

**Adam Zack**

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**From:** Gregory Kramer <gregory@metta.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 15, 2018 11:38 AM  
**To:** DL - Council; Comp Plan Update  
**Cc:** planaheadsanjuans@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Update to the 2017-2018 SJC CP

Dear County Council, Planning Commission, Planners and others,

My name is Gregory Kramer. I have lived on Orcas Island for twelve years, since my wife and I purchased our house and 17 acres in a small quiet valley. I have grown to care about this island and the people who live here. The rural quality and affordability are threatened, it seems, by the rising NW economy and absentee or part time residents, some of whom care deeply about Orcas, some of whom care little. I'm concerned specifically about housing density in the rural areas. I fear there will be too little ground water available, lost visual beauty if houses populate every meadow and hillside, increased traffic and noise, and perhaps above all, a population that drifts away from the community ethic that is so strong here. If that is lost, it would be deeply sad for me, my friends, and, I believe, for our society—a vision of a wholesome community is one of our gifts to a fractured culture.

Thank you for your work. The meticulous care, the hours being put in, the the values espoused are all impressive.

Yours in this shared human experience,

Gregory Kramer  
Orcas