

From: alvaro and margarite sanchez [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, February 1, 2026 9:31 PM
To: Islands2050
Subject: Opposition to revised Trust Policy Statement draft

Dear Trust Council,

We are writing to express our concern about the proposed changes to the Trust Policy Statement. The language of the proposed changes is vague and open to interpretation by the trustees. The revised TPS opens the door for fast development in the Gulf Islands without safeguards to make sure that the new housing fills the needs of the community.

Unbridled development betrays the original intent of the creation of the Islands Trust and will benefit developers and investors but not the unhoused, low income families and service workers. The housing crisis is not exclusive to the Gulf Islands. It is naive to believe that we can solve the problem without considering the external forces shaping this crisis.

Creating housing without proper foresight and restrictions will encourage a rapid increase in population. Overpopulation in the Gulf Islands increases the demand on natural resources making it almost impossible to protect the environment and the character of the islands.

The original TPS has served us well. Thanks to it we still have healthy islands with natural beauty and a rural lifestyle. The construction of multiple non-market housing units in recent years proves that the existing TPS has enough flexibility to solve problems.

We strongly oppose the revised TPS as it stands and hope you take our concerns into consideration before making changes with long lasting consequences.

Thank you,

Margarite and Alvaro Sanchez
Salt Spring Island residents since 1989
Property owners since 2022