

Adam Zack

From: Sam Dillingham <dillingham.samantha@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 8:13 PM
To: Comp Plan Update
Subject: Comp Plan Vision from Sam Dillingham

While I recognize and applaud the effort in the current draft of the Vision Statement to more substantively include the need to protect the environment in a more substantial manner, I continue to be concerned by some of the language in the preamble.

There is no doubt that in certain forms privacy and personal freedom are indeed important concepts worth protecting. However, these concepts are dangerous ones if not cradled within and sound understanding of the interconnectedness of our lives with the greater community and more importantly of our absolute dependence upon our interconnectedness with the plants, animals, air, water, soil, rocks, fungi etc etc etc that surround us.

For too long the rhetoric of self determination has been manipulated to allow us the freedom to harm others and the environment in pursuit of our own happiness. The results can be seen everywhere... from extinct animals and plants, to rising sea levels, to the scars etched deep in our mountainsides from clear cuts.

With all this in mind, I propose the following amendment to the preamble:

We the people of San Juan County recognize our interdependence with each other and with our natural environment. We value our healthy island ecosystems, which are critical to the prosperity off our vibrant and diverse community. We value self-sufficiency along side interdependence, and honor the concepts of privacy and personal freedom while viewing our primary responsibility as being to the protection of our natural resources. As a community bound together by these shared values, we declare our commitment to work towards this vision of the San Juan Islands.

Thank you for considering my amendment.

-Sam Dillingham

343 Burt Rd.
Lopez Island