

Adam Zack

From: cannoncreek@yahoo.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 8:44 PM
To: Comp Plan Update
Subject: Agriculture's place in the upcoming Vision statement

My name is Court Bell. As a 27 year San Juan Island resident, a fourteen year principal in the San Juan Island School District, a gardener, and owner of 30 acres in San Juan Valley, I look forward to the County Council putting into words in the new Vision statement the value agriculture to the islands going forward into the future. The omission would be a serious neglect of carrying forward the vast heritage of agriculture in the islands into the future.

I would like to request the addition of a new stand-alone section to the Vision Statement dedicated to Agriculture.

Specifically, I request that the Planning Commission: 1). Adopt Staff Report OPTION C: --Add a standalone Agriculture section to the Vision¹ 2). ADD the following language proposed by the Agriculture Resource Committee² to this new Agriculture 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.

Thank you, Court Bell, 662 Bigfoot Road, Friday Harbor.

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