

Letters: IOP needs balance between homeowners, short-term rentals

FROM OUR POST AND COURIER READERS

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There are more than 1,500 short-term rental properties on the Isle of Palms. File/Staff

FILE/STAFF

I cannot overstate my frustration and disappointment with Isle of Palms Mayor Philip Pounds and four Town Council members.

Despite more than sufficient time, support and input from the community, council members Blair Hahn, Rusty Streetman, Jimmy Ward and Kevin Popson appear inexplicably intent on getting it wrong.

As the only beach community in the greater Charleston area without any limitations on the number of short-term rental permits, IOP residents are made vulnerable to those who do not share our vision and commitment to remain first and always a balanced residential community.

Others are welcome and encouraged to visit and play on the IOP, but we must never allow the soul of our island to be compromised by excessive growth or disruption of the tenuous balance between homeowners and renters that defines the island character. Soon, there may be more than 40% of properties available for short-term rentals.

Mayor Pounds and the IOP Town Council should be embarrassed by their apparent willingness to sell out voting constituents, who are no longer apathetic and indifferent.

LESLIE KUTCHER

Isle of Palms