shorelines is protected by encouraging uses ~~which~~ that maintain or enhance the quality health of the shoreline environment. Through innovative land use strategies, our citizens and institutions balance and protect private property rights, public rights, and our natural environment.

ATTACHMENT A. PLANNING COMMISSION'S MARCH 16 PROPOSED VISION AMENDMENTS IN STRIKEOUT/UNDERLINE FORMAT

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION We have reliable, affordable, local, and regional water, land, and air transportation systems commensurate with our island culture. On-island circulation is by means of a system of scenic rural roads with automobile, bicycle and pedestrian ways functioning without conflict. In some places, the roads are unpaved, narrow, and winding, and care is taken to maintain a rustic quality in public signs. Transportation plans carefully consider cyclists, pedestrians, automobiles, public transportation, and rural character. Expansion or new construction of basic public transportation facilities occurs only ~~on the basis of~~ based on demonstrated local public need. ~~Advanced interactive communication systems are encouraged.~~

ENERGY AND RESOURCES Our community fosters resource and energy conservation. Energy independence is encouraged. Water, soil, and local food production resources are proactively managed to meet the needs of our community and future generations. Recycling, solid waste, and sewage treatment are managed ~~within the confines of each island~~ in an environmentally sound manner. We use R~~enewable~~energy, materials, and natural resources ~~are used~~ on a sustainable basis. Nonrenewable resources are conserved wherever possible and practical.

ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION Our community nurtures the expression of its creative talents and supports diverse cultural and entertainment activities. Our cultural facilities such as libraries, museums, and theaters are focal points of activity and community support. Well-managed parks, trails, and shoreline access, where appropriate, provide islanders with recreation with due regard for both the rights of private property owners and the natural limitations of each site.

HERITAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION Our community is enriched by a strong sense of identity, tradition, legacy, and continuity, where past and present freely mingle. We recognize the contributions to our rural and maritime heritage made by indigenous peoples, explorers, and island pioneers, ~~and encourage the preservation of that heritage.~~ We encourage preservation of our heritage, historic sites, structures, and traditions for the enjoyment of all.

GOVERNANCE We are self-governed by informed citizens. We are ~~equally~~ represented by elected officials who conduct the activities of government in an ethical, fair, impartial, responsive and open manner ~~which~~ that recognizes the independent, self-reliant nature of its citizens. Our county borders the Province of British Columbia, including the Gulf Islands, and several Washington State counties. Our elected officials and government institutions communicate with and collaborate in our areas of mutual interest. Our government institutions balance responsibility with resources and costs, consolidate services where practical, manage prudently, provide reliable data, are service-oriented, and perform in a timely manner.

HOUSING There is adequate, safe, affordable and stable housing so that our community thrives. There are diverse housing types and we use innovative strategies to meet the various housing needs of our community members.

CLIMATE CHANGE Our community of islands sets an example with its response to climate change. We proactively address the causes and effects of climate change such as sea level rise and drought. Preparations to mitigate these effects are made in advance before they become crises. Our community encourages voluntary efforts and enacts incentives and regulations if necessary to reduce our carbon footprint. Carbon neutrality is our goal. Greenhouse gas emissions are limited.

OUR COMMITMENT: AS FORTUNATE CITIZENS OF THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS, WE COMMIT ourselves individually and communally to a future for ourselves and our children that reflects this vision. To this end, we, the undersigned individuals dedicate our time and our talents.

ATTACHMENT B. PLANNING COMMISSION'S MARCH 16 PROPOSED VISION AMENDMENTS WITHOUT STRIKEOUT/UNDERLINE FORMAT

PREAMBLE: WE THE PEOPLE of San Juan County value our healthy natural environment, vibrant and diverse community, self-sufficiency, interdependence, privacy and personal freedom. These rural islands are an extraordinary environmental treasure: as a community bound together by these shared values, we declare our commitment to work towards this vision of the San Juan Islands.

COMMUNITY We envision a community that is primarily rural, made up of islands of varying character, each with its own unique qualities. The islands are places of peace and mutual tolerance, where people of differing backgrounds and beliefs respect each other's dignity, privacy, and freedoms. We communicate effectively and openly and work together toward goals identified as being for the common good. We foster a sense of neighborliness, of self-sufficiency, and community pride that has long been a part of our island character.

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LAND USE Hamlets, villages, towns, and other activity centers are clearly defined to conserve rural, agricultural, forest, mineral resource lands and critical areas. These areas define our heritage and sense of place; providing for commerce and community activities without losing their small scale and attractive island ambiance. The unique character of our shorelines is protected by encouraging uses that maintain or enhance the health of the shoreline environment. Through innovative land use strategies, our citizens and institutions balance and protect private property rights, public rights, and our natural environment.

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VISION BACKGROUND REPORT SAN JUAN COUNTY VISION 2036

Adam Zack, Planner II
Department of Community Development

March 29, 2018 –DRAFT

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Appendix A: Public Comments on First Draft Proposal	App. A, Pg. 1
Appendix B: Public Comments on Second Draft Proposal.....	App. B, Pg. 1

A. PURPOSE

In 2018, San Juan County will update its Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan Vision Statement has been selected to be a part of this update. The following is the first draft of a Vision Statement amendment proposal. This document also outlines the community input and Planning Commission guidance that informed the proposed Vision Amendments. The entire Vision with the proposed amendments is shown first. Then, each section of the Vision Statement is covered with the following format: existing and proposed statement, summary of the core issues for that topic, a bullet-point list of the specific amendments, and an explanation of why the change was proposed. Amendments are presented in strikeout and underline format (for example new additions, ~~removed~~, and relocated).

B. BACKGROUND

In September, October, and November of 2017, San Juan County Department of Community Development (DCD) and consultants from Studio Cascade Inc. (SCI) performed community engagement to generate public input on the currently adopted Comprehensive Plan Vision Statement. This engagement consisted of pop-up studios, workshops, a mini-poll, and an online survey. SCI summarized the public input accumulated during these months in *San Juan County Vision 2036 Update Process*, referred to hereafter as 'the Vision Report'.

On January 19, 2018, Planning Commission conducted a work session to determine the appropriate scope of the Vision amendments. DCD staff presented the Planning Commission with information from the Report and received direction for amendments to each section of the Vision. Four questions were asked for each section:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| • Is there a change needed? | • Is something missing from this |
| • Does specific language need to change? | statement? |
| • Does the statement structure need to | |
| change? | |

Planning Commission considered the community input from the Report in answering each question. Throughout the work session, staff and Commissioners pointed out that the currently adopted Vision Statement only requires small amendments to reflect accurate aspirations of the community. Staff subsequently drafted a first draft amendments proposal using Planning Commission guidance and community input from the Report.

At the February 16, 2018 meeting, Planning Commission heard public comments on the first draft proposal. Comments received on the first draft are summarized in Appendix A of this document.

Planning Commission did not have a quorum at the February 16, 2018 meeting. As a result, the Commission was unable to provide guidance in response to public comments. Staff prepared a second draft with limited modifications from public comments to give Planning Commission the opportunity to consider and respond to comments.

At the March 16, 2018 meeting, the second draft was presented to Planning Commission accompanied by the public comments received to that point. Public Comments on the second draft proposal are included in Appendix B. Planning Commission worked through each section of the Vision, considering public

comments, and establishing recommended amendments by consensus. The Commission’s recommended amendments are included sections C, D, and E of this document.

Planning Commission and community input formed the basis of the following proposed amendments. Care was taken to respect the existing Vision Statement while creating amendments to refine the Vision to encompass the hopes of the San Juan County community as expressed in 2018.

This update process was conducted with deference to the Vision Statement that was initially adopted with the San Juan County Comprehensive Plan. DCD staff and Planning Commission recognize the significant effort that went in to the drafting of the original Vision Statement and appreciate the work of every individual that contributed.

C. PROPOSED VISION AMENDMENTS

PREAMBLE: WE THE PEOPLE of San Juan County ~~recognize value our healthy natural environment, vibrant and diverse community, independence, self-sufficiency, interdependence, privacy and personal freedom. that t~~These rural islands are an extraordinary environmental treasure: of natural beauty and abundance, and that independence, privacy and personal freedom are values prized by islanders. Being a diverse people as a community bound together by these shared values, we declare our commitment to work towards this vision of the San Juan Islands. ~~in 2020 A.D.~~

Staff Analysis – Page 10

Public Comments on the first draft

- | | | |
|--|----------|---|
| • Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 9, line 13 | 23
24 | • Friends of the San Juans, Appendix A, page 34 |
| • Charles Carver, Appendix A, page 15, line 23 | 25
26 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 |

Public Comments on the second draft

- | | | |
|--|----------|--|
| • David Kane, Appendix B, page 4 | 33 | • San Olson, Appendix B, page 23 |
| • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 10 | 34
35 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31 |
| • Faith Van De Putte, Appendix B, page 16 | | |

COMMUNITY We envision a community that is primarily rural, made up of islands of varying character, each with its own unique qualities. The islands are places of peace and mutual tolerance, where ~~citizens~~ people of differing backgrounds and beliefs respect each other's dignity, privacy, and freedoms. We communicate effectively and openly and work together toward goals identified as being for the common good. We foster a sense of neighborliness, of self-sufficiency, and community pride that has long been a part of our island character.

Staff Analysis – Page 11

Public Comments on the first draft

- Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 21, line 6
- Islands Climate Resilience, Appendix A, page 38, line 7
- Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40

Public Comments on the second draft

- David Kane, Appendix B, page 4
- Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 11
- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

BASIC HUMAN NEEDS Our islands are places ~~where all citizens can safely walk or play~~ people are safe, day or night. The drinking water supply is clean, and adequate, and conserved as a vital resource. Health care, elder and child care, and help in time of need are accessible and affordable. The supply of affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population. Making a life here is not limited by lack of access to basic human needs.

Staff Analysis – Page 12

Public Comments

- | | | |
|--|----------------|--|
| • Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 10, line 8 | 22
23 | • Friends of the San Juans, Appendix A, page 34 |
| • David Kane, Appendix A, page 14, line 25 | 24
25 | • Islands Climate Resilience, Appendix A, page 38, line 13 |
| • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 21, line 12 | 26
27
28 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 4 |

Public Comments on the second draft

- | | | |
|--|----------------|---|
| • David Kane, Appendix B, page 4 | 33 | • Agricultural Resources Committee, Appendix B, page 19 |
| • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 11 | 34
35
36 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31 |

EDUCATION Learning is a continuing lifelong process ~~which that~~ is encouraged and aided by the community. A partnership of families and community creates a supportive and challenging environment founded on academic excellence, and artistic expression, and availability of a wide range of educational opportunities. This educational environment produces ethical, environmentally conscious, self-directed, compassionate, and responsible world citizens, alive with the love of learning.

Staff Analysis – Page 14

Public Comments on the second draft

- David Kane, Appendix B, page 4

- Agricultural Resources Committee, Appendix B, page 19
- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

ECONOMY We support a ~~pattern of economic growth and development~~ a diverse, resilient, and sustainable economy while respecting the natural world on which we and our economy depends. which serves This economy serves the needs of our community, and ~~which recognizes~~ reflects the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands. Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of stable, year-round activities that provide living or family wages, employment for allowing islanders- to live, work, and thrive locally. We support and encourage traditional industries ~~including such as~~ forestry, ~~farming~~ agriculture, aquaculture, construction, fishing and tourism without jeopardizing the ~~resources- natural environment on which they depend.~~ We ~~have~~ support and encourage home occupations and cottage industries ~~which enterprises that~~ are compatible with surrounding ~~neighborhoods~~ areas. We encourage new ideas and new technology for improving the quality and profitability of our goods and services. Advanced interactive communication systems are encouraged ~~support our economy. Value-added activities are encouraged. Environmental conservation and sustainable development are balanced.~~

Staff Analysis – Page 15

Public Comments on the first draft

- | | | |
|---|----------|--|
| • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 7, line 28 | 26
27 | • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 21, line 19 |
| • Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 10, line 17 | 28
29 | • Friends of the San Juans, Appendix A, page 34 |
| • David Kane, Appendix A, page 14, line 26 | 30
31 | • Islands Climate Resilience, Appendix A, page 38, line 23 |
| • Charles Carver, Appendix A, page 16, line 7 | 32
33 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 |

Public Comments on the second draft

- | | | |
|--|----------------|---|
| • David Kane, Appendix B, page 5 | 38 | • Agricultural Resources Committee, Appendix B, page 20 |
| • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 12 | 39
40
41 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31 |

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT Our islands have exceptional natural beauty and healthy diverse ecosystems surrounded by pollution-free marine waters. The air is fresh and clean, the water quality is excellent, and the soil is uncontaminated. As careful stewards of these islands, we conserve resources, protect our shorelines and critical areas, preserve open space, and take appropriate action to assure healthy land and marine environments. The natural environment is central to the ecological health, quality of life, and the economy in the islands. Native plants and animals of the islands thrive, and are identified, appreciated and conserved.

Staff Analysis – Page 18

Public Comments on the first draft

- | | | |
|--|----------|--|
| • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 5, line 9 | 8
9 | • Joe Symons, Appendix A, page 25, line 30 |
| • Charles Carver, Appendix A, page 16, line 30 | 10
11 | • Islands Climate Resilience, Appendix A, page 38, line 32 |
| • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 21, line 23 | 12
13 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 |

Public Comments on the second draft

- David Kane, Appendix B, page 5
- Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 12
- Agricultural Resources Committee, Appendix B, page 20
- Janet Alderton, Appendix B, page 22
- Verbal Comments, page 31

LAND USE ~~Neighborhoods, hamlets, villages, and towns, and other activity centers~~ are clearly defined so as to conserve rural, agricultural, forest, mineral resource lands and environmentally sensitive lands critical areas. These areas define our heritage and sense of place; provide providing for commerce and community activities without losing their small scale and attractive island ambiance. ~~There is housing for people of all incomes.~~ The unique character of our shorelines is protected by encouraging uses which that maintain or enhance the quality health of the shoreline environment. Through innovative land use strategies, our citizens and institutions balance and protect private property rights, public rights, and our natural environment.

Staff Analysis – Page 19

Public Comments on the first draft

- | | | |
|---|----------|---|
| • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 6, line 16 | 34
35 | • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 21, line 27 |
| • David Kane, Appendix A, page 14, line 28 | 36
37 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 |

Public Comments on the second draft

- David Kane, Appendix B, page 5
- Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 12
- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION We have reliable, affordable, local, and regional water, land, and air transportation systems commensurate with our island culture. On-island circulation is by means of a system of scenic rural roads with automobile, bicycle and pedestrian ways functioning without conflict. In some places, the roads are unpaved, narrow, and winding, and care is taken to maintain a rustic quality in public signs. Transportation plans carefully consider cyclists, pedestrians, automobiles, public transportation, and rural character. Expansion or new construction of basic public

1 transportation facilities occurs only ~~on the basis of~~ based on demonstrated local public need. ~~Advanced~~
2 ~~interactive communication systems are encouraged.~~

3 **Staff Analysis – Page 21**

4 **Public Comments on the first draft**

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|
| 5 | • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, | 9 | • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 22, |
| 6 | page 7, line 8 | 10 | line 6 |
| 7 | • David Kane, Appendix A, page | 11 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, |
| 8 | 14, line 7 | 12 | page 40 |

13 **Public Comments on the second draft**

- 14 • David Kane, Appendix B, page 6
- 15 • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 13
- 16 • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 40

17 **ENERGY AND RESOURCES** Our community fosters resource and energy conservation. Energy
18 independence is encouraged. Water, soil, and local food production resources are proactively managed
19 to meet the needs of our community and future generations. Recycling, solid waste, and sewage
20 treatment are managed ~~within the confines of each island~~ in an environmentally sound manner. We use
21 Renewable, energy, materials, and natural resources ~~are used~~ on a sustainable basis. Nonrenewable
22 resources are conserved wherever possible and practical.

23 **Staff Analysis – Page 22**

24 **Public Comments on the first draft**

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|----|--------------------------------|
| 25 | • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, | 29 | • Islands Climate Resilience, |
| 26 | page 4, line 7 | 30 | Appendix A, page 34, line 6 |
| 27 | • Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page | 31 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, |
| 28 | 11, line 7 | 32 | page 40 |

33 **Public Comments on the second draft**

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|
| 34 | • David Kane, Appendix B, page 6 | 39 | • Cindy Carter, Appendix B, page 28 |
| 35 | • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix | 40 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, |
| 36 | B, page 13 | 41 | page 31 |
| 37 | • Agricultural Resources | | |
| 38 | Committee, Appendix B, page 21 | | |

43 **ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION** Our community nurtures the expression of its creative talents and
44 supports diverse cultural and entertainment activities. Our cultural facilities such as libraries, museums,
45 and theaters are focal points of activity and community support. Well-managed parks, trails, and
46 shoreline access, where appropriate, provide islanders with recreation with due regard for both the
47 rights of private property owners and the natural limitations of each site.

48 **Staff Analysis – page 24**

Public Comments on the second draft

- David Kane, Appendix B, page 7
- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

HERITAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION Our community is enriched by a strong sense of identity, tradition, legacy, and continuity, where past and present freely mingle. We recognize the contributions to our rural and maritime heritage made by indigenous peoples, explorers, and island pioneers, ~~and encourage the preservation of that heritage.~~ We encourage preservation of our heritage, historic sites, structures, and traditions for the enjoyment of all.

Staff Analysis – Page 24

Public Comments on the first draft

- Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 11, line 10
- Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 22, line 13
- Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40

Public Comments on the second draft

- David Kane, Appendix B, page 7
- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

GOVERNANCE We are self-governed by informed citizens. We are ~~equally~~ represented by elected officials who conduct the activities of government in an ethical, fair, impartial, responsive and open manner ~~which that~~ recognizes the independent, self-reliant nature of its citizens. Our county borders the Province of British Columbia, including the Gulf Islands, and several Washington State counties. Our elected officials and government institutions communicate with and collaborate in our areas of mutual interest. Our government institutions balance responsibility with resources and costs, consolidate services where practical, manage prudently, provide reliable data, are service-oriented, and perform in a timely manner.

Staff Analysis – Page 25

Public Comments on the first draft

- | | | |
|--|----------|---|
| • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 6, line 1 | 33
34 | • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 22, line 13 |
| • Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 11, line 16 | 35
36 | • Friends of the San Juans, Appendix A, page 36 |
| • Joe Symons, Appendix A, page 17, line 21 | 37
38 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 |

Public Comments on the second draft

- David Kane, Appendix B, page 7
- Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 14
- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

HOUSING There is adequate, safe, affordable and stable housing so that our community thrives. There are diverse housing types and we use innovative strategies to meet the various housing needs of our community members.

Staff Analysis – Page 27

Public Comments on the first draft

- Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 4, line 30
- Friends of the San Juans, Appendix A, page 36
- Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40

Public Comments on the second draft

- David Kane, Appendix B, page 7
- Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 14
- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

CLIMATE CHANGE Our community of islands sets an example with its response to climate change. We proactively address the causes and effects of climate change such as sea level rise and drought. Preparations to mitigate these effects are made in advance before they become crises. Our community encourages voluntary efforts and enacts incentives and regulations if necessary to reduce our carbon footprint. Carbon neutrality is our goal. Greenhouse gas emissions are limited.

Staff Analysis – Page 28

Public Comments on the first draft

- | | | |
|--|----------|--|
| • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 3, line 19 | 26
27 | • Friends of the San Juans, Appendix A, page 36 |
| • Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 11, line 20 | 28
29 | • Islands Climate Resilience, Appendix A, page 36, line 15 |
| • Charles Carver, Appendix A, page 16, line 19 | 30
31 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 |

Public Comments on the second draft

- David Kane, Appendix B, page 8
- Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 14
- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

OUR COMMITMENT: AS FORTUNATE CITIZENS OF THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS, WE COMMIT ourselves individually and communally to a future for ourselves and our children that reflects this vision. To this end, we, the undersigned individuals dedicate our time and our talents.

Public Comments

- Joe Symons, Appendix A, page 18, line 5

D. STAFF ANALYSIS

PREAMBLE

EXISTING	PROPOSED
WE THE PEOPLE of San Juan County recognize that these rural islands are an extraordinary treasure of natural beauty and abundance, and that independence, privacy and personal freedom are values prized by islanders. Being a diverse people bound together by these shared values, we declare our commitment to work towards this vision of the San Juan Islands in 2020 A.D.	WE THE PEOPLE of San Juan County recognize <u>value our healthy natural environment, vibrant and diverse community, independence, self-sufficiency, interdependence,</u> privacy and personal freedom. that t<u>These</u> rural islands are an extraordinary <u>environmental</u> treasure; of natural beauty and abundance, and that <u>independence, privacy and personal freedom</u> are values prized by islanders. Being a diverse people <u>as a community</u> bound together by these shared values, we declare our commitment to work towards this vision of the San Juan Islands. in 2020 A.D.

ISSUES

The Report indicates that this section did not require significant amendment. Public comments received on both the first and second draft amendment proposals suggested some change may be needed.

Public Comments

- Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 9, line 13
- Charles Carver, Appendix A, page 15, line 23
- Friends of the San Juans, Appendix A, page 34
- Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40
- David Kane, Appendix B, page 4
- Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 10
- Faith Van De Putte, Appendix B, page 16
- San Olson, Appendix B, page 23
- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

PROPOSAL

- “Value our healthy natural environment, vibrant and diverse community,” added to first sentence
- “recognize” and “independence” struck from first sentence.
- “self-sufficiency” and “interdependence” added to first sentence.
- “that” replaced by “These” in second sentence.
- “environmental” added to second sentence
- “of natural beauty and abundance, and that independence, privacy and personal freedom are values prized by islanders. Being a diverse people” struck from second sentence

- “as a community” added to second sentence
- “2020 A.D.” struck out

EXPLANATION

” Value our healthy natural environment, vibrant and diverse community,” This statement was added to the first sentence to relocate a concept from the second sentence. In so doing, the first sentence would become a statement of what the community values.

“recognize” This word was struck from the first sentence to make other amendments make sense. The intention was to make the first sentence a statement of what the community values.

“independence” This word was struck from the first sentence in response to public comments made on the previous draft amendment proposals. Members of the public expressed concern over the implications of independence as a community value.

“self-sufficiency” and “interdependence” Added to the second sentence. Including both words in the statement of values was intended to balance public concerns about the word ‘independence’ and comments requesting including the word ‘interdependence’.

“That” replaced by **“These”** This change to the second sentence was made to grammatically resolve changes to both the first and second sentence. These changes were made to relocate value statements to the first sentence and retain meaning in the second sentence.

“environmental” Added to the second sentence to link the environment and beauty. Part of the second sentence is intended as a statement of place. It was felt that beauty in the County is linked intrinsically to the environment.

“2020 A.D.” This year represents the previous planning horizon for the original Vision. As Sandi Friel points out, the community’s vision extends indefinitely into the future without an end date needed, see her written comment in Appendix A, page 10, line 1.

COMMUNITY

EXISTING	PROPOSED
We envision a community that is primarily rural, made up of islands of varying character, each with its own unique qualities. The islands are places of peace and mutual tolerance, where citizens of differing backgrounds and beliefs respect each other's dignity, privacy, and freedoms. We communicate effectively and openly and work together toward goals identified as being for the common good. We foster a sense of neighborliness, of self-sufficiency, and community pride that has long been a part of our island character.	We envision a community that is primarily rural, made up of islands of varying character, each with its own unique qualities. The islands are places of peace and mutual tolerance, where citizens <u>people</u> of differing backgrounds and beliefs respect each other's dignity, privacy, and freedoms. We communicate effectively and openly and work together toward goals identified as being for the common good. We foster a sense of neighborliness, of self-sufficiency, and community pride that has long been a part of our island character.

ISSUES

The Report indicates that this section did not require significant amendment. The only suggested amendment is changing the year in the Preamble to reflect the updated planning horizon.

Public Comments

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 21, line 6 | • David Kane, Appendix B, page 4 |
| • Islands Climate Resilience, Appendix A, page 38, line 7 | • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 11 |
| • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31 |

PROPOSAL

- “citizens” changed to “people”

EXPLANATION

“Citizens” replaced with “people” This change to the statement of community was intended to reflect that all people are included in the County community.

BASIC HUMAN NEEDS

EXISTING	PROPOSED
Our islands are places where all citizens can safely walk or play, day or night. The drinking water supply is clean and adequate. Health care and help in time of need are accessible and affordable. The supply of affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population.	Our islands are places where all citizens can safely walk or play <u>people are safe, day or and</u> night. The drinking water supply is clean, and <u>adequate, and conserved as a vital resource.</u> Health care, elder and child care, and help in time of need are accessible and affordable. The supply of affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population. <u>Making a life here is not limited by lack of access to basic human needs.</u>

ISSUES

On page 25 of the Report, community input identified access to housing, safe drinking water, and access to healthcare as the most important parts of this section of the Vision. Respondents expressed concern that meeting these basic needs is particularly challenging in our community.

- A large majority of respondents, in every public engagement opportunity, mentioned the lack of affordable, available housing for the local workforce.
- There is relative unanimity in the concern for both quantity and quality of drinking water in the future. Respondents mentioned saltwater intrusion into ground water, varying degrees of ground water availability on different islands in different places, changes in water quantity because of climate change, and the concept of “carrying capacity” of the water resource.

- Access to health care, particularly elder care, was an issue many respondents expressed concern regarding.

During the January 19 Planning Commission work session it was suggested that housing is a concern that warrants its own section within the Vision. There was a suggestion that the mention of safety may be better suited to be included with transportation. Inclusion of the concept of “aging in place” in the healthcare statement was also proposed.

Public Comments

- | | | |
|--|----|---|
| • Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 10, line 8 | 16 | • David Kane, Appendix B, page 4 |
| • David Kane, Appendix A, page 14, line 25 | 17 | • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 11 |
| • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 21, line 12 | 18 | • Agricultural Resources Committee, Appendix B, page 19 |
| • Friends of the San Juans, Appendix A, page 34 | 19 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31 |
| • Islands Climate Resilience, Appendix A, page 38, line 13 | 20 | |
| • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 | 21 | |
| | 22 | |

PROPOSAL

- “where all citizens can safely walk or play” struck from the first sentence
- “people are safe” added to the first sentence
- “and” added to the first sentence
- “and” struck from the second sentence
- “, and conserved as a vital resource” added to the second sentence
- “, elder and child care,” added to the third sentence
- “The supply of affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population.” Struck, see ‘Housing’ statement in Section E below
- “Making a life here is not limited by lack of access to basic human needs.” Added as a fourth sentence

EXPLANATION

“where all citizens can safely walk or play” struck, “people are safe” and “day ~~or~~ and night” added to the first sentence. This change was made to result in the first sentence reading ‘Our islands are places people are safe day and night’. Replacing ‘citizens’ with ‘people’ makes the statement more inclusive. The other changes increase the clarity of the first sentence.

“, conserved as a vital resource.” Much of the public input regarding this section of the vision statement expressed concern over the supply of drinking water. The existing statement envisioned the drinking water supply as clean and adequate but did not specifically address conservation of this resource; something the community input specifically called out as important. A couple of the public comments on this statement recommended specific language about monitoring and quantifying water usage. The idea of monitoring and quantifying water usage is in-line with comments from the Report; however, the specificity of these directives may be better addressed with Comprehensive Plan goals and policies.

1 **“Elder and child care”** Elder and child care was added to the statement about health care. Public input
2 highlighted that our aging population have unique health care needs that are not highlighted in the
3 current statement. Access to childcare is another concern community members have.

4 **“The supply of affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population”** This
5 statement was struck from the Basic Human Needs section, see the housing statement in section E of this
6 document.

7 **“Making a life here is not limited by lack of access to basic human needs.”** Public input and Planning
8 Commission conversation expressed a concern that people trying to make a life here may not be able to
9 do so because of a lack of access to the basic human needs outlined in this section of the Vision. This
10 concern over access underpins the anxiety expressed about housing, healthcare and drinking water.
11 Including a broad, declarative statement that living here will not be contingent on the satisfaction of basic
12 human needs should address this community concern and reflect a future that the community aspires to.
13 ‘Lack of’ was added to this draft of the proposal to respond to comments from Friends of the San Juans,
14 summarized in Appendix A, page 33.

15 16 EDUCATION

EXISTING	PROPOSED
Learning is a continuing lifelong process which is encouraged and aided by the community. A partnership of families and community creates a supportive and challenging environment founded on academic excellence and artistic expression. This educational environment produces ethical, self-directed, compassionate, responsible world citizens, alive with the love of learning.	Learning is a continuing lifelong process which <u>that</u> is encouraged and aided by the community. A partnership of families and community creates a supportive and challenging environment founded on academic excellence, and <u>and availability of a wide range of educational opportunities</u> . This educational environment produces ethical, <u>environmentally conscious</u> , self-directed, compassionate, <u>and</u> responsible world citizens, alive with the love of learning.

17 18 ISSUES

19 The community input and Planning Commission recommendations did not indicate significant change was
20 needed to this statement.

21 PUBLIC COMMENTS

- 22 • David Kane, Appendix B, page 4
- 23 • Agricultural Resources Committee, Appendix B, page 19
- 24 • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

25 PROPOSAL

- 26 • “Which” changed to “that”

- “and availability of a wide range of educational opportunities” added to the second sentence
- “environmentally conscious,” “and” added to the third sentence

EXPLANATION

“That” This change is proposed to correct a grammatical error.

“and availability of a wide range of educational opportunities” Was added to the second sentence to reflect an aspiration for more broad opportunities such as trades education.

“environmentally conscious” Was added to the third sentence. This was in response to public comments requesting stronger mention of environment throughout the Vision. Please see Appendices A and B for public comments.

ECONOMY

EXISTING	PROPOSED
We support a pattern of economic growth and development which serves the needs of our community, and which recognizes the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands. Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of stable, year-round activities that provide employment for islanders. We support and encourage traditional industries including forestry, farming, aquaculture, construction, fishing and tourism without jeopardizing the resources on which they depend. We have home occupations and cottage industries which are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods. We encourage new ideas and new technology for improving the quality and profitability of our goods and services. Value-added activities are encouraged. Environmental conservation and sustainable development are balanced.	We support a pattern of economic growth and development <u>a diverse, resilient, and sustainable economy while respecting the natural world on which we and our economy depends. which serves</u> This economy serves the needs of our community, and which recognizes <u>reflects</u> the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands. Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of stable, year-round activities that provide <u>living or family wages, employment for allowing islanders- to live, work, and thrive locally.</u> We support and encourage traditional industries including such as <u>forestry, farming agriculture</u>, aquaculture, construction, fishing and tourism without jeopardizing the resources- natural environment on which they depend. We have <u>support and encourage</u> home occupations and cottage industries which enterprises that <u>are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods areas.</u> We encourage new ideas and new technology for improving the quality and profitability of our goods and services. <u>Advanced interactive communication systems are encouraged</u> support our economy. Value-added activities are encouraged. Environmental conservation and sustainable development are balanced.

ISSUES

In the Report on page 31, community input identified access to housing, changes in the resource-based economy, and the growth of tourism as the most important parts of this section of the Vision. The core issues identified in the Report are:

- Housing is too expensive for many islanders, causing many, including tradespeople and entry-level professionals, to settle for substandard or distant housing.
- The resource-based economic sector referenced in the Vision is weakening and undergoing transition, playing a less significant role in the area's economy than the one implied.
- Shifts to a more tourism-based economy relies on a number of lower-paying, seasonal jobs in contradiction to the year-round, stable employment called for in the Vision.

During the January 19th Planning Commission work session, attention was called to the need for this statement to highlight 'family wage jobs', workforce housing, and that tourism may require its own statement. Commissioners pointed out that home occupations and cottage enterprises, as regulated by San Juan County Code, are a vital part of the County's economy. It was pointed out that many of the resource industry references in this statement were valuable as an homage to our heritage. The central points Commissioners wanted expressed by this statement were the need for labor force development and diversifying the kind of employment available.

Public Comments

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 7, line 28 | • Islands Climate Resilience, Appendix A, page 38, line 23 |
| • Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 10, line 17 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 |
| • David Kane, Appendix A, page 14, line 26 | • David Kane, Appendix B, page 5 |
| • Charles Carver, Appendix A, page 16, line 7 | • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 12 |
| • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 21, line 19 | • Agricultural Resources Committee, Appendix B, page 20 |
| • Friends of the San Juans, Appendix A, page 34 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31 |

PROPOSAL

- "a pattern of economic growth and development" struck from the first sentence
- "a diverse, resilient, and sustainable economy while respecting the natural world on which we and our economy depends." Added to the first sentence
- "This economy" added to the second sentence
- "Which recognizes" replace with "reflects" in the second sentence
- "living or family wages" added to the second sentence
- "employment for" changed to "allowing" in the third sentence
- "to live, work, and thrive locally." Added to the third sentence
- "such as" replaces "including" in the fourth sentence
- "Farming" changed to "agriculture" in the fourth sentence
- "resources" changed to "natural environment" in the fourth sentence

- “have” changed to “support and encourage” in the fifth sentence
- “industries which” changed to “enterprises that” in the fifth sentence
- “Advanced interactive communication systems support our economy.” Added, with a minor modification, from the transportation section

EXPLANATION

“a pattern of economic growth and development” struck from and “a diverse, resilient, and sustainable economy while respecting the natural world on which we and our economy depends.” added to the first sentence. This change altered the first sentence to include concepts of sustainability and resilience.

“This economy” added to the second sentence to make the sentence grammatically correct in light of other amendments.

“reflects” this word replaces which recognizes to grammatically square with other amendments.

“living or family wage” Planning Commission and community input respondents both identified the growing need for higher quality jobs in our community. Including “family wage” in the description of employment we aspire to seems a succinct way to sum-up what type of jobs the community and Planning Commission would like to see in San Juan County by the year 2036.

“to live, work, and thrive locally.” Public comments and Planning Commission discussion focused on the link between workforce housing and the islands economy. Many public comments also mentioned the concern that residents are, or would be, priced out of living here. When considering the economy moving forward the County can aspire to and support a workforce that lives in the islands.

“such as” replaces ‘including’ in the fourth sentence, a minor grammar edit.

“Agriculture” This change was made to be more consistent. The change was suggested by public comment; see Appendix A, page 14, line 27.

“natural environment” replaced “Resources” The word resources was changed to natural environment to reflect the change in the relationship between the islands’ economy and the environment.

“support and encourage” replaced “have” This change in the fifth sentence increases the specificity of the statement.

“Industries which” Changed to “enterprises that”, this corrects a grammar and reflects the cottage enterprise land use listed in the San Juan County Code.

“Advanced interactive communication systems support our economy.” The inclusion of communication with transportation came up in the public engagement and Planning Commission discussion. Many respondents did not understand why it was included with transportation and Commission recommended moving it. It has been added to the ‘Economy’ section, with a minor edit, because advanced communication systems seem to relate more to the County’s economy.

1

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

EXISTING	PROPOSED
Our islands have exceptional natural beauty and healthy diverse ecosystems surrounded by pollution-free marine waters. The air is fresh and clean, the water quality is excellent, and the soil is uncontaminated. As careful stewards of these islands, we conserve resources, preserve open space, and take appropriate action to assure healthy land and marine environments. Native plants and animals of the islands thrive, and are identified, appreciated and conserved.	Our islands have exceptional natural beauty and healthy diverse ecosystems surrounded by pollution-free marine waters. The air is fresh and clean, the water quality is excellent, and the soil is uncontaminated. As careful stewards of these islands, we conserve resources, <u>protect our shorelines and critical areas</u> , preserve open space, and take appropriate action to assure healthy land and marine environments. <u>The natural environment is central to the ecological health, quality of life, and the economy in the islands.</u> Native plants and animals of the islands thrive, and are identified, appreciated and conserved.

2

ISSUES

In the Vision 2036 Update Process report on page 35, the section on natural environment outlined the community concerns about climate change. The core issues identified in the Report are:

- Many of the topics of central concern have solutions that are beyond local control, relying on other agencies and actors.
- The availability of drinking water is largely unknown, and many residents are critically interested in how water availability will influence population growth policy.

Planning Commission suggested including a reference to shorelines. They acknowledged community concern about drinking water but did not feel that this was the best topic heading to address that. They also highlighted the relationship between the natural environment and our economy.

13

Public Comments

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 15 | • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 5, | 24 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 |
| 16 | line 9 | 25 | • David Kane, Appendix B, page 5 |
| 17 | • Charles Carver, Appendix A, page 16, | 26 | • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, |
| 18 | line 30 | 27 | page 12 |
| 19 | • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 21, line 23 | 28 | • Agricultural Resources Committee, |
| 20 | • Joe Symons, Appendix A, page 25, line | 29 | Appendix B, page 20 |
| 21 | 30 | 30 | • Janet Alderton, Appendix B, page 22 |
| 22 | • Islands Climate Resilience, Appendix A, | 31 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31 |
| 23 | page 38, line 32 | | |

32

PROPOSAL

- “Protect our shorelines and critical areas” Added to the third sentence
- “Preserving the natural environment is central to the ecological health, quality of life, and the economy in the islands.” Added as a fourth sentence

EXPLANATION

“Protect our shorelines” was added to the third sentence to reflect the Planning Commission suggestion that shorelines be mentioned.

“Preserving the natural environment is central...” This sentence was added to strengthen the connection between the natural environment, quality of life, and our economy. Community input identified the changing nature of the resource-based economy. Respondents pointed out that the value of preserving our natural environment was equal to the value of extracting natural resources.

LAND USE

EXISTING	PROPOSED
Neighborhoods, hamlets, villages and towns are clearly defined so as to conserve agricultural, forest, mineral resource and environmentally sensitive lands. These areas provide for commerce and community activities without losing their small scale and attractive island ambiance. There is housing for people of all incomes. The unique character of our shorelines is protected by encouraging uses which maintain or enhance the quality of the shoreline environment. Through innovative land use strategies, our citizens and institutions balance and protect private property rights, public rights, and our natural environment.	Neighborhoods, hamlets, villages, and towns, and other activity centers are clearly defined so as to conserve <u>rural</u> , agricultural, forest, mineral resource <u>lands</u> and <u>environmentally sensitive lands critical areas</u> . These areas <u>define our heritage and sense of place</u> ; provide <u>providing</u> for commerce and community activities without losing their small scale and attractive island ambiance. There is housing for people of all incomes. The unique character of our shorelines is protected by encouraging uses <u>which that</u> maintain or enhance the <u>quality health</u> of the shoreline environment. Through innovative land use strategies, our citizens and institutions balance and protect private property rights, public rights, and our natural environment.

ISSUES

In the Vision 2036 Update Process report on page 39, community concerns regarding the topic of land use are outlined. The core issues identified in the Report are:

- Rural character is becoming less about actual agricultural use and more about the atmosphere and aesthetics provided by open fields and forests.
- Housing is not easily available for people living year-round on the islands and part of the workforce.
- Existing levels of development already permitted by zoning may make growth management challenging.

Planning Commission focused on sharpening the definition of rural, agricultural, and urban areas in this statement. They pointed out that these three components of the statement, and land use in general, define our community and need to be clearly understood. Commission also acknowledged that the Vision might not be the best place to fully flesh out these definitions. Overall, Commission felt that the currently adopted statement is strong.

Public Comments

- | | | |
|---|----|--|
| • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 6, line 16 | 12 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 |
| • David Kane, Appendix A, page 14, line 28 | 13 | • David Kane, Appendix B, page 5 |
| • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 21, line 27 | 14 | • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 12 |
| | 15 | |
| | 16 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31 |

PROPOSAL

- “Neighborhoods” struck from the first sentence
- “and other activity centers” added to the first sentence
- “So as” struck from the first sentence
- “rural” added to the first sentence
- “lands” added to the first sentence
- “environmentally sensitive lands” struck out and replaced with “critical areas” in the first sentence
- “define our heritage and sense of place; providing” added to the second sentence
- “There is housing for people of all incomes” struck, moved to housing statement
- “Which” changed to “that” in the third sentence
- “quality” replaced with “health” in the third sentence

EXPLANATION

“neighborhoods” Struck from the first sentence because It was felt that this word was ill-defined and not included in other land use sections of County Code and the Comprehensive Plan.

“and other activity centers” Added to the third sentence to replace neighborhoods with a better-defined term that is used throughout County Code and the Comprehensive Plan.

“So as” this was struck out to correct grammar.

“rural” Added to the first sentence to maintain consistency with other land use language in the County Code and Comprehensive Plan.

“Critical Areas” replaces environmentally sensitive lands in the first sentence. This will make the Vision consistent with County Code. Environmentally sensitive lands was a phrase previously used in the code, then changed to critical areas.

“Define our heritage and sense of place; providing...” This was added to the second sentence to respond to community input that highlighted the link between rural areas and island heritage.

“There is housing for people of all incomes.” This was moved to the housing statement per Commission request. Please see the Housing statement in section E of this document.

1 “Which” Struck in favor of “that”, this corrects grammar.

2 “health” replaced “quality” in the third sentence. This change will make the land use consistent with
3 other parts of the Vision that talk about ‘environmental health’.

4 TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

EXISTING	PROPOSED
We have water, land, and air transportation systems commensurate with our island culture. On-island circulation is by means of a system of scenic rural roads with automobile, bicycle and pedestrian ways functioning without conflict. In some places, the roads are unpaved, narrow, and winding, and care is taken to maintain a rustic quality in public signs. Expansion or new construction of basic public transportation facilities occurs only on the basis of demonstrated local public need. Advanced interactive communication systems are encouraged.	TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION We have <u>reliable, affordable, local, and regional</u> water, land, and air transportation systems commensurate with our island culture. On-island circulation is by means of a system of scenic rural roads with automobile, bicycle and pedestrian ways functioning without conflict. In some places, the roads are unpaved, narrow, and winding, and care is taken to maintain a rustic quality in public signs. <u>Transportation plans carefully consider cyclists, pedestrians, automobiles, public transportation, and rural character.</u> Expansion or new construction of basic public transportation facilities occurs only on the basis of <u>based on</u> demonstrated local public need. Advanced interactive communication systems are encouraged.

6 ISSUES

7 In the Vision 2036 Update Process report on page 43, community concerns regarding the topic of land use
8 are outlined. The core issues identified in the Report are:

- 9 • The county’s roads are perceived as unsafe, making people reluctant to walk or ride bikes and
10 potentially endangering those who do.
- 11 • The islands rely heavily on the State ferry system and count on its continued reliability and
12 adequacy of service.
- 13 • Traffic congestion and continued reliance on the car for daily needs - particularly during tourist
14 season - may drive a scale of improvements that jeopardize rural character.
- 15 • There are different expectations of what needs the roadways serve, and design standards may
16 not universally apply.
- 17 • Inclusion of “interactive communication” in this portion of the vision is not entirely understood.

18 Planning Commission felt that this statement overall is strong. They pointed out that the third sentence
19 summarized the importance of rural character well. Commission recommended relocating the final
20 sentence about communication. They agreed with public input that including communication with
21 transportation does not make sense today in the same way it did when the statement was drafted. The

Commissioners pointed out the need to balance infrastructure improvements with rural character, that bicycle and pedestrian considerations should be included but not at the expense of rural character.

Public Comments –

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 7, line 8 | • David Kane, Appendix B, page 6 |
| • David Kane, Appendix A, page 14, line 7 | • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 13 |
| • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 22, line 6 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 40 |
| • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 | |

PROPOSAL

- “Transportation plans equally consider cyclists, pedestrians, automobiles, public transportation, and rural character.” Added as a fourth sentence
- “On the basis of” changed to “based on”
- “Advanced interactive communication systems are encouraged.” Struck and relocated to economy

EXPLANATION

“Transportation plans equally consider...” This sentence was added to strengthen the consideration of bicycles, pedestrians, public transportation, and rural character. The concept was to unite the vast public input requesting bicycle and pedestrian improvements with the Planning Commission’s imperative to protect rural character.

“Based on” ‘On the basis of’ was changed to ‘based on’ for brevity.

“Advanced interactive communication...” This statement was relocated to the economy statement in response to public input and Commission’s recommendation for a more logical fit.

27

ENERGY AND RESOURCES

EXISTING	PROPOSED
Our community fosters resource and energy conservation. Energy independence is encouraged. Recycling, solid waste, and sewage treatment are managed within the confines of each island in an environmentally sound manner. Renewable natural resources are used on a sustainable basis. Nonrenewable resources are conserved wherever possible and practical.	Our community fosters resource and energy conservation. Energy independence is encouraged. <u>Water, soil, and local food production resources are proactively managed to meet the needs of our community and future generations.</u> Recycling, solid waste, and sewage treatment are managed within the confines of each island in an environmentally sound manner. <u>We use Renewable, energy, materials, and</u> natural resources are used on a sustainable basis. Nonrenewable resources are conserved wherever possible and practical.

29

ISSUES

In page 49 of the Report, community concerns regarding the topic of energy and resources are outlined. The core issues identified in the Report are:

- It has proven challenging to initiate and sustain conservation and recycling efforts, mostly because the market for recycled materials is inconsistent and beyond local control.
- Generalized awareness of the need for energy and resource conservation has not fully translated to policy and action.

Planning Commission highlighted that the currently adopted statement limits resource and waste management to ‘the confines of each island’. They suggested that this be broadened to include the County overall. Including a stronger statement on the importance of drinking water came up during the conversation on basic human needs but Commission felt that another place in the statement would be more appropriate. The primacy of protecting drinking water was brought up in conversations about many of the subjects in the Vision.

Public Comments

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 4, line 7 | • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 13 |
| • Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 11, line 7 | • Agricultural Resources Committee, Appendix B, page 21 |
| • Islands Climate Resilience, Appendix A, page 34, line 6 | • Cindy Carter, Appendix B, page 28 |
| • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 3 |
| • David Kane, Appendix B, page 6 | |

PROPOSAL

- “Drinking water resources are managed to meet the needs of our community and future generations.” Added as a third sentence
- “Both” “and Countywide” added to the existing third sentence

EXPLANATION

“Drinking water resources...” This sentence was added to strengthen the Vision’s response to concerns over the availability and management of drinking water resources. Managing this resource in a sustainable manner requires that consideration be paid to not only the needs of our community but also future generations. The phrase ‘future generations’ was recommended by public comment, see Appendix A, page 4, line 11.

“Both” and “Countywide”. These words were added to the existing third sentence to broaden the statement to include Commission comments concerning the need to look at the islands’ system overall.

ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION

EXISTING	PROPOSED
Our community nurtures the expression of its creative talents and supports diverse cultural and entertainment activities. Our cultural facilities such as libraries, museums, and theaters are focal points of activity and community support. Well managed parks, trails, and shoreline access, where appropriate, provide islanders with recreation with due regard for both the rights of private property owners and the natural limitations of each site.	Our community nurtures the expression of its creative talents and supports diverse cultural and entertainment activities. Our cultural facilities such as libraries, museums, and theaters are focal points of activity and community support. <u>Well-managed</u> parks, trails, and shoreline access, where appropriate, provide islanders with recreation with due regard for both the rights of private property owners and the natural limitations of each site.

ISSUES

Community input and Planning Commission suggestions indicated that this statement does not need amendment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- David Kane, Appendix B, page 7

- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

PROPOSAL

- “Well managed” changed to “Well-managed”

EXPLANATION

“Well-managed” A minor grammatical correction.

HERITAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

EXISTING	PROPOSED
Our community is enriched by a strong sense of identity, tradition, legacy, and continuity, where past and present freely mingle. We recognize the contributions to our rural and maritime heritage made by indigenous peoples, explorers, and island pioneers, and encourage the preservation of that heritage. We encourage preservation of historic sites, structures, and traditions for the enjoyment of all.	Our community is enriched by a strong sense of identity, tradition, legacy, and continuity, where past and present freely mingle. We recognize the contributions to our rural and maritime heritage made by indigenous peoples, explorers, and island pioneers, and encourage the preservation of that heritage. We encourage preservation of <u>our heritage</u> , historic sites, structures, and traditions for the enjoyment of all.

ISSUES

Community input and Planning Commission suggestions indicated that this statement does not need amendment.

Public Comments

- Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 11, line 10
- Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 22, line 13
- Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40
- David Kane, Appendix B, page 7
- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

PROPOSAL

- “And encourage the preservation of that heritage.” Struck out
- “our heritage” added to the last sentence

EXPLANATION

“Our heritage” The concept preservation is addressed in the final sentence of this statement. Relocating preservation of heritage to the final sentence makes more sense and reduces wordiness.

GOVERNANCE

EXISTING	PROPOSED
We are self-governed by informed citizens. We are equally represented by elected officials who conduct the activities of government in an ethical, fair, impartial, responsive and open manner which recognizes the independent, self-reliant nature of its citizens. Our government institutions balance responsibility with resources and costs, consolidate services where practical, manage prudently, provide reliable data, are service-oriented, and perform in a timely manner.	We are self-governed by informed citizens. We are equally represented by elected officials who conduct the activities of government in an ethical, fair, impartial, responsive and open manner which <u>that</u> recognizes the independent, self-reliant nature of its citizens. <u>Our county borders the Province of British Columbia, including the Gulf Islands, and several Washington State counties. Our elected officials and government institutions communicate with and collaborate in our areas of mutual interest.</u> Our government institutions balance responsibility with resources and costs, consolidate services where practical, manage prudently, provide reliable data, are service-oriented, and perform in a timely manner.

ISSUES

Community input and Planning Commission suggestions from January 19 indicated that this statement does not need amendment.

Public comments on subsequent draft proposals recommended some slight changes to this statement. A couple of commenters recommended including mention of regional cooperation to recognize that the County does not govern within a vacuum.

Public Comments

- | | | |
|--|----------------|---|
| • Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 6, line 1 | 13
14 | • Friends of the San Juans, Appendix A, page 36 |
| • Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 11, line 16 | 15
16 | • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40 |
| • Joe Symons, Appendix A, page 17, line 21 | 17
18 | • David Kane, Appendix B, page 7 |
| • Jane Hart, Appendix A, page 22, line 13 | 19
20
21 | • Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 14 |
| | | • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31 |

PROPOSAL

- “Which” changed to “that”
- “Our county borders the Province of British Columbia, including the Gulf Islands, and several Washington State counties. Our elected officials and government institutions communicate with and collaborate in our areas of mutual interest.” added

EXPLANATION

“Which” Which was struck in favor of “that”, this corrects grammar.

“Our county borders the Province of British Columbia, including the Gulf Islands, and several Washington State counties. Our elected officials and government institutions communicate with and collaborate in our areas of mutual interest.” These two sentences were added in response to public comments. See Appendix A, page 36.

E. PROPOSED NEW STATEMENT SECTIONS

HOUSING

EXISTING	PROPOSED
N/A	<u>There is adequate, safe, affordable and stable housing so that our community thrives. There are diverse housing types and we use innovative strategies to meet the various housing needs of our community members.</u>

*note: new additions, ~~removed~~, and relocated

The supply of affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population. There is housing for people of all incomes. There is sufficient variety in housing types. Raising a family, having a good quality of life, and economic opportunities are not limited by access to housing.

ISSUES

Planning Commission recommended the creation of a new housing Vision statement to reflect the increased public concerns over housing. Commission pointed out that housing availability and affordability affect the economy, land use, and basic human needs. The idea is that the scope and breadth of housing's impact warrant special consideration in the Vision.

The community input also highlighted the broad concerns regarding housing. The core issues are summarized in the Report on pages 25, 31, & 39.

- Finding housing accessible to working families and individuals is a critical challenge, with half of all residential units devoted to short-term rental or second homes (Report page 25).
- Housing is too expensive for many islanders, causing many, including tradespeople and entry-level professionals, to settle for substandard or distant housing (Report page 31).
- Housing is not easily available for people living year-round on the islands and part of the workforce (Report page 39).

The statement on housing in the first two drafts was mostly composed of statements regarding housing from existing Vision sections. On March 16 the Planning Commission elected to rework the language of those statements in consideration for the public comments received to this point.

Public Comments

- Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 4, line 30
- Friends of the San Juans, Appendix A, page 36
- Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40
- David Kane, Appendix B, page 7
- Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 14
- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

PROPOSAL

- “There is adequate, safe, affordable and stable housing so that our community thrives.”
- “There are diverse housing types and we use innovative strategies to meet the various housing needs of our community members.”

STATEMENTS FROM ORIGINAL VISION RELATED TO HOUSING

There are two statements related to housing in the originally drafted Vision. They were included in the Basic Human Needs and Land Use sections. The housing statements were struck from those two sections in favor of having a housing specific section. The two statements from the original Vision are below.

- “The supply of affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population.” From Basic Human Needs.
- “There is housing for people of all incomes.” From Land Use.

EXPLANATION

“There is adequate, safe, affordable and stable housing so that our community thrives.” This statement strikes at the problem of availability many residents feel. Availability of housing was a major issue that came up during public involvement summarized in the report, *San Juan County Vision 2036*. The language of this sentence was largely formed from the comment submitted by Transition Lopez Island, see Appendix B, page 14.

There are diverse housing types and we use innovative strategies to meet the various housing needs of our community members.” This statement provides more of a directive. The first sentence tells where we want to end up; the second sentence outlines how we can get there. This statement broadens the statements that were previously included in the original Vision to better address housing supply and variety.

CLIMATE CHANGE

EXISTING	PROPOSED
N/A	<u>Our community of islands sets an example with its response to climate change. We proactively address the causes and effects of climate change such as sea level rise and drought. Preparations to mitigate these effects are made in advance before they become crises. Our community encourages voluntary efforts and enacts incentives and regulations if necessary to reduce our carbon footprint. Carbon neutrality is our goal. Greenhouse gas emissions are limited.</u>

ISSUES

In the Vision 2036 Update Process report on page 35, the section on natural environment outlined the community concerns about climate change. The core issues identified in the Report are:

- A large number of mini-poll and survey responses called for the inclusion of climate change in the Vision.
- Many of the topics of central concern have solutions that are beyond local control, relying on other agencies and actors.
- Questionnaire respondents believe that the County should adopt policy that would incorporate climate change consideration in its decisions.

At the January 19 meeting, Planning Commission recognized climate change was a concern for many residents. It was suggested that it does not neatly fit into one of the existing statements and needed to be included as its own topic.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Steve Bernheim, Appendix A, page 3, line 19
- Sandi Friel, Appendix A, page 11, line 20
- Charles Carver, Appendix A, page 16, line 19
- Friends of the San Juans, Appendix A, page 36
- Islands Climate Resilience, Appendix A, page 36, line 15
- Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40
- David Kane, Appendix B, page 8
- Transition Lopez Island, Appendix B, page 14
- Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

PROPOSAL

- “Our community of islands sets an example with its response to climate change.”
- “We proactively address the causes and effects of climate change such as sea level rise and drought.”
- “Preparations to mitigate these effects are made in advance before they become crises.”
- “Our community encourages voluntary efforts and enacts incentives and regulations if necessary to reduce our carbon footprint.”
- “Carbon neutrality is our goal.”
- “Greenhouse gas emissions are limited.”

EXPLANATION

“Our community of islands sets an example with its response to climate change.” The phrase ‘sets an example’ was inspired by a questionnaire response included in *San Juan County Vision 2036*, Appendix D, pg. 146, comment #5. The aspiration is that our community not only responds to climate change but that response is exemplary. We are uniquely positioned, geographically and historically, to respond to the challenge of climate change as leaders.

“We proactively address the causes and effects of climate change such as sea level rise and drought.” Our archipelago is the frontline of many climate change affects. The effects listed (sea-level rise and drought) are likely to be the impacts we experience.

“Preparations to mitigate these effects are made in advance before they become crises.” This statement is an aspiration to prepare for the effects of climate change in a resilient manner. If we are prepared ahead of time, these effects will not be crises.

“Our community encourages voluntary efforts and enacts incentives and regulations if necessary to reduce our carbon footprint.” One of the recurring questions about the County’s ability to respond to climate change centers on what actual methods are available and appropriate. One option that has been supported by both Commission and public input is the idea of voluntary programs to reduce carbon footprint. Focusing on voluntary efforts will provide some high-level policy guidance for subsequent Comprehensive Plan amendments. Two separate comments recommended adding ‘and enacts incentives and regulations’, this was added because it seemed to align with other comments received, please see Appendix A, page 39, line 21.

“Greenhouse gas emissions are limited.” This specific language was recommended in many of the written comments. See Steve Bernheim, Sandi Friel, Charles Carver, Friends of the San Juans, and Islands Climate Resilience comments in Appendix A.

ORDER OF STATEMENTS

EXISTING	PROPOSED
1 Community	1 Community
2 Basic Human Needs	2 <u>Governance</u>
3 Education	3 Basic Human Needs
4 Economy	4 <u>Housing</u>
5 Natural Environment	5 Education
6 Land Use	6 <u>Natural Environment</u>
7 Transportation	7 <u>Energy and Resources</u>
8 Energy and Resources	8 <u>Climate Change</u>
9 Arts, Culture, and Recreation	9 Economy
10 Heritage and Historic Preservation	10 Land Use
11 Governance	11 Transportation
12 Housing	12 Arts, Culture, and Recreation
13 Climate Change	13 Heritage and Historic Preservation

ISSUES

Adding new sections to the Vision will require reorganizing the statement components.

1 **Public Comments**

- 2 • Sandi Friel, Appendix A, Page 9, line 10
3 • Joe Symons, Appendix A, page 12, line 6
4 • Charles Carver, Appendix A, page 16, line 26
5 • Verbal Comments, Appendix A, page 40
6 • David Kane, Appendix B, page 3
7 • Verbal Comments, Appendix B, page 31

8

DRAFT

Appendix A

Public Comments on First Draft Vision Amendment Proposal

(First Draft Dated February 2, 2018)

1

2

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

1 **From:** joe symons [mailto:joesymons@me.com]

2 **Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 8:53 AM

3 **To:** Erika Shook <erikas@sanjuanico.com>

4 **Cc:** Charlie Carver <lefthandhorticulture@gmail.com>; fred klein <fklein@orcasonline.com>; Sandi Friel
5 <sandi@rockisland.com>; Natalie Menacho <paceorcas@gmail.com>; dillingham.samantha@gmail.com;
6 Glenn Hendrick <glennhendrick@gmail.com>; Keara Axelrod <keara.a@outlook.com>; Maile Johnson
7 <nohealani@rockisland.com>

8 **Subject:** typo in vision statement PC document

9 comments here are based on

10 <https://www.sanjuanico.com/DocumentCenter/View/14382>

11 page 18, line 8, I believe the word “to” was left out of the sentence between “access” and “housing”

12 More generally, the sentence is poorly worded.

13 I think the intent is more like:

14 “This statement was added to reflect an aspiration that lack of access to housing should not prevent
15 anyone from making a life in the islands.”

16 although IMHO better, my suggested re-wording is still a bit awkward.

17 It is clear that you and your team and the PC have done an exemplary job in fine tuning the vision
18 statement and showing a careful and professional pathway as to the precise changes that are being
19 suggested.

20 Thanks much

21 Joe Symons

22 —

23 carpe diem

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

From: Steve Bernheim <sabernheim@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2018 1:57 PM

To: Comp Plan Update

Subject: Comp Plan Comments for Vision Meeting February 16 Planning Commission

Attachments: CLIMATE CHANGE bernheim version.docx; ECONOMY (bernheim proposals).docx; Energy and Resources BERNHEIM PROPOSALS.docx; GOVERNANCE (BERNHEIM VERSION).docx; HOUSING (my version).docx; LAND USE bernheim proposal.docx; NATURAL ENVIRONMENT bernheim proposal.docx; TRANSPORTATION Bernheim version.docx

Dear Adam,

Please accept these comments on EIGHT of the vision elements of the comprehensive plan to be discussed at the

planning commission public hearing this coming Friday, thank you.

Sb.

Steve Bernheim

Box 305

Olga WA 98279

206 240 5344 (cell)

Climate Change Bernheim Version:

Our island community sets an example with its response to climate change. We proactively address the effects of climate change like sea level rise and drought. Our community ~~uses its resources to meet current needs while ensuring that adequate resources are available for future generations and seeks a better quality of life for all its residents while maintaining nature's ability to function over time by minimizing waste, preventing pollution, promoting efficiency and developing local resources to revitalize the local economy. Decision-making in a sustainable community stems from a rich civic life and shared information among community members where human, natural and economic elements are interdependent and promote each other. encourages voluntary efforts to reduce our carbon footprint. Preparations to mitigate these affects are made in advance before they become crises. We adopt greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, track our county's greenhouse gas emissions, and accept climate change as a factor in land use and construction permit decision-making~~

BERNHEIM PROPOSALS AND EXPLANATION:

1. Add "uses resources to meet current needs while ensuring resources for the future," because it is more specific with regard to what is the impact of Climate Change on our island vision. We must do more than "balance" rights against the environment: we must at least preserve the island resources for future

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

generations. Greater public involvement will be necessary to successfully deal with climate change's impacts on our personal and community economies.

2. Add "GHG emission reduction targets" and policies and actions to achieve those targets by recognizing that individuals and government will play separate roles in achieving substantial greenhouse gas reductions.

Energy and Resources (Bernheim Version)

CURRENT STAFF VERSION WITH PROPOSED BERNHEIM REVISIONS

Our community fosters resource and energy conservation. Energy independence is encouraged. Drinking water resources are conserved, protected, monitored and managed to meet the needs of our community, and ~~and~~ the natural environment, and future generations. Recycling, solid waste, and sewage treatment are managed both within the confines of each island and Countywide in an environmentally sound manner. Renewable natural resources are used on a sustainable basis. Nonrenewable resources are conserved wherever possible and practical.

BERNHEIM PROPOSALS:

- Add that in addition to being "managed," water resources are to be "conserved, protected, and monitored."
- Add that water resources must meet the needs of "future generations."

Explanation:

The current staff proposal suggests that nonrenewable water resources are conserved wherever possible and practical. Because of the importance of the water resource, the vision statement should specifically state that the County's water resources will be "conserved, protected, and monitored" as well as "managed," because the County's comprehensive plan and implementing laws and regulations should promote water conservation and savings, protect clean water from harmful residential and commercial pollution, and monitor water quality and quantity.

Water is a fragile and finite resource. Today's responsibilities should be expressed in terms of protecting adequate water resources for "future generations," and not only for the benefit of the community and the natural environment.

Housing (Bernheim version)

PROPOSED

The supply of accessible and affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population. There is housing for people of all incomes. There is sufficient variety in housing types to accommodate diverse households. Raising a family, having a good quality of life, and economic opportunities are not limited by access to housing. Zoning and development regulations allow seasonal

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

[communal agricultural housing and rezones of property which results in a range of affordable multi-dwelling special needs and senior housing.](#)

BERNHEIM PROPOSAL AND EXPLANATION:

The new housing Vision statement recommended by the Planning Commission to reflect the increased public concerns over housing, should provide that new regulations will be required to a) provide for communal seasonal agricultural housing for up to 120 days per year and b) allow for the construction of appropriate mutli-family facilities in development areas to provide for elderly and lower income units.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT (Bernheim proposal)

Our islands have exceptional natural beauty and healthy diverse ecosystems surrounded by pollution-free marine waters. The air is fresh and clean, the water quality is excellent, and the soil is uncontaminated. As careful stewards of these islands, we [create voluntary associations, pay taxes and fees, and adopt laws and regulations to](#) conserve resources, protect our shorelines, preserve [and expand](#) open space, and take appropriate action to ~~take appropriate action to~~ assure healthy land and marine environments. [Roadways are discouraged along shorelines.](#) Preserving the natural environment [from damaging development activities](#) is central to the ecological health, quality of life, and the economy in the islands. Native plants and animals of the islands thrive, and are identified, appreciated and conserved.

BERNHEIM PROPOSALS AND EXPLANATIONS:

1. Add “create voluntary associations, pay taxes and fees, and adopt laws and regulations” ... Preservation of the natural environment and its protection against undue development occurs in the San Juan Islands not by voluntary, unregulated acts of selfless individuals, but intentionally through a) voluntary associations, b) funds created by taxpayers and permit seekers, and c) government regulation. Our vision includes more voluntary associations, more taxes and fees and more voter-supported regulation in order to protect the natural environment.

2. Add “expand” open space and “Roadways are discouraged along shorelines,” in order to facilitate the de-commissioning of Crescent Beach Road and returning that roadway to a beach area.

3. Add that threats to the environment derive from “damaging development activities,” and that the community supports development that does not threaten or damage the natural environment.

4. The natural environment of the San Juan Islands is a major contributing factor to the quality of life and visual attractiveness to residents and visitors alike. The islands’ land and marine environment represents an important economic resource; provides habitat for plants, animals and marine life; and is the basis for the island’s recreational activities. As the degree of human activity intensifies so does the threat to permanently alter or destroy valuable environmental features and resource areas. In accommodating future development on the San Juan Islands, care must be taken so as not to irreversibly alter the island’s healthy, liveable and aesthetically pleasing upland and marine-based natural landscape.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

GOVERNANCE (BERNHEIM VERSION)

We are self-governed by informed citizens. We are equally represented by elected officials who conduct the activities of government in an ethical, fair, impartial, responsive and open manner that recognizes the independent, self-reliant nature of its citizens. Our government institutions balance responsibility with resources and costs, consolidate services where practical, manage prudently, provide reliable data, are service-oriented, and perform in a timely manner. Taxes are necessary to raise revenue to pay for every community service and government service and all county residents understand that without tax receipts, government cannot function effectively. County residents exercise their duty to vote when issues of community concerns so that the responsibility for decision-making is shared by all members of the community.

BERNHEIM PROPOSALS AND EXPLANATIONS:

1. Add “taxes are necessary,” because many people don’t seem to realize it.
2. Add “residents exercise their duty to vote,” to encourage voter participation drives and high voter turnout.

LAND USE (Bernheim proposal)

Neighborhoods, hamlets, villages and towns are clearly defined to conserve agricultural, forest, mineral resource and critical areas. These areas define our heritage and sense of place, providing for commerce and community activities without losing their small scale and attractive island ambiance. The unique character of our shorelines is protected by encouraging uses that maintain or enhance the quality of the shoreline environment. Through innovative land use strategies, including limits on the issuance of resident, non-resident, and tourist construction permits consistent with growth projections and carrying capacity analysis, our citizens and institutions ~~balance and~~ protect private property rights, public rights and our natural environment and help assure that options for future generations to make land use decisions will not be jeopardized.-

BERNHEIM PROPOSALS AND EXPLANATIONS:

1. Add “limits on the issuance of ... construction permits,” because the San Juan Islands’ resources are finite and cannot accommodate a full build out permitted under current code and zoning laws.
2. Delete “balance” of private and public rights and the environment: it is sufficient to “protect” all rights without balancing and thereby sacrificing one set of rights against another.
3. Add that “options for future generations” should be preserved by limiting development decisions that cause irreversible environmental damage or loss.
4. Non-renewable resources are finite and ecosystems have limits in their capacity to absorb pollutants and humanity. Environmental assets, such as areas of outstanding natural beauty, are irreplaceable. Our vision statement should recognize that environmental assets are irreplaceable and the extent to which current future levels of resource use degrade the capital stock of environmental assets for future generations.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

5. The San Juan Islands environment is vulnerable because of the islands' relative isolation, a sensitive environment, a high dependency on seasonal activities and external economic activity, demographic imbalance and insufficient public infrastructure. Biodiversity, clean sea and recreation opportunities are the main advantage of the islands, whereas problems include the lack of urban and/or industrial waste treatment, declining marine environment, uncontrolled tourism development and increasing numbers of expensive, overbuilt second homes.

TRANSPORTATION (BERNHEIM VERSION)

We have water, land, and air transportation systems commensurate with our island culture. On-island circulation is by means of a system of scenic rural roads with automobile, bicycle and pedestrian ways functioning without conflict. In some places, the roads are unpaved, narrow, and winding, and care is taken to maintain a rustic quality in public signs. Transportation plans equally consider cyclists, pedestrians, automobiles, public transportation, and rural character. Expansion of new construction of basic public transportation facilities occurs only based on demonstrated local public need. [Roadways constructed long ago along sensitive shorelines are decommissioned where alternative connectors are available. The physical capacities of existing transportation systems are a factor in limiting unlimited vehicular and tourist access to the San Juan Islands](#)

BERNHEIM PROPOSALS AND EXPLANATIONS:

1. Add "roadways ... are decommissioned," to allow for sensible abandonment of motorways in sensitive shoreline areas where high costs of maintenance and repair suggest returning the roadway to nature.
2. Add "physical capacities ... are a factor," to permit future limits on cars and tourists visiting the island in case of overcrowding of available facilities. A small island such as Orcas can discourage motor vehicular use thus preserving its peaceful and non-polluted character. The easier the access the greater the pressure for development. It is therefore desirable to limit vehicular ferries so that development pressures on the social and natural environment can be reduced.

ECONOMY (Bernheim proposals)

We support a pattern of economic growth and development which serves the needs [and preferences](#) of our community, and which recognizes the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands. Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of stable, year-round activities [and seasonal tourism](#) that provide family wage employment for islanders. The workforce is able to live, work and thrive locally. We support and encourage traditional industries including forestry, farming, aquaculture, construction, fishing and tourism without jeopardizing the natural environment on which they depend. We have home occupations and cottage enterprises that are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods. We encourage new ideas and new technology for improving the quality and profitability of our goods and services. Advanced interactive communication systems support our economy. Value-added activities are encouraged. Environmental conservation [and principles limit permitted](#) sustainable development [are balanced](#).

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

BERNHEIM PROPOSALS AND EXPLANATIONS:

1. All economic activities in the San Juan Islands owe their sustainable development potential to well-preserved natural resources, clean sea, beautiful forests and beaches and the coast which has been spared excessive or illegal building. Agro-tourism encourages ecological farm and forest practices. Eco and agro tourism thrive on the protection and preservation of the environment. We need a new tourism slogan: the San Juans as they used to be. That is precisely what tourists want: seven days of peace and quiet, good domestic food, clean sea, a comfortable hotel, local products. No amusement parks and such things. Anybody can have them. But once you pollute your clean sea, there is no going back. The damage is irreparable.

2. Add "preferences" ... The County's vision statement should provide that economic growth and development will be guided by our islands' residents' *preferences*, as well as by their needs. We island residents have the power and authority to make our development preferences into law and we should view economic development as more than accruing incomes, employment numbers, business profits, and construction sites. Our vision of economic development should describe *four* basic elements: not only is there the "growth" factor, but there should also be equitable spread of benefits among residents, improved governance, and increased sustainability. Development so defined is participatory development: the people here decide how it proceeds.

3. Add "seasonal tourism" ... Seasonal tourism should be highlighted as a major prong of our islands' economy. By preserving our natural resources and leveraging them into a successful program of low-impact seasonal tourism, all islanders can share the benefits of the development.

4. Revise the thought that conservation and development are "balanced." Conservation is the priority; development is subject to principles of conservation, not "balanced" against them.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

From: Sandi Friel <sandi@rockisland.com>

Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 1:43 AM

To: Comp Plan Update

Subject: Proposed Vision Statement Amendments

Dear SJC staff, councilors and planning commission:

First, let me tell you I was thrilled to see the changes made in the vision statement! I thought you all did a great job of incorporating the citizens preferences and concerns.

Here are my suggestions:

Consider changing the order for a more logical flow from section to section, such as:

EXISTING ORDER	PROPOSED ORDER
Community	Community
Basic Human Needs	Natural Environment
Education	Basic Human Needs
Economy	Housing
Natural Environment	Education
Land Use	Arts, Culture and Recreation
Transportation	Heritage and Historic Preservation
Energy and Resources	Economy
Arts, Culture and Recreation	Land Use
Heritage and Historic Preservation	Energy and Resources
Governance	Climate Change
Housing	Transportation
Climate Change	Governance

PAGE 3, LINE 5 PREAMBLE "...our commitment to work towards this vision of the San Juan Islands in 2020 A.D. to preserve that which we hold so dear.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

Explanation: Though the vision statement is included in a comprehensive plan that has a mandated 2036 planning horizon, I think the community's vision surpasses this timeframe without an end date, to last for all time (though it can be tweaked at any time in the future).

A.D. (*anno Domini*) is Medieval Latin and means "in the year of the Lord." (Note: Traditionally it appears before the year, not after.) Since it refers specifically to the birth of Jesus Christ, it is not appropriate for a vision statement that represents the wishes of a multi-denominational and non-denominational community.

PAGE 3, LINES 15 & 16 BASIC HUMAN NEEDS: Making a life here is possible for all people residents and is not limited by access to basic human needs.

Explanation: Our islands are very limited in size and resources. We need to determine, recognize and respect the limits by determining carrying capacities for the environment, natural resources, social services and quality of life. It will not be possible for ALL people who may want to make a life here at any time in the future, to do so. Those residents who have already made a life and home here (and those who will in the future successfully make a life and home here) should be able to continue and not be driven off the island due to, for example, over-commitment of water resources, short supply of food, inadequate healthcare, lack of affordable housing, etc.

PAGE 3, LINE 21 ECONOMY: We support a pattern of economic growth and development diverse, resilient and sustainable economy which serves the needs of our community, and which recognizes the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands.

Explanation: The quality of our natural environment is our key economic driver in the San Juan Islands and the reason the citizens choose to live here and visitors vacation here. In order to respect the limits of our small islands, we cannot support an open-ended pattern of economic growth and development ad infinitum without negatively impacting our natural environment and quality of life.

Our current Comprehensive Plan Section B, Element 10, Page 3 "Economic Development Element" Section 10.2 Purpose and Background is very clear: "Smart economic development recognizes that prosperity both depends on, and drives quality of life. Sustaining the structure, nature, and diversity of the San Juan County community as it is, will be dependent on maintaining and nurturing a successful economy. The economy in the San Juan Islands is inextricably linked to the environment and sustainability. The county's future economy is driven by county residents' vision for the future of the community itself. A strong economy that dovetails with the communities vision will help that community achieve larger goals. Indeed, as the Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (now Commerce) has noted, "a community that...preserves its natural features will have an edge when it comes to improving its economy."

Although the Economy section in the proposed Vision Statement Amendment does make mention of the "natural environment" midway on line 26 and "sustainable development" at the very end on line 30/31, the prominent first line "we support a pattern of economic growth and development" is at odds with the goals and values expressed elsewhere in the vision statement and the Economic Development Element itself.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

PAGE 3, LINE 26 ECONOMY: We support and encourage traditional industries including forestry, farming, aquaculture, construction, fishing and tourism without jeopardizing the natural environment on which they depend. Resource lands such as timber and agriculture are conserved and managed to serve the island community, reducing reliance on outside sources.

EXPLANATION: Though this is also addressed in land use, seems like somewhere in economy we should work in a goal to reduce reliance on outside sources for food and materials.

PAGE 4, LINE 16 ENERGY AND RESOURCES: Our community fosters resource and energy conservation. We support renewable energy that reduces our reliance on fossil fuels. Energy independence and the use of innovative low-impact building methods and materials are is encouraged.

PAGE 4 LINE 30 HERITAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION: We encourage preservation of historic sites, heritage, structures, and traditions for the enjoyment of all.

EXPLANATION: The word “traditions” in this sentence supports a similar meaning as heritage, and “heritage” is already used appropriately on line 29.

A comma is not required before “and” in a sequence (this also occurs in other areas of the vision statement.)

PAGE 4 LINE 37 GOVERNANCE: Recognizing that we share the Salish Sea with other counties and British Columbia, our elected officials are attuned to activities beyond our county’s borders and take action when needed protect the community’s interest. Our government institutions collaborate with our neighbors to further the region’s goals when they coincide with our own.

PAGE 5 LINE 3 CLIMATE CHANGE: Our island community sets an example with its response to climate change and a bold plan to reduce our county’s reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We proactively address the effects of climate change like sea level rise and drought and mitigate these impacts to our community before they become crises. Our community encourages voluntary efforts to reduce our carbon footprint. Preparations to mitigate these affects are made in advance before they become crises. We recognize our world is bigger than our islands and we seek to be part of a regional and global solution.

EXPLANATION: We need to do more than respond to inevitable change and encourage voluntary efforts. The vision statement is the place to set our aspirations high!

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Friel
Deer Harbor
360-298-5180

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

1 **From:** joe symons <joesymons@me.com>

2 **Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2018 10:41 AM

3 **To:** DL - Council; Lynda Guernsey; Linda Ann Kuller; Comp Plan Update

4 **Cc:** Sandi Friel

5 **Subject:** Planning Commission Hearing on revisions to SJC Vision Statement

6 I write to endorse the positions and recommendations that Sandi Friel has submitted regarding
7 modifications to the SJC Vision Statement; a copy of her email is attached below. As the chair of the
8 Orcas Committee to rewrite the SJC CP under GMA during the period ~1992-1998, I bring a long
9 standing knowledge of the challenges faced by the county in its attempts to move forward in bringing
10 wisdom to land use planning. Our committees took a year to craft the currently-adopted (in 1994) SJC
11 Vision Statement.

12 The changes crafted by PC-led workshops during the last month or two are laudatory and demonstrate a
13 consistency with the long standing wishes of the residents of the county, updated to reflect new
14 realities. Sandi's modifications add and strengthen the decades long and enduring vision which the PC
15 has updated.

16 As the process of the CP update unfolds, it will be essential and critical to ensure that the UDC is
17 modified to conform to the goals and policies of the CP, and that in turn the CP be modified to, as stated
18 in the Introduction to the CP (page 1), confirm and honor the Vision as the "foundation" of the CP. That
19 is, the Vision is the top of the pyramid, and should not serve as a mere figurehead to a CP and UDC that
20 otherwise ignore, minimize, marginalize or disregard the Vision. It is the PC's responsibility to move this
21 idea forward for CC adoption.

22 Thank you for your participation in this most essential responsibility and public service.

23 Joe Symons

24 Olga WA

25 For a thorough portrait of the challenge before the county, please review the many components of

26 KeepSanJuansWild.org

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

From: David Kane <dbkane@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 1:42 PM

To: Adam Zack; Comp Plan Update

Subject: Comments: Final Report San Juan County Vision 2036 Update Process .

Hi Adam,

A big thank you to you and Linda for all the great work on the comp plan, keep up the good work. Here are comments on the 'Final Report San Juan County Vision 2036 Update Process' that I'd like added to Public Comments for the Vision Statement. Some may be of interest to you.

See attachment

Final Draft Vision Comments 2/15/2018 David Kane

Thank you,

David Kane

dbkane@gmail.com

(360) 298-4840

2/15/2018 Comments

Final Draft Vision Comments 2/15/2018 David Kane

Intended Audience: Planning Commission and SJC Comp Plan Staff.

Commenting on : 'Final Report San Juan County Vision 2036 Update Process' (Report¹) <https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/13890>

Given the significant public engagement, meetings and outreach spanning many months and the incredible response to the online Survey we can feel confident that the 'Final Report San Juan County Vision 2036 Update Process' (Report¹) reflects the wishes of the Community.

In my reading of the report I wanted to know the opinions of my fellow citizens and ensure that proposed amendments to the Vision were proportional to the Community input . Given the breath of the 464 page Report¹ and 21 page Staff² 'Proposed Vision Amendments' there nearly 500 pages to absorb. After reading the documents I took an analytical approach and ran word counts on the Report¹ and compared those to the Staff² proposal. The instances of each term in the Report¹ we're tallied and cross referenced to the existing Vision Statement and Staff² proposal.

The resulting tallies show Housing as clearly number 1 priority and Agriculture as a close number 2 priority. Next most important theme was close to my heart, but a bit of a surprise, Bikes/Cyclists, but with only half the mentions of Agriculture and one third the mention of Housing. Huge ideas like Climate Change and Drinking water were mentioned 20-25% as often as Housing and Agriculture. It was good to see my neighbors had so much care for People and Place.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

The analysis revealed a few 'Opportunities'... I'll get to those after I show you the numbers and a 'Cliff Notes' style summary of the Report¹ and Staff² proposal.

Housing: 59 instances in report. 2 in current Vision. Staff² proposes to Create new Vision Element and add 4 instances.

Agriculture: 39 instances in report. 2 mentions of Agriculture in current Vision. No Staff² proposals. We have an 'Opportunity' here. See more below...

Bike / Cyclist: 19 instances in report. 1 in current Vision and Staff² proposes to add 1 new instance.

Shoreline: 13 instances in report. 3 in current Vision. Staff² proposes add 1 new instance.

Climate Change: 12 instances in report. 0 in current vision. Staff² proposes to Create new Vision Element add 3 new instances.

Drinking Water: 7 instances in report. 1 in current Vision and Staff² proposes to add 1 new instance.

Health: 4 instances in report. 1 in current Vision. No Staff² Comment.

Food: 2 instances in report. 0 in current Vision. Another opportunity to prioritize Local Food.

Elder Care: 2 instances in report. 0 in current Vision and Staff² proposes to add 1 new instance.

Proposal / Justification:

As we can see, Agriculture is the second most important topic discussed in this Report¹, however it has not yet been addressed by the Draft Staff² Report, perhaps in the next draft?.

As it is, a real 'Opportunity' exists to look more closely at the narrative of Report¹ as it says much about the communities interest in Preserving Agricultural Land, while Reinvigorating and Promoting Local Sustainably Produced Food.

Proposed additions to Vision Statement for 2036 to better align the Vision with findings of Report¹, I plan on more comments, but for the moment I'll limit the comment to Agriculture as it's not yet represented equally.

Basic Human Needs: Include 'Local Sustainably Produced Food'.

Economy:

For consistency 'Agriculture' should replace 'Farming'.

Land Use:

'Agricultural Land held in Public Trust is Preserved for Sustainable Agricultural Productivity and Soil Health'

Supported as a Planning Priority as seen by the a 81% vote (Page 149 of Report¹).

See following many many pages of excerpts from the Report¹ supporting these notions.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

STAFF NOTE: The comment from Mr. Kane included many sections copied from the Report that were omitted here. The complete comment, including the omitted report citations, is available here: <https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/14485>

From: Charlie Carver <lefthandhorticulture@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 1:56 PM

To: Comp Plan Update; Linda Ann Kuller; Lynda Guernsey

Subject: Fwd: Proposed Vision Statement Amendments

Due to some spelling errors in the previously sent comments I am re-submitting my comments with spelling

corrections.

Thank you,

Charles Carver

From: Charlie Carver <lefthandhorticulture@gmail.com>

Subject: Proposed Vision Statement Amendments

Date: February 15, 2018 12:07:40 PM PST

To: compplancomments@sanjuanico.com

Dear SJC staff, councilors and planning commission,

You are all to be complimented on the work you have done in updating the community vision statement.

My concerns and suggestions are as follows:

Twice in the text private property rights are mentioned. While mention of them is appropriate I find it inappropriate that both times they are mentioned they are placed first, perhaps inadvertently suggesting a hierarchy of importance See Page 4 Lines 7 & 26. Enshrined in a Washington State legal ruling is a declaration that "The land speaks first". The land came first. Humanity, human culture and community emerged from the land, interdependent with it; private property rights is a community superimposition upon the land, secondary to the the common ground of our origin and secondary to the public property rights of the community. Additionally since public rights (Page 4, Line 7) is not defined I recommend it be amended to indicate public property rights. The suggested text below is altered to reflect that as follows:

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

PROPOSED VISION STATEMENT AMENDMENTS

PAGE 4, LINE 6 & 7 Through innovative land use strategies, our citizens and institutions balance and protect our natural environment, public property rights and private property rights.

Page 4, Lines 24-26 Well-managed parks, trails and shoreline access where, where appropriate, provide islanders with recreation with due regard for the natural limitations of the site and the rights of private property owners.

Page 8 Curiously absent in the examination of 'family wage' is no mention of raising and maintaining a suitable minimum wage in SJC suggesting the solution is a future oriented goal of higher quality jobs when the beginnings of a solution are immediately at hand. Raising the minimum wage in the county would provide some immediate fiscal relief for low paid workers.

Page 8 Second sentence/PROPOSED, suggested amendment as follows: Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of of stable, year-round activities that provide family wage..and suitable minimum wage employment for islanders.

I applaud the community and planning commission's wisdom in including a statement regarding climate change however as written it is a response to effects rather than causes and prevention. While prevention is outside our control we could enact a Vision Statement that suggested we choose to respond as if it were within our control, ie. to take preventive measures rather than merely respond to the effects while also acknowledging we must also be prepared to respond to the effects.

Suggested Amendments:

Our island community sets an example with its response to the threats of climate change by addressing and alleviating it's causes. We proactively and boldly address the prevention of climate change and the effects of climate change like sea level rise and drought. Our community undertakes this task voluntarily, as individuals and likewise our commercial, public and governmental institutions embrace this challenge to reduce our carbon footprint to an environmentally sustainable level. We enact these changes in advance before the effects of climate change become crises.

In concluding I also want to heartily endorse the comments submitted by Sandi Friel of Orcas Island with the following exception: Regarding the proposal to reorder the topics presented in the vision statement and consistent with the proposal that "The Land speaks first", I suggest the Natural Environment be placed first, followed by Community and that Land Use precede Economy.

The Natural Environment provides the common ground for Community, Land Use establishes some of the the framework for how our economy will function. Repeatedly in the text of the vision statement and the comp plan the sanctity of the natural environment is stated as well as the community's concern for the preservation of it. Repeatedly the link between our environment and economy is recognized and the dependency of our economy on the health of the environment acknowledged. The Vision Statement appears to endorse a cultural paradigm shift in our thinking, restoring a previously universal view of the land as the source and foundation of community and economy thus elevating the land in our hierarchy of values. The Natural Environment comes first.

Lastly I would like to address a quote from Sandi Friel's comments: "We cannot support an open-ended pattern of economic growth and development ad infinitum without negatively impacting our natural

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

environment and quality of life." This astute statement recognizes the consequences of an open-ended pattern of growth and development that has occurred and is occurring almost everywhere in the world. We are facing the consequences of that here as evident in our need to amend our vision statement in regard to climate change and to more directly address water resources and arguably housing (in our case an example of how growth and the consequent prosperity for some can create circumstances of poverty for others).

Thank you,

Charles Carver

P.O. Box 392

Orcas, WA 98280

From: joe symons <joesymons@me.com>

Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 4:05 PM

To: Comp Plan Update; Lynda Guernsey; Linda Ann Kuller

Cc: Charlie Carver; fred klein; Sandi Friel; Natalie Menacho;
dillingham.samantha@gmail.com; Glenn Hendrick; Keara Axelrod

Subject: Proposed Vision Statement Amendments / Governance Section

The following comments are based on the Vision Statement Amendments Draft shown at <https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/14382>

I write to propose a change in the **Governance** section of the draft amendment to the Vision Statement pursuant to the CP update process currently underway.

The *existing* **Governance** section, as proposed by the workshop, which includes the proposed modification of the language replacing the word "which" with "that", is as follows:

We are self-governed by informed citizens. We are equally represented by elected officials who conduct the activities of government in an ethical, fair, impartial, responsive and open manner that recognizes the independent, self-reliant nature of its citizens. Our government institutions balance responsibility with resources and costs, consolidate services where practical, manage prudently, provide reliable data, are service-oriented, and perform in a timely manner.

The modification (an addition) which I propose, is presented here:

We are self-governed by informed citizens. We are equally represented by elected officials who conduct the activities of government in an ethical, fair, impartial, responsive and open manner that recognizes the independent, self-reliant nature of its citizens. Our government institutions balance responsibility with resources and costs, consolidate services where practical, manage prudently, provide reliable data,

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

are service-oriented, and perform in a timely manner. We recognize and affirm that the Vision Statement is the foundation of the Comprehensive Plan and ensure that our Comprehensive Plan's goals, policies and Unified Development Code accurately and completely reflect the Vision.

Argument for this addition:

The current Vision Statement concludes with a commitment, the first sentence of which reads:

"AS FORTUNATE CITIZENS OF THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS, WE COMMIT ourselves individually and communally to a future for ourselves and our children that reflects this vision."

This commitment obligates us to craft a comprehensive plan and associated legal structure (the UDC) **"that reflects this vision."**

There is no ambiguity about this commitment.

In addition, page one of the Introduction to the Comprehensive Plan explicitly states:

" The Vision Statement (Table 1) is the foundation upon which the entire Comprehensive Plan is based"

see: <http://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/1052>

Omitting the suggested sentence renders the importance of the Vision Statement as the flagpole around which the CP and UDC ambiguous. The addition of the sentence confirms and concretizes the importance of the Vision, and reinforces, at the end, the stated commitment in the Preamble. The Draft Amendment shows no changes to the Preamble striking or modifying the word "commitment".

The proposed amendments to the Vision in the Amendments Draft do not show any modification or removal of this specific concluding two sentence element of the Vision Statement. I note for the record that the Preamble is specifically addressed, but the Commitment, at the end of the Vision, has been inexplicably unreferenced. This omission should be addressed by insuring that the draft Vision Statement include this concluding statement as drafted and part of the original Vision Statement.

I would additionally like to endorse and support the revision suggestions by Charles Carver.

Thank you for your efforts to modify the existing Vision Statement to reflect new realities and public input.

Joe Symons

Olga, WA

Former Chair, Orcas Comprehensive Plan Citizen Committee, appointed by BOCC to rewrite the CP under

GMA, 1992-1998.

— —

carpe diem

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

From: Janie Hart <janiehart@hotmail.com>

Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 7:22 AM

To: Comp Plan Update

Subject: Fw: Jane Hart's Testimony for Feb. 16, 2018 Planning Commission Public Hearing

Attachments: Feb. 16 2018 Planning Comm Testimony.docx; Feb 16 testimony attachment.docx

Hello Adam,

I tried sending the email below yesterday and realize now that there was a typo in your address. I know it is late but would be deeply grateful if you could please bring a copy of the two attachments to the Planning Commission meeting today. I am not on the island and cannot attend the meeting, which I am so sorry for.

Below is my email sent yesterday :

I am hopeful that you will see this before the Planning Commission meeting tomorrow (Feb. 16) so that the attached testimony (both files) can be entered in to the public record and that the Planning Commisison members will receive a copy of my testimony.

I am off island and will not be able to attend the Planning Commission meeting to deliver this testimony orally as I had hoped.

I would be grateful for confirmation that you have received this email and that my testimony has been entered in to the public record.

Yours truly,

Jane Hart

February 15, 2018

San Juan County Planning Commission Meeting

Agenda Item 8 – Comprehensive Plan Draft Vision Check-In

Jane Hart

238 Straits View Dr.

Friday Harbor, WA

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this written testimony to be entered in to the record at the February 16, 2018 San Juan County Planning Commission Meeting. I regret that I am unable to provide public input at the meeting as I will be off island.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

1 Amending of the County's Comprehensive Plan Vision Statement is the first step to set in motion a process
2 that will ultimately result in an updated vision and policies and regulations to implement that vision. This
3 process will produce results that will enhance or detract from the quality of the daily lives of everyone
4 living in the San Juan Islands, not only for the next 20 years but more likely for generations.

5 I applaud the public involvement efforts that have occurred to date for the Comp. Plan update. Between
6 the 22 one-on-one interviews, 3 studios and the online survey there have been many voices heard and
7 discussions had about the future of the San Juan Islands. It is clear to me from participating in the
8 workshop on San Juan Island and in reading some of the 4,000 plus comments for the on-line survey that
9 the residents of the county care deeply about where they live and work, are articulate, smart and are one
10 of the best resources the planning staff, County Council and Planning Commission have to tap in to work
11 together through this process .

12 During the October visioning workshop on San Juan Island one gentleman who had participated in the
13 previous Comp Plan update 20 years ago described the incredible work of the citizen committee he
14 participated on over several months to hash out the vision statement, and I believe that level of
15 community involvement is needed now. Having such a committee to bring the community conscience to
16 this work as well as their good minds, hearts and willingness to dig in to the detail, and the devil is in the
17 detail would really give credibility and community ownership to this process. It is too important not to
18 have a citizen committee to assist the staff, Council and Planning Commission in this work.

19 Now I would like to focus more specifically on some areas of the vision statement that I believe could use
20 strengthening. In the survey there were an abundance of comments related to the importance of
21 maintaining the rural nature of the islands. When I took the on-line survey my comments were primarily
22 addressing this one area, but there were several headings of the vision statement that this topic is
23 addressed where I suggested new language.

24 To summarize, several of the vision statements do not emphasize the importance of preserving scenic
25 vistas and views both from the water towards the interior of the islands and from the land looking out to
26 sea, as well as interior view of valleys and mountain ridges. Including words such as scenic vistas, natural
27 scenic beauty, preserve open spaces will help to define rural nature.

28 The vision statement leads to policies and regulations so we need to be sure action oriented language sets
29 that stage. For example, language that emphasizes the importance of preserving the right for residents to
30 have unimpeded views (within reason) of the natural beauty on the island. This could lead to the
31 development of a Scenic overlay which could address careful siting and screening of development and
32 establishing lower height limits. Even now some of the homeowners associations have taken it on their
33 own to establish height limits, so the example already exists, but this needs to a county-wide requirement.
34 Also statements about protecting the night sky from light pollution could set the course for an outdoor
35 lighting ordinance. The recent publication "A place in the Islands; How Private Land Owners Shape the
36 Future of the San Juan and Gulf Islands" contains many non-regulatory suggestions to address maintaining
37 the sense of place that is special to the islands. The County could incorporate many of these suggestions
38 in to the code.

39 My specific proposed amendments to the initial draft of the proposed Vision amendments being
40 considered by the Planning Commission are provided as an attachment to this letter.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

Thank you for this opportunity to provide this testimony.

Jane Hart

Jane Hart's proposed amendments to the Planning Commission's Draft Vision

Amendments dated February 16, 2018

Page 3, Community, Line 7

In the first sentence Add the words "and natural scenic beauty" to the end of the sentence after the words 'unique qualities'. Several of the statements below do not adequately emphasize the importance of preserving scenic vistas and views both from the water towards the interior of the islands, and from the land out to sea, as well as interior views of valleys and mountain ridges. In the last sentence add the words "respect for the natural world" after the words 'self-sufficiency,'

Page 3, Basic Human Needs, Line 12

While this statement is still relevant it is not reflected in the community today. I think adding statements that are more action oriented that get at the specific needs would help this goal. For example, it is not safe to walk on many of the roads on the island as there is little to no shoulder, much less to bike, and especially at night. I would say it is life threatening, much less safe. With the Life Care facility closing recently, a statement stating the need for a similar facility and operator to replace it or serve the same purpose is needed.

Page 3, Economy, line 22

Add the word 'scenic' after the word 'quiet' in the first sentence to more fully reflect the need to balance protection of scenic vistas which is an important intrinsic reason so many of the residents live on the islands. In the third sentence, add the words "finite natural" before to the word 'resources'.

Page 3, Natural Environment, Line 35.

The statement needs to emphasize the importance of preserving the right for residents to have unimpeded views (within reason) of the natural beauty on the island. Add the words 'and scenic vistas,' to the phrase "preserve open spaces,"

Page 4, Land Use, Line 7.

Reword the last sentence of the statement after the words 'private property rights' to read "public rights, our natural environment and scenic views."

Then add a new statement to emphasize the importance of preserving scenic vistas from the sea towards the islands and from the island looking to sea. This will set the stage for the next steps in the Comp. Plan update to draft policies and regulations to implement this part of the vision. For example by establish a scenic view overlay map and district to ensure careful siting and screening of development by reducing the currently allowed residential building height from 35' to perhaps 20', which is already required in many Homeowners Associations bylaws. It is a blight to the island and community values when huge footprint homes that can build to 35' block out views of the neighbors behind them. The recent publication "A Place

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

in the Islands; How Private Land Owners Shape the future of the San Juan and Gulf Islands" contains many non-regulator suggestions to address this very issue. The county could take a responsible step by making many of those suggestions regulations. While this survey deals with the Vision Statement, some kind of action statement about preserving the scenic views for all could be crafted so that it could then be developed in to a goal and eventually a regulation in the update to the Comprehensive Plan.

Page 4, Transportation – general comment

With a few exceptions, most of the roads on San Juan Island have no bike lane and are dangerous for bicyclists and pedestrians. With bicycling being one of the most popular tourism activities, this condition must change. The county right-of-ways could be improved to accomodate bike lanes that are next to but separated from the road in many places. There are examples of where this sort of development has been done successfully in rural areas. An exisiting conditions study, desired future conditions and County wide master plan for bicycling and pedestrians is needed to be eligible for outside funding sources.

Page 4, Heritage and Historic Preservation, Line 30

In the last sentence add the word "landscapes," after 'historic sites,'

Page 4, Governance – General comment

It seems this statement could be more explicit about seeking early and meaningful public input on matters of public concern. One such action would have been to create a citizen committee to lead the process for recommending changes to the vision statement to the county, in the same manner that the 1998 vision statement was crafted. That way it would really have given the year-round residents a chance to imagine what our community can become at its best and capture the future vision needs and wants of county residents come from the citizens of the county. This idea was also brought up at the Oct. 2 Workshop on San Juan Island by an eloquent gentleman who had been on committee that crafted the 1998 vision statement. Island. It isn't too late to create a citizen's committe to recommend Comp Plan goals and policies and development regulations to guide the next 20 years of growth in the county.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

1 **From:** joe symons <joesymons@me.com>

2 **Sent:** Saturday, February 17, 2018 2:57 PM

3 **To:** Comp Plan Update; Lynda Guernsey

4 **Cc:** Natalie Menacho

5 **Subject:** Additional comments regarding Vision Statement Amendments

6 **Attachments:** vision statment draft.pdf

7
8 The following comments are based on the Vision Statement Amendments Draft shown at

9 <https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/14382>

10 I have attached a copy of the Vision Statement Draft with highlights; please refer to this document in
11 considering the following comments. I realize the Vision Draft is incomplete as I write. However the
12 suggested revisions as well as the excellent public suggestions all point in the same direction. Thus I don't
13 believe my comments are premature or irrelevant.

14 I am not requesting any specific change in the language of the Vision Statement Draft.

15 However, a review of the highlights clearly indicates that the entire document is focussed, correctly and
16 appropriately, on the desires of the full time residents of the county. Words like "People of San Juan
17 County", "islanders", "community", "careful stewards", "small scale", "demonstrated local public need"
18 clearly point to the intention that the Vision is directed to and for full time residents. There are two other
19 population groups that impact SJC: part time property owners and visitors. Page 3, line 26 of the Draft
20 Vision Statement makes the only reference to visitors in the entire Vision Statement with the single word
21 "tourism" in the context that the tourism and other traditional industries economy is encouraged
22 "without jeopardizing the natural environment on which they depend."

23 It is important, therefore, to contextualize the Comprehensive Plan's obligation to the Vision Statement
24 to ensure that the visitor population is managed to ensure compliance with Vision Statements such as:

25 "rural islands are an extraordinary treasure"

26 and an economy

27 "which recognizes the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands."

28 and

29 "providing for commerce...without losing their small scale and attractive island ambiance"

30 This context would naturally lead to finding a way to manage the impact of visitors so the "tail" doesn't
31 wag the dog. One logical way to begin a conversation about how to meet this obligation is to discuss a
32 quota or limitation on the issuance of Transient Rental Permits in order to ensure that the Vision
33 Statement is honored and not just window dressing on an economy increasingly dominated by market
34 forces that run counter to the overall tone and meaning of the Vision Statement. Staff reports on the

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

impact of visitors over the past few decades have consistently demonstrated that the county population doubles or more than doubles during the summer season, which itself is stretching to include shoulder seasons. The impacts of visitors on community values such as described in the Vision Statement, as well as on hard and soft infrastructure (from water, sewer and transportation to emergency services and food), are significant and unrestrained by any existing policies in the CP or code in the UDC.

Failure to discuss, and then appropriately respond to, the impact of visitors (which often include part-time property owners who use their properties either for personal use or as an income source via platforms such as airbnb) emasculates the Vision and continues the transition of the county from what the residents, who are the voters, want to what the non-resident private sector wants.

It is the responsibility of the Planning Commission to begin a conversation on ensuring that the stated intention of the Vision Statement is not degraded, disrespected, marginalized or ignored by market forces. Otherwise the CP is a futile waste of PC, staff and resident time. There are endless examples of how other small communities have lost the qualities prized by locals. Let's insure this does not happen here.

With appreciation for the challenges you have in navigating these waters.

Joe Symons

Olga WA

From: joe symons <joesymons@me.com>

Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:16 AM

To: Comp Plan Update; Lynda Guernsey

Subject: Additional comments regarding Vision Statement Amendments / Three separate requests

Attachments: vision statment draft.pdf

The following comments are based on the Vision Statement Amendments Draft shown at

<https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/14382>

The following comments are similar to, yet separate from, the comments sent to you on 17 February 2018. This is a separate and additional comment. I have attached a copy of the Vision Statement Draft with highlights; please refer to this document in considering the following comments. I realize the Vision Draft is incomplete as I write. However the suggested revisions as well as the excellent public suggestions already submitted all point in the same direction. Thus I don't believe my comments are premature or irrelevant.

I have three (3) suggestions.

FIRST:

I am requesting a specific change in the language of the Vision Statement Draft.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

As noted earlier in my 17 Feb 18 comments, a review of the highlights clearly indicates that the entire document is focussed, correctly and appropriately, on the desires of the full time residents of the county. Words like "People of San Juan County", "islanders", "community", "careful stewards", "small scale", "demonstrated local public need" clearly point to the intention that the Vision is directed to and for full time residents.

However, there is no direct, specific language in the Vision Statement that addresses the growth rate or maximum size of either the full time resident population which is exclusively considered by GMA, or the parttime property owner and visitor population (neither of the latter two is addressed by GMA). These 3 populations will, henceforth in my comments below, be considered as combined into the single term "population".

At the same time, the sub-text of the meaning of words found in the Vision Statement:

rural, isolated, marine, agricultural, rural islands, quiet, small scale, privacy, stable, forestry, farming, natural environment, careful stewards, conserve, protect, preserve, heritage, sense of place, public rights, scenic, rustic, unpaved, narrow (roads), demonstrated local public need, management of water resources to meet the needs of our community, tradition, legacy, continuity, natural limitations, sustainable (*)

clearly speak to the rhythms of nature, not of man, and these rhythms are slow, cyclical, and bounded by natural ecological and biological limitations. They speak to ecological harmony, dynamic natural equilibrium and by their contextual nature explicitly (if by implication) prohibit the unlimited and unregulated growth of one species over all others. The dominance of these words throughout the Vision Statement could easily be translated as an intention to harmonize with, rather than dominate, the natural rhythms of the environment, and by extension these words imply little or no human population growth, or certainly imply restricting a rate of growth and a maximum size of human population growth and impact to levels that would not disrupt, degrade or destroy these rhythms.

It is important, therefore, to contextualize the Comprehensive Plan's obligation to the Vision Statement to ensure that both the growth rate for all 3 of these populations, and the maximum size of these cumulative human populations, is managed to ensure compliance with the Vision Statement, the Growth Management Act, best-available science regarding carrying capacity, and sustainability aspirations.

Thus, I request the addition of a sentence, perhaps best located in the Natural Environment paragraph (lines 32- 38 pf page 3 of the draft), following the sentence "The natural environment is central to the ecological health, quality of life, and the economy in the islands." to read: "To ensure protection of this environment in perpetuity, we carefully choose to limit our collective human footprint by both restricting the rate of growth of human population as well as the maximum size of our population to levels well below those known to adversely impact our extraordinary treasure of natural beauty."

It is the responsibility of county staff and the Planning Commission to begin a conversation on ensuring that the stated intention of the Vision Statement is honored and **stands firm against the face of market forces**. This is the best way to honor the time the Planning Commission, staff and residents have spent crafting the Vision. There are endless examples of how other small communities have lost the qualities prized by locals. Let's insure this does not happen here.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

SECOND:

The format of the Vision Statement, as with the format of the entire CP, is a massive wall of text. Think of a novel, a letter, a dictionary, or the vast majority of public comments sent to SJC. Given the importance of the Vision Statement, and given capabilities available today, I recommend that the Vision Statement be reformatted to include photographs, graphics and images that illuminate and illustrate its fundamental intentions and aspirations. The current Vision Statement is structured to fit on one 8.5x11" page, forcing the type size to be small and concomitantly harder to read. There is no rational argument that the Vision be so structured. Indeed, no other pages in the the entire CP are so formatted.

As I was one of the author's of the original vision statement, I take some responsibility for this concept, as I argued, at the time (~1993) that we structure the Vision Statement around the same concept as the Declaration of Independence, a single page document that would be signed by all committee members following the closing language which echoed the Declaration. My idea at the time was to utilize the precedent of one of the most significant documents in American history; the other committee members agreed. At the time of the drafting, we did not contemplate that this statement would be required to fit on one "page" and thus be structured with ever smaller type to fit.

Times have changed. We have an opportunity to craft a far more visually compelling document that introduces the long standing observation that a picture is worth a thousand words. The graphics artist I have in mind to submit a sample of how the vision statement might be illustrated is currently out of the county. I am sending this request w/o a sample in order to meet the time deadline for PC deliberations, but hope to have a sample crafted and sent to you to as soon as possible for your consideration of this concept. I can imagine that a Vision Statement so reformatted would (and could) be used to celebrate our heritage and aspirations (i.e., past and future), made into a brochure, made available to the populations I've described, and used to bolster our collective desire to achieve the Vision in spite of significant pressures to ignore or devalue it. Additionally, given electronic distribution opportunities unavailable earlier, the entire Vision Statement could include URL links to supplemental materials that any interested reader could pursue to deepen their understanding of the Vision and the county.

THIRD:

I request the inclusion of a new paragraph, titled "Implementation", that would follow the last identified titled paragraph in the Vision Statement and precede the closing lines. The vision statement attached shows "Housing" as the last entry, although draft statements may have "Climate Change" as the last entry. In any case, "Implementation" would follow whatever is chosen as the last titled paragraph.

This paragraph's intention would be to concretize the Vision into specific parameters and metrics that would give clearly measurable definitions to terms identified earlier—see the paragraph ending with an asterisk (*) above. Language such as "Whenever and wherever possible, proactive steps will be taken to ensure that the principles and intentions of this Vision are honored and enforced." Those definitions and metrics would not be part of the paragraph, but would by the inclusion of this section be authorized to be designed, typically under "best-available" science and/or other established techniques. These definitions and metrics would be articulated in a new section of the CP (possibly in an Appendix) and serve as the baseline against which proposed changes that occur in the county would be compared *prior to implementation or authorization*, so that we maintain the Vision and do not have to play damage control because we permitted some activity that we knew (or should have known) would degrade or

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

weaken our intention. This is the “death by a thousand cuts” challenge. It can be prevented by looking at any proposed “cut” in advance. Examples here include reviewing building permit applications, exempt wells, parking expansions, and endless other proposed modifications to ensure compliance and prevent actions and activities that are outside the defined ranges built into the definitions and metrics. Given the innovative nature of this request, considerable discussion of the precise language of this new paragraph and of the concomitant definitions and metrics would be required by staff, PC and with proper notice and comment periods by residents.

With appreciation for the challenges you have in navigating these waters.

Joe Symons

Olga WA

— —

carpe diem

STAFF NOTE: The highlighted version of the Vision proposal referenced in the previous two comments from Mr. Symons are included below.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

PROPOSED VISION STATEMENT AMENDMENTS

1 PROPOSED VISION

2 **PREAMBLE: WE THE PEOPLE of San Juan County** recognize that these rural islands are an extraordinary
3 treasure of natural beauty and abundance, and that independence, privacy and personal freedom are
4 values prized by islanders. Being a diverse people bound together by these shared values, we declare
5 our commitment to work towards this vision of the San Juan Islands in 2020 A.D.

6 **COMMUNITY** We envision a community that is primarily rural, made up of islands of varying character,
7 each with its own unique qualities. The islands are places of peace and mutual tolerance, where citizens
8 of differing backgrounds and beliefs respect each other's dignity, privacy, and freedoms. We
9 communicate effectively and openly and work together toward goals identified as being for the common
10 good. We foster a sense of neighborliness, of self-sufficiency, and community pride that has long been a
11 part of our island character.

12 **BASIC HUMAN NEEDS** Our islands are places where all citizens can safely walk or play, day or night. The
13 drinking water supply is clean, and adequate, and conserved as a vital resource. Health care, elder care,
14 and help in time of need are accessible and affordable. The supply of affordable housing is adequate to
15 meet the needs of our diverse population. Making a life here is possible for all people and is not limited
16 by access to basic human needs. (See page 6)

17 **EDUCATION** Learning is a continuing lifelong process which that is encouraged and aided by the
18 community. A partnership of families and community creates a supportive and challenging environment
19 founded on academic excellence and artistic expression. This educational environment produces ethical,
20 self-directed, compassionate, responsible world citizens, alive with the love of learning. (See page 7)

21 **ECONOMY** We support a pattern of economic growth and development which serves the needs of our
22 community, and which recognizes the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of
23 the islands. Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of stable, year-round activities that provide family
24 wage employment for islanders. The workforce is able to live, work, and thrive locally. We support and
25 encourage traditional industries including forestry, farming, aquaculture, construction, fishing and
26 tourism without jeopardizing the resources natural environment on which they depend. We have home
27 occupations and cottage industries which enterprises that are compatible with surrounding
28 neighborhoods. We encourage new ideas and new technology for improving the quality and profitability
29 of our goods and services. Advanced interactive communication systems are encouraged support our
30 economy. Value-added activities are encouraged. Environmental conservation and sustainable
31 development are balanced. (See page 8)

32 **NATURAL ENVIRONMENT** Our islands have exceptional natural beauty and healthy diverse ecosystems
33 surrounded by pollution-free marine waters. The air is fresh and clean, the water quality is excellent,
34 and the soil is uncontaminated. As careful stewards of these islands, we conserve resources, protect our
35 shorelines and critical areas, preserve open space, and take appropriate action to assure healthy land
36 and marine environments. The natural environment is central to the ecological health, quality of life,
37 and the economy in the islands. Native plants and animals of the islands thrive, and are identified,
38 appreciated and conserved. (See page 10)

39

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

PROPOSED VISION STATEMENT AMENDMENTS

- 1 **LAND USE** Neighborhoods, hamlets, villages and towns are clearly defined so as to conserve agricultural,
2 forest, mineral resource and environmentally sensitive lands critical areas. These areas define our
3 heritage and sense of place, provide providing for commerce and community activities without losing
4 their small scale and attractive island ambiance. ~~There is housing for people of all incomes.~~ The unique
5 character of our shorelines is protected by encouraging uses ~~which that~~ maintain or enhance the quality
6 of the shoreline environment. Through innovative land use strategies, our citizens and institutions
7 balance and protect private property rights, public rights, and our natural environment. (See page 11)
- 8 **TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION** We have water, land, and air transportation systems
9 commensurate with our island culture. On-island circulation is by means of a system of scenic rural
10 roads with automobile, bicycle and pedestrian ways functioning without conflict. In some places, the
11 roads are unpaved, narrow, and winding, and care is taken to maintain a rustic quality in public signs.
12 Transportation plans equally consider cyclists, pedestrians, automobiles, public transportation, and rural
13 character. Expansion or new construction of basic public transportation facilities occurs only on the basis
14 of based on demonstrated local public need. ~~Advanced interactive communication systems are~~
15 ~~encouraged.~~ (See page 12)
- 16 **ENERGY AND RESOURCES** Our community fosters resource and energy conservation. Energy
17 independence is encouraged. Drinking water resources are managed to meet the needs of our
18 community and the natural environment. Recycling, solid waste, and sewage treatment are managed
19 both within the confines of each island and Countywide in an environmentally sound manner.
20 Renewable natural resources are used on a sustainable basis. Nonrenewable resources are conserved
21 wherever possible and practical. (See page 13)
- 22 **ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION** Our community nurtures the expression of its creative talents and
23 supports diverse cultural and entertainment activities. Our cultural facilities such as libraries, museums,
24 and theaters are focal points of activity and community support. Well-managed parks, trails, and
25 shoreline access, where appropriate, provide islanders with recreation with due regard for both the
26 rights of private property owners and the natural limitations of each site. (See page 14)
- 27 **HERITAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION** Our community is enriched by a strong sense of identity,
28 tradition, legacy, and continuity, where past and present freely mingle. We recognize the contributions
29 to our rural and maritime heritage made by indigenous peoples, explorers, and island pioneers, ~~and~~
30 ~~encourage the preservation of that heritage.~~ We encourage preservation of historic sites, heritage,
31 structures, and traditions for the enjoyment of all. (See page 15)
- 32 **GOVERNANCE** We are self-governed by informed citizens. We are equally represented by elected
33 officials who conduct the activities of government in an ethical, fair, impartial, responsive and open
34 manner ~~which that~~ recognizes the independent, self-reliant nature of its citizens. Our government
35 institutions balance responsibility with resources and costs, consolidate services where practical,
36 manage prudently, provide reliable data, are service-oriented, and perform in a timely manner. (See
37 page 16)
- 38 **HOUSING** The supply of accessible and affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse
39 population. There is housing for people of all incomes. There is sufficient variety in housing types to
40 accommodate diverse households. Raising a family, having a good quality of life, and economic
41 opportunities are not limited by access to housing. (See page 17)

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

From: Stephanie Buffum <stephanie@sanjuans.org>

Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 4:11 PM

To: Adam Zack

Subject: PC_vision_public hearing cmt letter Friends of the San Juans 2_16_18

Attachments: PC_vision_public hearing cmt letter Friends of the San Juans 2_16_18.docx

Hi Adam,

Attached are my comments to the Planning Commission members this morning.

Best, Stephanie

Stephanie

Stephanie Buffum

Executive Director

stephanie@sanjuans.org

FRIENDS of the San Juans

STAFF NOTE: To reconcile the different format of this document and the letter Ms. Buffum attached, the letter is copied as an image. The difference in format allows the inclusion of the comments accompanying each proposed change. The text version of this document can be found on the San Juan County Website at: <https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/14491>

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal



Friends of the San Juans

360.378.2319
www.sanjuanfriends.org

P.O. Box 1344
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

February 16, 2018

Public Testimony – San Juan County Comprehensive Land Use Vision Statement

Dear San Juan County Planning Commission:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the San Juan County Comprehensive Plan Vision Statement update. FRIENDS of the San Juans ("FRIENDS") is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 1979 to protect and restore the San Juan Islands and the Salish Sea for people and nature. We represent over 2,000 members and use science, policy, law, education, and citizen activism to protect, preserve, and restore the land, water, and sea of the San Juan archipelago. Our members live, work, and recreate in the San Juan Islands.

As Islanders, we share fundamental goals to our island life, present and future.

- To preserve and protect the unique amenities and natural environment of the San Juan Islands for the benefit of Island residents and, generally, for residents of Washington State and the Salish Sea.
- To recognize the importance of the marine environment and preserve a marine oriented community and island atmosphere.
- To provide environmental stewardship strategies, to be followed by residents and visitors alike, that recognize societal responsibilities, as well as the rights of property owners.
- To minimize the Island's contribution to global climate change.
- To establish a land use pattern which places high priority on environmental and social factors.
- To manage growth in a way that it is conditioned by the natural environment and respects social and economic diversity.
- To be inclusive by welcoming residents with varying income levels, lifestyles and age groups.
- To ensure a healthy community, with residents working together to improve the quality of life.
- To ensure that a balance is maintained between community well-being and the rights of individual property owners.
- To foster the creation and maintenance of local employment in island-based sustainable activities.
- To recognize our environment is the economic heart of our Islands, and to provide for the expansion of commercial, residential, and community and cultural uses that will contribute towards a pleasant, walkable villages, appropriate in form and scale to a small community.
- To engage other levels of government and non-governmental organizations to accomplish the objectives and policies of the San Juan County Comprehensive Plan.

protecting and restoring the San Juan Islands and the Salish Sea for people and nature

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

With over 8 million residents in the Salish Sea, the visitor Population of the San Juan County was estimated to be 813,000 visitors, who spent approximately \$203 million in 2015.¹ The San Juan County 2017 Comprehensive Landuse Plan Population projections Technical Memorandum shows that approximately 125,000 visitors stay with resident friends or relatives.² If accurate, this represents a 40 fold increase in our base population during peak season.

2016 marina statistics from the Port of Friday Harbor reported:

- Transportation vessels such as Clipper, Puget Sound Express, Pacific Cruises 62,812 passengers
- Cruise ships and pocket cruise ships 2,719
- Overnight guest moorage 13,400 – this is the vessel count not the passenger count. We do not have passenger count per vessel but you can safely say the majority have 2 or more passengers
- Locally based whale watch, excursion, charter, fishing vessels 32,675 passengers (these passengers would probably be counted elsewhere in a visitor numbers survey as coming by ferry or float plane).

Visitors are attracted to our islands for many of the same reasons as our full and part-time residents and they are a vital part of our economy on our major ferry served islands. Many visitors enjoy our state parks and national trails that are only accessible by boat. How we plan and manage for visitor use of our islands, and their increased use of local trails, drinking water, septic and sewer use, farm, forests, housing and recreation is a major topic for planning and one we have never taken on in the past 17 years.

Several local, state, federal and non-governmental organizations manage parks, protected areas, or recreational facilities, have formed a Cooperative Action Plan to manage visitor use to protect and enhance visitor experiences. They have formed the Visitor Management Workshop and Assessment with summary statistics being presented later this month. I encourage all of you to attend these meetings on your islands.

Mon Feb 26 5:30 to 7:30 pm Orcas Senior Center, Eastsound, Orcas
Tue Feb 27 5:30 to 7:30 pm Grace Episcopal Church, Lopez Village
Wed Feb 28 5:30 to 7:30 pm San Juan Island Library, Friday Harbor

Edits to the VISION STATEMENT *PREAMBLE*

1. Add "fragile." The abundance of island resources cannot be taken for granted. There has been a decline in wildlife populations and a reduced quality of some of their habitats (e.g., SRKWs, salmon species, eelgrass, etc.) An ethic of self-reliance, which underpins decisions where conserving land, air, water and energy reduces our ecological footprint.

¹ San Juan County Comprehensive Landuse Plan Population projections Technical Memorandum states a report from Dean Runyan and Associates model, 2017, page 36.

² Dean Runyan Associates for the Washington Tourism Alliance, 2015.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

2. Add "stewardship of our common resources." Stewardship is necessary to preserve the 'extraordinary treasure of natural beauty' and other priority resources identified below (e.g., water and natural resources).
3. Change 2020 to 2038 or 2040?

Basic Human Need

1. Add "quantified, monitored." In order to ensure that our drinking water is clean and adequate and conserved, it must also be quantified and monitored.
2. Correct word choice? One would not be limited by 'access.' Change "access" to "barriers"

Economy

Retain "resource" and add "land." We cannot support the traditional industries of forestry and farming without the resources and resource lands upon which they depend.

Governance

1. Add, "Our county borders the Province of British Columbia, including the Gulf Islands, and several Washington State counties. Our elected officials and government institutions communicate with and collaborate in our areas of mutual interest." Additional language needed to address the importance of engagement and advocacy for our economy and resources beyond our county borders.
2. What is meant by "accessible?" ADA? Available?
3. Add "sufficient." If 'sufficient' is used to quantify the variety of housing types, it should also be used to quantify "housing for people of all incomes."

Housing

In order to ensure that there is sufficient housing for people of all incomes, affordable housing development should not be limited (e.g., to the initial homeowner(s), a 20-year affordability requirement, etc.). Housing that is affordable to certain income levels which then converts to market rate can require the replacement of those units in addition to the need to meet the on-going demand for affordable housing.

Climate Change

1. Add an "s" to "island." Our community is comprised of many islands.
2. Add, "and enacts incentives and regulations." If we are serious about addressing climate change, our vision statement must do more than just encourage voluntary efforts such as:
 - Reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
 - Community energy planning
 - Corporate carbon neutrality
 - Feasibility of an on-island composting facility
 - Mitigation of and adaptation to water shortages
 - Transportation alternatives

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

- Support for community-based initiatives related to climate action
- Other emerging climate-related issues

3. Add "and climate resiliency planning in all aspects of governance." Building climate resiliency is the key to mitigating the impacts of climate change.

In this next section, the same edits mentioned above, are inserted the body of the Vision statement as comments:

A DECLARATION OF VISION AND COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE OF SAN JUAN COUNTY

PREAMBLE

WE THE PEOPLE of San Juan County recognize that these rural islands are an extraordinary treasure of natural beauty and fragile abundance, and that independence, privacy, and personal freedom, and stewardship of our common resources are values prized by islanders. Being a diverse people bound together by these shared values, we declare our commitment to work towards this vision of the San Juan Islands in 2020 A.D.

COMMUNITY

We envision a community that is primarily rural, made up of islands of varying character, each with its own unique qualities. The islands are places of peace and mutual tolerance, where citizens of differing backgrounds and beliefs respect each other's dignity, privacy, and freedoms. We communicate effectively and openly and work together toward goals identified as being for the common good. We foster a sense of neighborliness, of self-sufficiency, and community pride that has long been a part of our island character.

BASIC HUMAN NEEDS

Our islands are places where all citizens can safely walk or play, day or night. The drinking water supply is clean, and adequate, quantified, monitored, and conserved as a vital resource. Health care, elder care, and help in time of need are accessible and affordable. The supply of affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population. Making a life here is possible for all people and is not limited by access to basic human needs.

EDUCATION

Learning is a continuing lifelong process which that is encouraged and aided by the community. A partnership of families and community creates a supportive and challenging environment founded on academic excellence and artistic expression. This educational environment produces ethical, self-directed, compassionate, responsible world citizens, alive with the love of learning.

ECONOMY

We support a pattern of economic growth and development which serves the needs of our community, and which recognizes the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine

Commented [M1]: Add "fragile." The abundance of island resources cannot be taken for granted. There has been a decline in wildlife populations and a reduced quality of some of their habitats (e.g., SRKWs, salmon species, eelgrass, etc.) An ethic of self-reliance, which underpins decisions where conserving land, air, water and energy reduces our ecological footprint.

Commented [M2]: Add "stewardship of our common resources." Stewardship is necessary to preserve the 'extraordinary treasure of natural beauty' and other priority resources identified below (e.g., water, air, and natural resources).

Commented [M3]: Change to 2038 or 2040?

Commented [M4]: Add "quantified, monitored." In order to ensure that our drinking water is clean and adequate and conserved, it must also be quantified and monitored.

Commented [M5]: Correct word choice? One would not be limited by 'access.' Change "access" to "barriers"

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

and isolated nature of the islands. Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of stable, year-round activities that provide family wage employment for islanders. The workforce is able to live, work, and thrive locally. We support and encourage traditional industries including forestry, farming, aquaculture, construction, fishing and tourism without jeopardizing the resources resource lands and natural environment on which they depend. We have home occupations and cottage industries which enterprises that are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods. We encourage new ideas and new technology for improving the quality and profitability of our goods and services. Advanced interactive communication systems are encouraged support our economy. Value-added activities are encouraged. Environmental conservation and sustainable development are balanced.

Commented [M6]: Retain "resource" and add "land." We cannot support the traditional industries of forestry and farming without the resources and resource lands upon which they depend.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Our islands have exceptional natural beauty and healthy diverse ecosystems surrounded by pollution-free marine waters. The air is fresh and clean, the water quality is excellent, and the soil is uncontaminated. As careful stewards of these islands, we conserve resources, protect our shorelines and critical areas, preserve open space, and take appropriate action to assure healthy land and marine environments. The natural environment is central to the ecological health, quality of life, and the economy in the islands. Native plants and animals of the islands thrive, and are identified, appreciated and conserved.

LAND USE

Neighborhoods, hamlets, villages and towns are clearly defined so as to conserve agricultural, forest, mineral resource and environmentally sensitive lands critical areas. These areas define our heritage and sense of place, provide providing for commerce and community activities without losing their small scale and attractive island ambience. There is housing for people of all incomes. The unique character of our shorelines is protected by encouraging uses which that maintain or enhance the quality of the shoreline environment. Through innovative land use strategies, our citizens and institutions balance and protect private property rights, public rights, and our natural environment.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

We have water, land, and air transportation systems commensurate with our island culture. On-island circulation is by means of a system of scenic rural roads with automobile, bicycle and pedestrian ways functioning without conflict. In some places, the roads are unpaved, narrow, and winding, and care is taken to maintain a rustic quality in public signs. Transportation plans equally consider cyclists, pedestrians, automobiles, public transportation, and rural character. Expansion or new construction of basic public transportation facilities occurs only on the basis of demonstrated local public need. Advanced interactive communication systems are encouraged.

ENERGY AND RESOURCES

Our community fosters resource and energy conservation. Energy independence is encouraged. Drinking water resources are managed to meet the needs of our community and the natural environment. Recycling, solid waste, and sewage treatment are managed both within the confines of each island and Countywide in an



Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

environmentally sound manner. Renewable natural resources are used on a sustainable basis. Nonrenewable resources are conserved wherever possible and practical.

ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION

Our **community** nurtures the expression of its creative talents and supports diverse cultural and entertainment activities. Our cultural facilities such as libraries, museums, and theaters are focal points of activity and **community** support. Well-managed parks, trails, and shoreline access, where appropriate, provide islanders with recreation with due regard for both the rights of private property owners and the natural limitations of each site.

HERITAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Our **community** is enriched by a strong sense of identity, tradition, legacy, and continuity, where past and present freely mingle. We recognize the contributions to our rural and maritime heritage made by indigenous peoples, explorers, and island pioneers, ~~and encourage the preservation of that heritage.~~ We encourage preservation of historic sites, heritage, structures, and traditions for the enjoyment of all.

GOVERNANCE

We are self-governed by informed citizens. We are equally represented by elected officials who conduct the activities of government in an ethical, fair, impartial, responsive and open manner ~~which~~ that recognizes the independent, self-reliant nature of its citizens. Our county borders the Province of British Columbia, including the Gulf Islands, and several Washington State counties. Our elected officials and government institutions communicate with and collaborate in our areas of mutual interest. Our government institutions balance responsibility with resources and costs, consolidate services where practical, manage prudently, provide reliable data, are service-oriented, and perform in a timely manner.

HOUSING

The supply of **accessible** and affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population. There is sufficient housing for people of all incomes. Funding provided for the development of affordable housing prioritizes perpetually affordable housing. There is sufficient variety in housing types to accommodate diverse households. Raising a family, having a good quality of life, and economic opportunities are not limited by access to housing.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Our islands **community** sets an example with its response to climate change. We proactively address the effects of climate change like sea level rise and drought. Our **community** encourages voluntary efforts and enacts incentives and regulations to reduce our carbon footprint and climate resiliency planning in all aspects of governance. Preparations to mitigate these affects are made in advance before they become crises.

OUR COMMITMENT:

AS FORTUNATE CITIZENS OF THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS, WE COMMIT ourselves individually and communally to a future for ourselves and our children that reflects this vision. To this end, we, the undersigned individuals dedicate our time and our talents.

Commented [M7]: Add, "Our county borders the Province of British Columbia, including the Gulf Islands, and several Washington State counties. Our elected officials and government institutions communicate with and collaborate in our areas of mutual interest." Additional language needed to address the importance of engagement and advocacy for our economy and resources beyond our county borders.

Commented [M8]: What is meant by "accessible?" ADA? Available?

Commented [M9]: Add "sufficient." if "sufficient" is used to quantify the variety of housing types, it should also be used to quantify "housing for people of all incomes."

Commented [M10]: In order to ensure that there is sufficient housing for people of all incomes, affordable housing development should not be limited (e.g., to the initial homeowner(s), a 20-year affordability requirement, etc.). Housing that is affordable to certain income levels which then converts to market rate can require the replacement of those units in addition to the need to meet the on-going demand for affordable housing.

Commented [M11]: Add an "s" to "island." Our community is comprised of many islands.

Commented [M12]: •Add, "and enacts incentives and regulations." If we are serious about addressing climate change, our vision statement must do more than just encourage voluntary efforts such as:
•Reviews all plans through the lens of sea level rise
•Reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
•Community energy planning
•Corporate carbon neutrality
•Feasibility of an on-island composting facility
•Mitigation of and adaptation to water shortages
•Transportation alternatives
•Support for community-based initiatives related to climate action
•Other emerging climate-related issues

Commented [M13]: Add "and climate resiliency planning in all aspects of governance." Building climate resiliency is the key to mitigating the impacts of climate change.

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

From: Katie Fleming <katie@sanjuans.org>

Sent: Monday, February 26, 2018 3:19 PM

To: Adam Zack

Cc: Comp Plan Update

Subject: Islands Climate Resilience Comment Letter

Attachments: ICR letter to SJCC re Comp Plan Vision changes 2-26-18.pdf

Hi Adam,

Please see the attached comment letter from Islands Climate Resilience with suggestions regarding the preliminary draft Vision amendments.

Thank you for your consideration!

Katie

--

Katie Fleming

Community Engagement Director

Friends of the San Juans

P.O. Box 1344 | Friday Harbor, WA 98250

Main: 360.378.2319 | Direct: 360.378.3979

February 26, 2018

Adam Zack

SJC Department of Community Development

PO Box 947

Friday Harbor, WA 98250

adamz@sanjuanco.com

cc: compplancomments@sanjuanco.com

Re: Comment on preliminary draft Vision amendments

Dear Adam,

We are glad to see that the Planning Commission heard the community's calls for including climate change in the Vision. We agree that it does not fit neatly into one existing statement.

The stand-alone climate change statement is valuable insofar as it shows the community's concern about climate change and the desire to serve as a leader in addressing it. We'd like to see the following included:

- Our community encourages **and incentivizes** voluntary efforts to reduce our carbon footprint.
- **We work determinedly towards a carbon-neutral future.**
- **Our policies, programs, and development regulations are informed by the best available science.**
- Note also a need to correct a typo: it should read "mitigate these effects" rather than "mitigate these affects."

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

However, climate change is highly relevant to several of the existing statements, and therefore should be woven into those statements rather than just relegated to its own statement at the end. Climate change threatens to affect our ability to achieve a wide variety of goals across sectors, and **we need to take action in each of those sectors** and under each County department to ensure that we are a resilient community into the future. Below we have listed the statements where we believe climate change is most relevant and should be explicitly acknowledged as such.

Community: The community as a whole should be strong in standing up to climate change and other hazards and stressors. We would like to see this language added:

- Our community thrives and is resilient in the face of a changing climate and a range of other stressors.

Basic human needs: We must actively prepare for climate change to ensure that our drinking water supply is clean, adequate, quantified, monitored, and conserved as a vital resource such that we can rely on it even as the climate changes and the population grows in the future. At the open house, we heard numerous people express concern about conserving water as a vital resource given recent droughts and projected climate change impacts on precipitation and evaporation rates. Specifically, we suggest adding:

- The drinking water supply is clean, adequate, and conserved as a vital resource **such that we can rely on it even as the climate changes and the population grows.**

Economy: We must proactively plan to ensure that our forestry, farming, aquaculture, fishing, and tourism industries can thrive despite changes in the climate and resulting changes in invasive species, precipitation, water supply, and ocean pH. Specifically, we suggest adding:

- We support and encourage traditional industries including forestry, farming, aquaculture, construction, fishing and tourism without jeopardizing the natural environment on which they depend, **and we seek to build their resilience to economic stressors and climate change impacts.**
- Environmental conservation and sustainable development are balanced **and take into account the latest climate change projections.**

Natural environment: Climate change is very relevant to the components of this statement. More wildfires will threaten the quality of our air. Heavier rainfall and runoff will put our water quality at risk. Changes in temperatures will affect native plants and animals of the islands. At the same time, a healthy natural environment will directly help us be resilient in the face of changes in climate; for example, preserving open spaces and limiting impervious surfaces will reduce runoff and help conserve our water supply. Ultimately, it will be critical to consider climate change as part of all of the work done to steward our natural environment. Specifically, we suggest adding:

- As careful stewards of our islands, we conserve resources, protect our shorelines, preserve open space, and take appropriate action **based on the best available science** to assure healthy land and marine environments.
- Preserving the natural environment is central to the ecological health, quality of life, and the economy in the islands, **particularly in the face of a changing climate.**

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

Transportation: Transportation is one of the largest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions. We must have an explicit vision of a low/zero-emissions transportation future. Specifically, we suggest adding:

- We actively seek to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation in the islands.

Energy: The new mention of drinking water resources here should specifically include managing those resources based on the best available climate science. In addition, we note that desalination is extremely energy-intensive and should be avoided; efficient use and conservation are better options. Specifically, we suggest adding:

- Drinking water resources are managed to meet the needs of our community and the natural environment, and the best available climate science is used to inform those management decisions.

Climate Change: We would like to advocate for “regulations” to be included in this section. If San Juan County is serious about addressing climate change, our vision statement must include more than just voluntary efforts and incentives:

- Our islands community sets an example with its response to climate change. We proactively address the effects of climate change like sea level rise and drought. Our community encourages voluntary efforts and enacts incentives and regulations to reduce our carbon footprint and climate resiliency planning in all aspects of governance. Preparations to mitigate these affects are made in advance before they become crises.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this input. We hope that when the individual elements are updated, they will incorporate climate change adaptation and mitigation as cross-cutting issues. That is the only way to ensure that implementation of the Comprehensive Plan will consistently take into account the need to build our climate resilience and the imperative of doing our part to mitigate climate change. Experience in other communities has shown that having climate action as a stand-alone element or plan means that it is largely forgotten, as local government staff do not feel directly responsible for implementing those items.

Sincerely,

Islands Climate Resilience

Public Comments on First DRAFT Proposal

VERBAL COMMENTS MADE AT FEBRUARY 16, 2018 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

Planning Commission heard public comments at the February 16 meeting. A recording of this meeting and the public comments can be accessed on the County's website using the link below.

<https://www.sanjuanco.com/971/Planning-Commission-Meeting-Video>

At this meeting, 10 members of the public offered their comments. Please refer to the table below for a list of the commenters with a minute reference from the recorded meeting.

Name	Island	Minute Mark in the Video
Janet Alderton	Orcas	0:35:07
Steve Bernheim	Orcas	0:39:40
Sarah Severin (On behalf of Jane Hart)	San Juan	0:48:50
Stephanie Buffum (on behalf of Friends of the San Juans)	Shaw	0:52:20
Rami Amaro	San Juan	0:58:50
Christina Dahl-Sesby	San Juan	1:07:00
Gretchen Allison	San Juan	1:07:50
Fred Klein	Orcas	1:12:35 and 1:20:50
Sam Dillingham	Lopez	1:16:16
David Kane	San Juan	1:18:45

Speakers David Kane, Stephanie Buffum, Sarah Severin (for Jane Hart) and Steve Bernheim included comments to supplement their written comments submitted prior to the meeting.

Appendix B

Public Comments on Second Draft Vision Amendment Proposal

(Second Draft Dated March 1, 2018)

1
2

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

A. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

From: David Kane <dbkane@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2018 12:22 PM
To: Adam Zack
Subject: Vision Statement Comments (For March 16 Planning Commission meeting)
Attachments: Vision Statement Proposal (Kane).pdf

Vision Statement Comments (For March 16 Planning Commission meeting)

Hi Adam,

Attached please find Vision Statement comments for you and Linda to consider and for the March 16 Planning Commission meeting.

Thank you,

David Kane dbkane@gmail.com (360) 298-4840

Transmittal Memo

To: Adam Zack, Planner II, DCD

From: David & Kathleen Kane

Subject: Vision Statement Comments (for March 16 Planning Commission meeting) Date: March 11, 2018

Issue:

To provide written comment and proposed amendment to Planning Commission and Department of Community Development (DCD) in regards DCD Staff Document 2nd draft dated March 1, 2018 and found here: <https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/14542>

Attachment:

The attached document presents the Kane' Proposed Vision Amendments and the addition of a new AGRICULTURE Vision element.

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

Thank you for your consideration,

David & Kathleen Kane

David & Kathleen Kane Pear Point Farm

dbkane@gmail.com (360) 298-4840

Staff Note: Throughout this comment Mr. Kane included excerpts from the second draft proposal. Due to a formatting conflict, these references are not included here. To see the complete comment, please see the original comment online via the link below
<https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/14602>

Thank you for considering the following proposed Vision amendments and the addition of a new AGRICULTURE Vision element. Proposed Amendments are presented in strikeout and underline format. For example addition and ~~removed~~.

We believe that the most effective method to preserve farmland and minimize further development is the support of local agriculture. We propose the addition of a new Agriculture Vision element to create the foundational support necessary to ensure we preserve our rural and pastoral landscapes through proactive and innovative solutions.

AGRICULTURE (Kane's Proposal to create a new Vision element)

The San Juan Islands have a rich agricultural heritage that is of cultural, economic and historic significance to our community. We support and encourage the preservation of agricultural lands for their intrinsic pastoral landscapes and sustainable food production. We support agriculture that is regenerative, fosters biodiversity, recycles essential nutrients, and plays an integral role in the stewardship of our soils and our water resources. We believe that agriculture is essential to the health and well-being of our community, providing nutritious foods while performing important social, economic and environmental functions. We invest resources to ensure a viable and thriving agriculture in the islands now and in the future.

Vision Element ordering (Kane's Proposal) Agriculture

becomes element #7.

- 1 Community
- 2 Governance
- 3 Basic Human Needs
- 4 Housing
- 5 Education

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

- 6 Natural Environment
- 7 AGRICULTURE
- 8 Energy and Resources
- 8 Climate Change
- 10 Economy
- 11 Land Use
- 12 Transportation
- 13 Arts, Culture, and Recreation
- 14 Heritage and Historic Preservation

PREAMBLE (Kane's Proposal)

WE THE PEOPLE of San Juan County recognize that these rural islands are an extraordinary treasure of natural beauty and abundance, and that community, independence, privacy and personal freedom are values prized by islanders. Being a diverse people bound together by these shared values, we declare our commitment to work toward this vision of the San Juan Islands.

For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below (see staff not above).

COMMUNITY (Kane's Proposal)

We envision a community that is primarily rural, made up of islands of varying character, each with its own unique qualities. The islands are places of peace and mutual tolerance, where citizens of differing backgrounds and beliefs respect each other's dignity, privacy, and freedoms. We communicate effectively and openly and work together toward goals identified as being for the common good. We foster a sense of neighborliness, of self-sufficiency, resiliency and community pride that has long been a part of our island character.

BASIC HUMAN NEEDS (Kane's Proposal)

Our islands are places where all citizens can safely walk or play, day or night. The ~~drinking~~ water supply is clean, adequate, and conserved as a vital resource. Everyone has access to healthy locally produced food. Health care, elder care and help in time of need are accessible and affordable. Making a life here is possible for all people and is not limited by lack of access to basic human needs.

For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below (see staff note above)

EDUCATION (Kane's Proposal)

Learning is a continuing lifelong process that is encouraged and aided by the community. A partnership of families and community creates a supportive and challenging environment founded

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

on academic excellence and artistic expression. This educational environment produces ethical, environmentally conscious, self-directed, compassionate, responsible world citizens, alive with the love of learning.

For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below (see staff note above)

ECONOMY (Kane's Proposal)

We support a pattern of sustainable economic growth and development which serves the diverse needs of our community, and which recognizes and maintains the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands. Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of stable, year-round activities that provide family wage employment for islanders. The workforce is able to live, work, and thrive locally. We support and encourage traditional industries including forestry, agriculture, aquaculture, construction, fishing and tourism without jeopardizing the natural environment on which they depend. We have home occupations and cottage enterprises that are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods. We encourage new ideas and new technology for improving the quality and profitability of our goods and services. Sustainable agriculture is thriving and the base for the county food economy. Advanced interactive communication systems support our economy. Value-added activities are encouraged. Environmental conservation and sustainable development are balanced.

For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below (see staff note above)

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT (Kane's Proposal)

Our islands have exceptional natural beauty and healthy diverse ecosystems surrounded by pollution-free marine waters. The air is fresh and clean, the water quality is excellent, and the soil is fertile and uncontaminated. As careful stewards of these islands, we act to conserve and restore resources, protect our shorelines, preserve open space, promote sustainable agricultural practices, and take appropriate action based on the best available science to assure healthy land and marine environments. We refrain from using genetically modified organisms. Preserving the natural environment and responsible stewardship of our agricultural land is central to the ecological health, quality of life, and the economy in the islands. Native plants and animals of the islands thrive, and are identified, appreciated and conserved.

For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below

LAND USE (Kane's Proposal)

Neighborhoods, hamlets, villages and towns are clearly defined so as to conserve agricultural, forest, mineral resource activities and to conserve and restore environmentally sensitive critical areas. These

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

1 areas define our heritage and sense of place; providing for commerce and community activities
2 without losing their small scale and attractive island ambiance. Care is taken to maintain our rural
3 agricultural way of life. There is innovative solutions provide housing for people of all incomes during
4 all seasons. The unique character of our shorelines is protected by encouraging uses ~~which that~~
5 maintain or enhance the quality of the shoreline environment. Through innovative land use strategies,
6 our citizens and institutions balance and protect private property rights, public rights, right to farm
7 and our natural environment. Land held in community trust is actively managed for compatible public
8 benefit including conservation, food production and long term soil health.
9

10 *For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below (see staff note above)*
11

12 **Transportation and Communications** (Kane's Proposal)

13 We have water, land, and air transportation systems commensurate with our island culture. On-
14 island circulation is by means of a system of scenic rural roads with automobile, bicycle
15 and pedestrian ways functioning without conflict. In some places, the roads are unpaved, narrow,
16 and winding, and care is taken to maintain a rustic quality in public signs.
17 Transportation plans equally consider cyclists, pedestrians, automobiles, public transportation, and
18 rural character. Historic agricultural methods for moving livestock and farm equipment on roadways is
19 accommodated. Expansion or new construction of basic public transportation facilities occurs only on
20 the basis of based on demonstrated local public need.
21

22 *For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below (see staff note above)*
23
24
25

26 **Energy and Resources** (Kane's Proposal)

27 Our community fosters low impact renewable resource and energy conservation. Energy independence
28 is encouraged. Food production and drinking water resources are managed to meet the needs of our
29 community and future generations. Recycling, solid waste, composting and sewage treatment are
30 managed both within the confines of each island and Countywide in an environmentally sound manner.
31 Renewable natural resources are used on a sustainable basis. Community and private composting
32 systems are encouraged to minimize waste and to increase soil fertility. Nonrenewable resources are
33 conserved wherever possible and practical.
34

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below (see staff note above)

Arts, Culture and Recreation (Kane's Proposal)

Our community nurtures the expression of its creative talents and supports diverse cultural and entertainment activities. Our cultural facilities such as libraries, museums, and theaters are focal points of activity and community support. Well managed parks, trails, and shoreline access, where appropriate, provide islanders with recreation and public access with due regard for both the rights of private property owners and the natural and cultural limitations of each site.

For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below (see staff note above)

Heritage and Historic Preservation (Kane's Proposal)

Our community is enriched by a strong sense of identity, tradition, legacy, and continuity, where past and present freely mingle. We recognize the contributions to our rural and maritime heritage made by indigenous peoples, explorers, and island pioneers We encourage preservation of our heritage, historic sites, structures, and traditions for the enjoyment of all and support activities that reflect and advance rural traditions such as agriculture, fishing and forestry

For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below (see staff note above)

Governance (Kane's Proposal)

We are self-governed by informed citizens. We are equally represented by elected officials who conduct the activities of government in an ethical, fair, impartial, responsive and open manner which that recognizes the independent, self-reliant nature of its citizens, honors our unique cultural heritage and landscape and seeks solutions that will sustain our unique rural way of life. Our county borders the Province of British Columbia, including the Gulf Islands, and several Washington State counties. Our elected officials and government institutions communicate with and collaborate in our areas of mutual interest. Our government institutions balance responsibility with resources and costs, consolidate services where practical, manage prudently, provide reliable data, are service-oriented, and perform in a timely manner.

For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below (see staff note above)

Housing (Kane's Proposal)

The supply of affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population. There is housing for people of all incomes. There is sufficient variety in housing types to suit year round and seasonal farmworkers. Raising a family, having a good quality of life, and economic opportunities are not limited by access to housing.

For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below (see staff note above)

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

Climate Change (Kane's Proposal)

Our community of islands sets an example with its response to climate change. We proactively address the effects of climate change such as sea level rise and drought. We choose to support local sustainable food production to minimize the high carbon footprint of imported foods. Preparations to mitigate these effects are made in advance before they become crises. Our community encourages voluntary efforts, enacting incentives and regulations to reduce our carbon footprint. Greenhouse gas emissions are limited.

For context Community Development Staff 2nd Draft Proposal is below (see staff note above)

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

From: Transition Lopez Island <info@transitionlopezisland.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 12:53 PM

To: Comp Plan Update

Cc: Dale Roundy; Steven Rubey

Subject: Fwd: Comments on the Current Draft of the Vision Statement of the Comprehensive Plan

Attachments: joint letter TLI-CRSJI on Comp Plan Vision Statement 2018.3.13.docx

Attached is a joint letter from Transition Lopez Island and Community Rights San Juan Islands with suggested changes to the current draft of the Vision Statement. Several of our members will be attending the Planning Commission meeting on Friday, March 16th to speak briefly about this letter during the Public Comments segment. In April, a larger group of us plan to attend the joint Public Hearing of the Planning Commission and the County Council to present our views directly.

Thanks for your attention,
Transition Lopez Island
Community Rights San Juan Islands

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal



Community Rights San Juan Islands

March 14, 2018

San Juan County Council
350 Court Street, No. 1
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

Dear Council Members and Planning Commissioners,

We, Transition Lopez Island and Community Rights San Juan Islands, wish to jointly submit comments on the current draft of Vision Statement of the Comprehensive Plan.

Transition Lopez Island, established in 2012 as the 152nd Initiative in the U.S., is part of a worldwide movement that strives to thrive and build resilience in its communities in the face of climate and other changes. Our membership comprises almost 140 Lopez residents and 10 of us, among the undersigned, participate in the Steering Committee.

Community Rights San Juan Islands is a recently established group, comprising individuals from across San Juan County. We are part of a national community rights movement supported by Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund, and we aspire to co-create a regional alliance to honor the rights of the Salish Sea.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide inputs into the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan. We have the following comments on the current draft of the Vision Statement being considered by the Planning Commission.

* * * * *

A DECLARATION OF VISION AND COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE OF SAN JUAN COUNTY

PREAMBLE: WE THE PEOPLE of San Juan County are a vibrant and diverse community that is connected, healthy, free-spirited, independent, sustainable and equitable. Compassionate residents and healthy natural environment under our careful stewardship are among our greatest assets. All our residents are able to achieve their full potential. recognize that these rural islands are an extraordinary treasure of natural beauty and abundance, and that independence, privacy and personal freedom are values prized by islanders. Being a diverse people bound together by these shared values, we declare our commitment to work together towards this vision of the San Juan Islands in 2020 A.D.

RATIONALE: Preamble is the most important part of the vision statement. We would love to see one that inspires, unifies and uplifts. We understand that an immense amount of work and thoughts have been put into this, and the current outcome came out as result of much negotiation and deliberation. It however reads like a compromise in its current form. Vision statement is about what we aspire to become, to be the best we could be as a county and people.

<http://transitionlopezisland.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/CommunityRightsSJI/>

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Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

While independence, privacy and freedom are important to us, there are other equally or more important values that we all hold dear about our island community that should be included in the preamble as well. We all want to be healthy, our society equitable, our way of life sustainable so that what we enjoy now can also be enjoyed by our children, grandchildren and beyond. We are not isolated individuals but rather are connected to each other and care deeply about our community, the well-being of our neighbors and fellow islanders. Checking in on each other, organizing meals, work parties or donations for the sick or afflicted are great examples of our compassionate island living.

On beauty: while we cherish the natural beauty in which we live, the current language, here and throughout the vision statement, is reminiscent of the way women used to be regarded (or still are by some): for their appearance. We are inter-connected with nature, our land, our sea and our forests in so many profound ways. Nature is not only valued for its beauty. It inspires in us reverence, peace and sense of wonder. It heals, nourishes and sustains us. Our well-being and the health of our natural world are inseparable. We thus believe that shifting away from the language of aesthetics toward the language of health is more reflective of our values on and relationship with our natural world here on the islands.

COMMUNITY We envision a community that is primarily rural, made up of islands of varying character, each with its own unique qualities. The islands are places of peace and mutual tolerance, where ~~citizens~~ residents of differing backgrounds and beliefs respect each other's dignity, privacy, and freedoms. We communicate effectively and openly and work together toward goals identified as being for the common good. We foster a sense of neighborliness, ~~of self-sufficiency and mutual support, and community pride~~ that has long been a part of our island character.

RATIONALE: *There are many residents who are invested in the community, and contribute greatly to the healthy functioning and well-being of our community and economy despite not having U.S. citizenship. The word "citizens" throughout the document should therefore be replaced with "residents" to be more inclusive.*

RATIONALE: *The sense of community that we so cherish is the feeling that we have each other's back, that we take care of each other when someone is in a tough spot. Our sense of self-sufficiency can only be strengthened when we support each other in time of need (and hence "mutual support" instead of "community pride").*

BASIC HUMAN NEEDS Our islands are places where all ~~residentscitizens~~ can safely walk or play, day or night. The drinking water supply is clean, and adequate, and conserved as a vital resource. Health care, elder care, and help in time of need are accessible and affordable. The supply of affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population. Making a life here is possible for all ~~residentspeople~~ and is not limited by lack of access to basic human needs.

RATIONALE: *There are many residents who are invested in the community, and contribute greatly to the healthy functioning and well-being of our community and economy despite not*

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

having U.S. citizenship. The word "citizens" throughout the document should therefore be replaced with "residents" to be more inclusive.

ECONOMY We support a pattern of economic ~~growth and~~ development which serves the needs of our community ~~while, and honoring our responsibility to take care of our natural world on which we and our economy depend, which recognizes the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands.~~ Our economy comprises a wide spectrum of stable, year-round activities that provide family wage employment for islanders. The workforce is able to live, work, and thrive locally. We support and encourage traditional industries including forestry, farming agriculture, aquaculture, construction, fishing and tourism without jeopardizing the natural environment on which they depend. We have home occupations and cottage enterprises that are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods. We encourage new ideas and new technology for improving the quality and profitability of our goods and services. Advanced interactive communication systems support our economy. Value-added activities are encouraged. Environmental conservation and sustainable development are balanced.

RATIONALE: *Our economy and well-being depend on the health of the Salish Sea, the thriving of orcas and other marine life, clean air, clean water, fertile soil and robust forests. While it is important to recognize the aesthetic aspects of the landscape and maintain the rural, quiet character of the islands, it is not enough. For our island community to thrive now and for generations to come, we must take responsibility to steward our natural world so it can sustain our economy. Tourism, related services and agriculture, the mainstays of our economy, all depend on healthy waters, shorelines and soil to flourish.*

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT Our islands have ~~exceptional natural beauty and~~ healthy diverse ecosystems ~~and exceptional natural beauty~~ surrounded by pollution-free marine waters. The air is fresh and clean, the water quality is excellent, and the soil is uncontaminated. As careful stewards of these islands, we conserve resources, protect ~~and restore~~ our shorelines and critical areas, preserve open space, and take appropriate action based on the best available science to assure healthy land and marine environments. The natural environment is central to the ecological health, quality of life, and the economy in the islands. Native plants and animals of the islands thrive, and are identified, appreciated and conserved.

RATIONALE: *We believe the health of the natural environment should come before its aesthetic value. Our perceived natural beauty of the islands and the sea comes from a deeper knowing that our natural environment is healthy and treated with respect and reverence.*

LAND USE Neighborhoods, hamlets, villages and towns are clearly defined so as to conserve agricultural, forest, mineral resource and critical areas. These areas define our heritage and sense of place; providing for commerce and community activities without losing their small scale and attractive island ambiance. The unique character of our shorelines is protected ~~by encouraging uses that maintain or to~~ enhance the quality of the shoreline environment. Through innovative land use strategies, our ~~citizens~~ residents and

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

institutions balance and protect the rights of nature/living communities, private property rights, and public rights, ~~and our natural environment~~.

RATIONALE: *We feel strongly that the health of the land and the shoreline that borders it should be considered above its material use as a resource. Therefore, merely encouraging protective measures is not adequate and the language should be adjusted to state this categorically. Additionally, the natural environment has inherent rights which should be safeguarded and balanced against other private and public property rights.*

TRANSPORTATION We have water, land, and air transportation systems commensurate with our island culture. On-island circulation is by means of a system of ~~scenic~~ rural roads with automobile, bicycle and pedestrian ways functioning without conflict. Our town and village centers are compact, mixed-use and walkable. In some places, the roads are unpaved, narrow, and winding, and care is taken to maintain a rustic quality in public signs. Transportation plans equally consider cyclists, pedestrians, electric vehicles, automobiles, and public transportation, ~~and rural character~~. Expansion or new construction of basic public transportation and electric charging facilities occurs only on the basis of demonstrated local public need.

RATIONALE: *With transportation being the single largest contributor to greenhouse gases in San Juan County, how we move people and goods is extremely important to our future. The goal in creating and maintaining our system of rural roads is functionality, without emphasis on making them pretty or attractive to tourists. This practical approach is especially important in or near our towns and villages, where residents and tourists have the opportunity to get where they need to on foot or by bicycle, sharing the road with motorized vehicles. The use of public transportation and electric vehicles will become increasingly important as climate change accelerates.*

ENERGY AND RESOURCES Our community fosters resource and energy conservation. Energy independence is pursued through investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy, ~~encouraged~~. Drinking water resources are managed to meet the needs of our community ~~and~~ future generations and the natural environment. Composting, Recycling, solid waste, and sewage treatment are managed both within the confines of each island and Countywide in an environmentally sound manner. Renewable natural resources are used on a sustainable basis. Nonrenewable resources are conserved and replaced by renewable alternatives ~~wherever possible and practical~~.

RATIONALE: *Given the current fragile state of our planet, this is one of the most critical sections of the Comprehensive Plan. Without reservation, we must commit as a county to pursuit of a transition to energy independence. Likewise, the maintenance of healthy and well-managed water resources and composting, solid waste, and sewage facilities and the widespread use of renewable resources are no longer merely green options, but imperative to ensure a viable future for those who come after us.*

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

GOVERNANCE We are self-governed by informed, ~~caring residents-citizens.~~ We are equally represented by elected officials who conduct the activities of government in an ethical, fair, impartial, responsive, ~~participatory~~ and open manner that recognizes the ~~compassionate, free-spirited, independent,~~ self-reliant nature of its ~~residents-citizens.~~ Our county borders the Province of British Columbia, including the Gulf Islands, and several Washington State counties. Our elected officials and government institutions communicate with and collaborate in our areas of mutual interest. Our government institutions balance responsibility with resources and costs, consolidate services where practical, manage prudently, provide reliable data, are service-oriented, and perform in a timely manner.

RATIONALE: *We, islanders, are not only independent and self-reliant, we also care deeply about our community and each other. Hence, the added "caring" and "compassionate". The terms "independent" and "self-reliant" also seem very close in meaning, so we suggest replacing one with "free-spirited" which captures the sense of freedom we enjoy and value. On the manner in which the government conducts its activities, it is important that the process is participatory as well. After all, broad-based participation is a main underpinning of a well-functioning democratic governance.*

There are many residents who are invested in the community, and contribute greatly to the healthy functioning and well-being of our community and economy despite not having U.S. citizenship. The word "citizens" throughout the document should therefore be replaced with "residents" to be more inclusive.

HOUSING ~~There is adequate, safe, affordable and stable housing so that our community thrives, and all our residents are given an equal opportunity to achieve their full potential, long-term economic success and a healthy quality of life. There are diverse housing types and innovative strategies to meet various housing needs of our community members with diverse socio-economic situations. The supply of affordable housing is adequate to meet the needs of our diverse population. There is housing for people of all incomes. There is sufficient variety in housing types. Raising a family, having a good quality of life, and economic opportunities are not limited by access to housing.~~

RATIONALE: *The current language can be tightened and strengthened by emphasizing the positive aspects of housing that we wish to see.*

CLIMATE CHANGE Our community of islands sets an example with its response to climate change. We proactively address the ~~causes and~~ effects of climate change ~~such as sea level rise and drought. We make preparations to mitigate these effects, such as sea level rise and drought are made in advance before they become crises.~~ Our community encourages ~~voluntary efforts to,~~ enacting incentives and regulations to reduce our carbon footprint, ~~and applies climate resiliency planning in all aspects of governance. We limit greenhouse gas emissions are limited. All new development will be carbon neutral.~~

RATIONALE: *The statement is stronger when it is changed from a passive to an active form. On action we take to address climate change, it is inadequate to only focus on the effects. We need to add the "causes" as well. This is consistent with the sentences that follow, in which mitigation*

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

efforts to address the causes of climate change are already mentioned. And carbon neutral development is an important part of this effort.

* * * * *

Thank you for your kind consideration. We are available to provide further clarification and respond to questions if needed. Our contact persons are Chom Greacen (email: chomsgreacen@gmail.com, tel. 468-3189) and Kai Sanburn (email: kaisanburn@gmail.com, tel. 468-4400).

Yours sincerely,

**Transition Lopez Island Steering Committee
Community Rights San Juan Islands**

Chom Greacen
Ande Finley
Scott Finley
Kim Foley
Bob Gerfy
Marisa James
Liz Lafferty
Ron Metcalf
Mike Moore
Henning Sehmsdorf
Kai Sanburn
Beth Robson
Pamela Pauly
Diane Dyer
Ruth Van Doren
Harold Van Doren

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

From: Learner Limbach <learner.limbach@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 6:16 PM

To: Comp Plan Update

Cc: Erika Shook; Mike Thomas; Bill Watson; Linda Ann Kuller; Adam Zack

Subject: Vision Amendment Memo 3/14 - ARC to Planning Commission

Attachments: 2018-03-14 Vision Statement Memo ARC to Planning Commission.pdf

Hello,

The attached Memo is being submitted on behalf of the SJC Agricultural Resources Committee.

Please let me know that you have received it as a comment prior to the March 16th Planning Commission meeting.

Kind regards,

Learner Limbach

ARC Chair

--

Learner Limbach

PO Box 1996

Eastsound, WA 98245

e: learner.limbach@gmail.com

p: (360)-317-8780

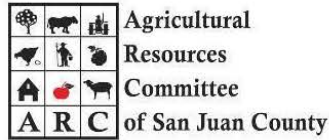
[Facebook](#)

[Orcas Food Co-op](#)

[Agricultural Resources Committee of San Juan County](#)

[NW Agriculture Business Center](#)

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal



Memorandum

To: SJC Planning Commission

CC: Adam Zack, Planner II, DCD
Linda Kuller, Planning Manager, DCD
Erika Shook, AICP, Director, DCD
Mike Thomas, County Manager
Bill Watson, County Council

From: San Juan County Agricultural Resource Committee (ARC)
Learner Limbach, Chair, ARC 

Date: March 15, 2018

Subject: Comments on Second Draft Vision Amendments Dated March 1, 2018

Purpose

To provide the Planning Commission and County Planners with the ARC's recommendations for changes to the second draft Vision Amendments dated March 1, 2018.

Background

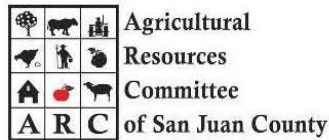
The ARC is a Citizen Advisory Committee composed of 15 voting seats, half of which must be members of the farming community. Our 2018 Work Plan includes engaging and collaborating in the Comprehensive Plan Update process by researching and proposing amendments to ensure consistency and support for a stronger agricultural economy. The ARC also serves as a listening post for the Agricultural community and conducts outreach throughout the year to help inform priorities.

The ARC's Regulations and Policy subcommittee drafted initial recommendations which were then revised by the Executive Committee. All ARC members then had the opportunity to suggest changes to the recommendations. The ARC then voted on and passed the final recommendations by electronic (e-mail) vote completed on Wednesday March 14th.

Attachment

The ARC's adopted recommendations are attached.
Recommendations are based on the second draft Vision Amendments dated March 1, 2018 found at <https://www.sanjuan.co.com/DocumentCenter/View/14542>

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal



Recommended Amendments to the San Juan County Vision

Adopted March 15, 2018 by the Agricultural Resources Committee of San Juan County

1) After the section “Natural Environment” ADD the following new section

AGRICULTURE The San Juan Islands have a rich agricultural heritage that remains culturally and economically significant. We invest resources to ensure that agricultural lands are preserved and to maintain and enhance agricultural viability. We encourage regenerative practices and recognize the integral role that agriculture plays in the stewardship of our soils and water resources. Agricultural activities are essential to the health and well-being of our community, contributing to the social, economic and environmental fabric of our islands.

Why this change is important:

- We believe that existing references in the Vision are not sufficient to reflect the cultural, social, economic and environmental significance that agriculture and local food production holds for our community.
- There have been many comments during the Vision Amendment process thus far that suggest there is a strong desire in the community to include a more comprehensive statement on agriculture in the Vision.

2) On page 3, line 23 ADD “Everyone has access to healthy, locally produced food.” after “vital resource.”

Paragraph reads:

BASIC HUMAN NEEDS Our islands are places where all citizens can safely walk or play, day or night. The drinking water supply is clean, adequate, and conserved as a vital resource. **Everyone has access to healthy, locally produced food.** Health care, elder care and help in time of need are accessible and affordable. Making a life here is possible for all people and is not limited by lack of access to basic human needs.

Why this change is important:

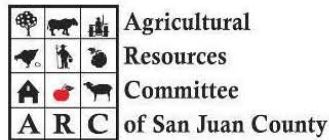
- After water, food is our most basic human need.
- We believe that everyone should have access to healthy, locally produced food.

3) On page 3, line 40 ADD “environmentally conscious” after “ethical”

Paragraph reads:

EDUCATION Learning is a continuing lifelong process that is encouraged and aided by the community. A partnership of families and community creates a supportive and challenging

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal



environment founded on academic excellence and artistic expression. This educational environment produces ethical, environmentally conscious, self-directed, compassionate, responsible world citizens, alive with the love of learning.

Why this change is important:

- Providing an educational environment that produces environmentally conscious citizens is a critical component of creating the change that is needed to stop and reverse global warming and other environmental degradation. This relates to being responsible world citizens and we feel it is important to identify this specifically.

4) On page 4, line 2 ADD “and maintains” after “recognizes”

Paragraph reads:

ECONOMY We support a pattern of economic growth and development which serves the needs of our community, and which recognizes and maintains the rural, residential, quiet, agricultural, marine and isolated nature of the islands. ...

Why this change is important:

- This makes it more clear that the desire is to *maintain* these characteristics of our islands rather than simply recognizing them. Our community is involved in our environment, not merely passive observers.

5) On page 4, line 26 ADD “fertile and” after “soil is”

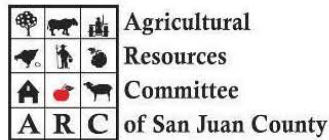
Paragraph reads:

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT Our islands have exceptional natural beauty and healthy diverse ecosystems surrounded by pollution-free marine waters. The air is fresh and clean, the water quality is excellent, and the soil is fertile and uncontaminated. ...

Why this change is important:

- The intent of our Vision should be to have soil that is fertile, alive and productive not to simply not contaminate it.
- The statement “Water quality is excellent” sets an aspirational goal. “Soil is uncontaminated” sets a low bar in contrast.
- Vision statements look for what is desired, not for paths to avoid.

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- 6) On page 5, line 22 ADD “Food production and” after “encouraged.”

Paragraph reads:

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES Our community fosters resource and energy conservation. Energy independence is encouraged. Food production and drinking water resources are managed to meet the needs of our community and future generations.

Why this change is important:

- Management of our food production resources, and food production capacity, are critically important and it makes sense to include food alongside water in this context.

- 7) On page 5, line 25 ADD “Community and private composting systems are encouraged to minimize waste and to increase soil fertility.” after “basis.”

Paragraph reads:

ENERGY AND RESOURCES Our community fosters resource and energy conservation. Energy independence is encouraged. Food production and drinking water resources are managed to meet the needs of our community and future generations. Recycling, solid waste, and sewage treatment are managed both within the confines of each island and Countywide in an environmentally sound manner. Renewable natural resources are used on a sustainable basis. Community and private composting systems are encouraged to minimize waste and to increase soil fertility. Nonrenewable resources are conserved wherever possible and practical.

Why this change is important:

- We feel there is a strong push for this in our community already, with progress being made toward this goal. Our support for community and private composting systems should be spelled out in the Vision to help anchor this as a theme in our organic waste planning.
- Through composting, the amount of garbage sent to the landfill is reduced, recycling the organic matter into a useful soil amendment,.

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

From: Jan Alderton <janetmalderton@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 12:00 PM

To: Comp Plan Update

Subject: Vision Statement Comment

March 15, 2018

Dear Planning Commissioners & County Staff,

Thank-you for working to update our Comp Plan Vision.

Since our last Comp Plan, awareness of major declines in the Southern Resident Killer Whale population and their prime food, Chinook salmon, have become apparent to both scientists and the public. The Southern Resident Killer Whale is central to our county's logo. The opportunity to see orca whales brings tourists to our islands. Citizen concern has spurred our elected officials to engage in the issue.

Most of the vision statement focuses on our islands as separate from adjoining counties and from Canada. Helping the Southern Resident Killer Whales and salmon will require a regional effort. Councilor Rick Hughes recently attended a conference in British Columbia that focused on the plight of the Southern Resident Killer Whales. Concern among residents of San Juan County is growing. Please consider adding the following statement to our vision.

Thank-you,

Janet Alderton

491 Harborview Lane

Deer Harbor, WA 98243

510-520-1073

Page 4, Line 24:

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Proposed new paragraph:

As citizens of an island archipelago, San Juan County residents are profoundly connected to the marine environment. Iconic species such as the Southern Resident Killer Whales and salmon connect us to the Salish Sea region. We strive to protect the wild nature of our shorelines that provide food and shelter for young salmon. We understand that our island shorelines are an essential part of a complex regional ecosystem that sustains our beloved Southern Resident Killer Whales. We have committed ourselves to work with citizens in neighboring counties and in British Columbia to reverse the decline of endangered salmon and killer whales.

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

1 **From:** san olson <sanolson80@gmail.com>

2 **Sent:** Thursday, March 15, 2018 12:54 PM

3 **To:** Comp Plan Update

4 **Cc:** Suzanne & Dale Roundy; Steve Rubey

5 **Subject:** Vision comments

6 **Attachments:** SO Comments on Vision Statement Preamble and Basic Needs.doc

7 Please find my comments in the attachment below.

8 San Olson

9

10 From: San Olson (sanolson@centurytel.net)

11 Sent: Thursday 15 March 2018

12 To: compplancomments@sanjuanco.com

13 Cc: Planning Commissioners Dale Roundy and Steve Rubey

14 Subject: <http://www.sanjuan/co.com/DocumentCenterView/14542>

15 1. First of all, my compliments to the County Staff, Planning Commission, and previous commenting
16 citizens for the diligent and thoughtful work all contributed to the amendment process. Bearing in mind
17 the prodigious amount of effort obviously required to make the persuasive changes to date, I ask for your
18 indulgence in my attempt at additional word-smithing of the proposed amendments.

19 2. I approached the Vision Statement as if I were a person contemplating moving to the San Juans as a
20 new resident. What were the messages of values, resources, and opportunities conveyed in the Vision
21 produced by the government and citizens of the county? If you will, this statement is as much about who
22 we are as it is an advertisement for prospective residents and business interests.

23 3. So beginning with the beginning, I chose to comment on the Preamble and Basic Human Needs. As a
24 long term property owner and resident, I became troubled by the assumptions inherent in the choice of
25 some words, particularly in that fundamental introduction. These assumptions concern me because they
26 imply circumstances that do not conform with my experiences or general knowledge. Therefore, please
27 accept my suggestions as it relates to these first two sections of the Vision Statements.

28 **PREAMBLE:**

29 line 2: "treasure of natural beauty and **abundance**, and that **independence**, privacy and personal
30 freedom are"

31 Comment: It is not clear to me what is meant by 'abundance'. Does abundance mean an abundance of
32 available land for development, affordable housing, potable water, living wage jobs, public beaches and

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

1 parks, recreational opportunities, tourist accommodations, ferry service, or what? Without specificity the
2 word has multiple contexts in which it might be utilized to describe copiousness or quantity.

3 I recommend striking **abundance** absent an indication of what is abundant. Islands by definition and
4 geography have limitations. We do not live in an archipelago with an abundance of everything.

5 I prefer **interdependence** rather than independence. As islanders we are more dependent on neighbors
6 and friends than people living in an urban environment. To emphasize independence is to suggest that
7 we are exceptions to the need to cooperate, be neighborly, have concern for others, or actively participate
8 in community as a working concept.

9 I recommend striking **privacy** as it is similar to personal freedom, but implies isolation which seems the
10 opposite of interdependence. The passage could still read: “ and interdependence and personal freedom
11 are both values prized by islanders.” They are not mutually exclusive values and either can be exercised
12 under a variety of circumstances.

13 BASIC HUMAN NEEDS:

14 Line 13.: “drinking water supply is clean, and **adequate**, and conserved as a vital resource.”

15 Comment: Where is the evidence that our drinking water supply is adequate, and adequate for what? Is
16 there adequate water for all the current uses, for human consumption, for agriculture (including gardens),
17 for landscape and lawns, for the hospitality industry? Will there be adequate water for a larger future
18 population?

19 Many current wells are poor producers, others suffer from saltwater intrusion. Our aquifers are limited
20 by recharge and as our climate changes and sea level rises our fresh water supply will challenged to meet
21 increasing demands, particularly in the summer months which is, of course, when the highest
22 consumption occurs.

23 I recommend striking **adequate** unless some evidence of adequacy can be proven against an anticipated
24 increased usage, commensurate with population projections, or a technical solution can be demonstrated
25 as feasible, without environmental or economic damage.

26 Thank you for considering my comments.

27 San Olson, Lopez Island

28 360 468 3116

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

From: joe symons <joesymons@me.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 12:04 PM

To: Comp Plan Update; Lynda Guernsey; DL - Council

Subject: Comments regarding the 2nd draft of the SJC Vision Statement

To: SJC Planning Commission

From: Joe Symons

Date: 15 March 2018

Re: Staff findings re 2nd Draft of SJC Vision Statement

I write to express my concern that the public input to the 2nd Draft of the SJC Vision Statement has been substantially ignored by DCD staff. I urge you to investigate how and why so much valuable input was disregarded.

Second, as noted previously, the Vision Statement is not simply some fluff that helps readers feel good about the future intentions and directions of SJC. It has (or is supposed to have) agency. It is the "foundation of the Comp Plan". Presumably "foundation" does not mean sand. It means re-bar infused highest standard concrete, something built to last, which implies a large "safety factor" as an engineer would say. It does not mean "minimum specs" but "best of class".

As SJC proceeds with its CP update, the county and its residents have an opportunity to set a new bar, an unprecedented standard, for not just writing, but creating and implementing, a truly sustainable Plan-oriented county. Sweep away the smoke and mirrors of the current (and about to be revised) Vision Statement and you find that what has agency here in SJC is the market, not the CP nor the Vision upon which it is supposed to be built.

It will be a useless exercise if we polish a gold-plated apple and ignore that it is entirely hollow. You have the opportunity to participate in making this apple whole. Please take that opportunity.

Background:

On 5 March 2018, I sent the following email to Adam Zach and cc'd to the PC administrator:

On the transmittal letter, page 1, of

<https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/14542>

staff states that there were several factors that influenced their decisions re updating the vision statement.

These included:

"narrowly defined scope for refining the vision"

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and

“Planning Commission direction provided at their January 19, 2018 meeting”

Please send me all information you have regarding these factors, and any other considerations you used to propose the changes you

made re the 2nd draft.

Page 2, “Background”, lines 28-37 implies that considerable attention was made to public comments on the first draft.

As my initial read of the staff changes suggests that almost no substantive changes were made, in contrast to the many thoughtful and supportive changes suggested by the public, I’d very much welcome knowing staff’s decision making process. The “staff analysis” section does not adequately explain the exclusion of the vast majority of public input on this second draft.

Joe Symons

Olga, WA

2

No response was received from Adam nor from Erika in a followup email to her dated 8 March 2018.

I will not be able to attend the PC meeting on this topic scheduled for tomorrow 16 March 2018. Consequently I include my comments below:

The document referenced in the link above is 66 pages long. Of these, 38 pages (almost 60%) are public comment, containing specific language suggestions and explanations for those suggestions. The approximate number of words specifically recommended to be added to the Vision statement by the public is 923. The actual number of words added by staff is 54 (as shown by the yellow “highlights”). Of those 54, 33 are in one entry, by Friends of the San Juans, regarding “Governance”. That is, about 6% of the suggested additions were added, and of those 6%, almost 4%, from FOSJ were regarding cooperating with other governments. One change made by staff was to replace the word “farming” with “agriculture”. One was to remove “A.D.” from the Preamble.

Specifically, the following sections of the Vision Statement showed some change. If the section is not listed, no changes were suggested regardless of public input:

Section words added

Preamble 1

Basic Needs 2

Economy replace one word

Natural Environment 6

Page | 26

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Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

1 Energy 3

2 Governance 33

3 Climate Change 9

4 Critical suggestions were ignored without any explanation.

5 I urge you to review public suggestions with care and add them in or obtain reasonable arguments for
6 why they were disregarded. I have no staff nor resources to offer a “revised 2nd draft” of the Vision
7 Statement for you to review and compare with that crated by staff. I imagine you are as busy as everyone,
8 so the default action is simply to accept the staff recommendations and move on. For the benefit of the
9 county and yourselves as residents, I hope you do not simply pass on this opportunity. By metaphor, “War
10 is too serious a matter to entrust to military men.” https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Georges_Clemenceau

11 SJC has the opportunity to be proactive. Please take it.

12 Joe Symons

13 Olga WA

14

15 **From:** Charlie Carver <lefthandhorticulture@gmail.com>

16 **Sent:** Thursday, March 15, 2018 1:11 PM

17 **To:** joe symons

18 **Cc:** Comp Plan Update; Lynda Guernsey; DL - Council

19 **Subject:** Re: Comments regarding the 2nd draft of the SJC Vision Statement

20 Pretty good right up until the last two paragraphs where you abandon the graciousness I admire you for.
21 Charlie

22 While the VS continues to 'improve' I would love to see us get it more right, articulate a bigger, bolder,
23 more assertive vision that challenges us as a community and presents us with a standard to aspire to.
24 Thoreau once commented one should set your goals high so that if you fail you will still have achieved
25 more than if you had set a lower standard for yourself.

26 Charlie

27 **Staff Note:** Mr. Carver submitted this comment as a reply to Mr. Symons Comment from March 15, 2018.
28 Mr. Carver’s comment included the body of Mr. Symons’ comment dated March 15, 2018. Please see the
29 previous comment in this Appendix for the complete comment from Mr. Symons to which Mr. Carver was
30 replying. The additional text of Mr. Symons’ previous comment was omitted to avoid redundancy.

31

32

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

From: Cindy Carter <cindyc3po@orcasonline.com>

Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 11:51 AM

To: Comp Plan Update; Rick Boucher

Subject: Comp Plan Revisions

Dear Council members,

Please delete the words "both" and "and Countywide" from the Proposed Comp Plan Revision Amendments (<https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/14542>) leaving the Recycling, solid waste, and sewage treatment managed with in the confines of each island. We have our own sewage treatment district and do like our local government. Consolidating the districts into the central government gives the opportunity for mismanagement by a corrupt few. Please do not allow this consolidation to occur.

Also, please do not take upon the responsibility of providing water for everyone in the islands. This is not the county's job, it is the citizens who move into a rural area to provide for their own water. The city of Friday Harbor is given this task, but the county is not. Please delete the new proposed Comp Plan words "Conserved as a vital resource (under "Basic Human Needs)," and "Drinking water resources are managed to meet the needs of our community and natural environment (in Energy and Resources)."

Also, please eliminate "enacting incentives and regulations to reduce our carbon footprint. Greenhouse gas emissions are limited." This is vague terminology that would open a whole Pandora's box of unnecessary regulation in our beautifully pristine islands. Please do not add this language.

Thank you,

Cindy Carter,

Eastsound

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"In giving life to man,
God demands that he love, respect and
promote life.

The gift thus becomes a commandment, and the commandment is a gift."

~Evangelium Vitae

Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

From: David Thomas <swiftbayfarm@icloud.com>

Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 12:26 PM

To: Comp Plan Update

Subject: Public Comment for March 16th Planning Commission Hearing

Agriculture and Local Food Production

As these items appear to be important to the residents of County, the Vision Statement should be more explicit in stating these values. This is particularly important for future readers who were not around when the Vision Statement was developed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Barbara Thomas

Farmer on Lopez Island

Sent from my iPad

From: Gretchen Krampf <gretchen.krampf@processexperts.com>

Date: March 16, 2018 at 8:10:26 AM PDT

To: Hughes Rick <Rickh@sanjuanco.com>

Subject: Please bring SJC Agriculture and Agritourism into the Vision

Dear Rick-

I am sorry that I was away and missed submitting my formal comments. And want to encourage the County to include Agriculture, Forestry and Agritourism in a more defined way in the San Juan County Vision.

As a board member of the SJI Ag Guild, advisor to Orcasong Farm and 30 year Orcas community member, I have a deep commitment to our farmers and farmlands and forests.

These resources must be championed and preserved as food security and for our islands' qualityof-life.

As you know, more and more of our island visitors are interested in learning about, and enjoying, our rural lifestyle. Farm-to-table meals, farm stays and wedding, value-added products all help build greater financial resiliency for our islands' farmers and producers.

I am sorry that I missed submitting formal comments and want to share my thoughts with you.

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Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

1 Thanks for all you are doing for our communities.

2

3 Gretchen

4 **Staff Note:** Ms. Krampf's comment was originally sent to Council Member Rick Hughes on March 16, 2018.
5 It was then forwarded to DCD to be included with other public comments received regarding the Vision.

6 B. AGRICULTURE REQUESTS

7 A significant number of comments were submitted requesting an agriculture section be added to the
8 Vision. Most of these requests included the same language:

9 *"(I/we) would like to request the addition of a new, stand-alone, Agriculture section to the SJC*
10 *Vision Statement"*

11 Thirty-eight total request were submitted requesting the addition of an agriculture section to the Vision.
12 The requested change to the Vision was the same but each comment included personal testimony
13 outlining the commenter's reason for requesting the change.

14 Each duplicate request was not included verbatim in this document. These public comments can be found
15 on the San Juan County Website

16 <https://www.sanjuanco.com/1306/Comprehensive-Plan-Elements>

17 Below is a list of each member of the public that submitted a request for the addition of an agriculture
18 section to the Vision.

19	David Turnoy	33	Natalie Menacho	47	Ed Suij
20	Annie McIntyre	34	Patrick Bennett	48	Jane Ward
21	CedarBough Saeji	35	Heike Uhlig	49	Pat Kuentzel
22	Irene Skyriver	36	Sunnyfield Farm	50	Jane Ward
23	Julienne Battalia	37	Robert Harrison	51	Lori Ann David
24	Bruce Howe-Gregory	38	Suzanne Roundy	52	Peggy Bill
25	Colleen Howe-Gregory	39	Deborah Bundy	53	Caitlin Herlihy
26	Sandy Bishop	40	Christine Langley	54	Paula Treneer
27	Sarah Pope	41	Leslie Quenell	55	Margaret Bangs
28	Kirman Taylor	42	Shannon Borg	56	Norris Suzanne Carlson
29	Diana Sheridan	43	Pete Kuentzel	57	Peter Carlson
30	Kathy Kane	44	Susan Bill	58	Katie Wilkins
31	Ande Finley	45	Nathan Hodges	59	Betsy Pope
32	Faith Van De Putte	46	Kai Sanburn	60	Chris Pope

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Public Comments on Second DRAFT Proposal

C. March 16, 2018 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

Planning Commission heard public comments at the March 16, 2018 meeting. A recording of this meeting and the public comments can be accessed on the County's website using the link below.

<https://www.sanjuanco.com/971/Planning-Commission-Meeting-Video>

At this meeting, 10 members of the public offered their comments. Please refer to the table below for a list of the commenters with a minute reference from the recorded meeting.

Name	Island	Minute Mark in the Video
Christina Dahl-Sesby	San Juan	0:27:40
Jane Hart	San Juan	0:28:50
Lori Ann David	San Juan	0:34:40
Liz Lafferty	Lopez	0:37:20
David Kane	San Juan	0:44:30

Planning Commission began working on the third draft of proposed Vision amendments around the fifty-two minute mark in the video linked above.