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I would like to express my alarm, and opposition, to the application of FAR and the redefinition of density in Salt Spring's OCP. Quite aside from the risk of overdevelopment and the lack of real discussion in the community about its implications for, as Frants Attorp notes, "drinking water, sewers, roads, shops, goods, doctors, hospital beds, ferry trips, policing, and all other services" it threatens the destruction of the fragile ecosystem the Islands Trust has a mandate to preserve. As I have pointed out in the past, this island has a carrying capacity that necessarily imposes limits on the above services, and which is never mentioned as a guiding principle. What has it been determined to be? Who has made that assessment? If specific limitations that limit growth to a realistic carrying capacity are not imposed, private capital will exploit opportunity and it won't be to the benefit of "workers" or the environment - or our island way of life.

Affordable housing projects are the preferred option, but if density is encouraged in the hope that the private sector will provide housing when it has been acknowledged that it will do little in that regard, then affordable housing needs will also grow as demand for services grows. A vicious circle.

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