

## EDB Committee

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**From:** County Clerk  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 21, 2019 11:29 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Testimony for Item No EDB-76  
**Attachments:** Testimony 8.21.19.pdf

-----Original Message-----

From: Kristin Holmes <holmes.kmh@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2019 10:37 AM  
To: Shane M. Sinenci <Shane.Sinenci@mauicounty.us>; Alice L. Lee <Alice.Lee@mauicounty.us>; Keani N. Rawlins <Keani.Rawlins@mauicounty.us>; Kelly King <Kelly.King@mauicounty.us>; Tamara A. Paltin <Tamara.Paltin@mauicounty.us>; Mike J. Molina <Mike.Molina@mauicounty.us>; Tasha A. Kama <Tasha.Kama@mauicounty.us>; Riki Hokama <Riki.Hokama@mauicounty.us>; Yukilei Sugimura <Yukilei.Sugimura@mauicounty.us>; bf.committee@mauicounty.us; County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>  
Subject: Testimony for Item No EDB-76

Attached please find my testimony for Item EDB-76 for the council meeting tomorrow, August 22, 2019.

# HOLMES FAMILY LLC

1091 Kupulau Drive Kihei, HI 96753-9203  
phone: (808) 283-1212 email: holmes.kmh@gmail.com

August 21, 2019

Honorable Committee Chair Keani N.W. Rawlings-Fernandez Vice Chair T. Kelly King and  
County Council Members  
200 High Street  
Wailuku, HI 96793

**SUBJECT: Item NO.(EDB-76) for the Wailuku Civic Complex "A BILL FOR AN  
ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4858, BILL NO. 54 (2018), RELATING TO  
THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI  
ISSUANCE, SALE AND DELIVERY OF SAID BONDS (DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT-  
WAILUKU CIVIC COMPLEX)"**

Aloha Honorable Chair Keani N.W, Rawlings-Fernandez,  
Vice Chair Kelly T. King and Council Members  
and Members of the Maui County Council

I attended the County sponsored meeting held at 'Iao Theater Monday evening August 19th, where presentations provided the most up to the minute information about the project and construction slated to start in September. It felt so good to see all the hard work of many folks over many years coming together.

I was deeply distressed to receive news yesterday that a very last minute bill to consider defunding the parking structure is coming before the Council for a second time in six months. I am submitting this written testimony in opposition of proceeding with approval to defund the parking structure.

Planning is about determining current needs and looking into the future to be ahead of what is needed. The PLANNING department has spent hundreds of hours getting input from the community gathered over many years. Professional consultants hired by the County have done study after study, each reporting on the need for parking. Based on the findings from these consultants and input from the community, there are now visions, plans, commitments and contracts in place poised to launch the first phases of the Civic Complex.

**Clearly the need for parking is obvious considering that the discussion about the parking structure has continued for decades. Defunding the parking structure doesn't make the problem go away. The need will still be there. The longer it is put off, the more it will cost.**

Nearly \$11 Million in tax-payers money has been spent and decades of planning and approvals from Council members have been obtained. The bill for defunding the parking structure could destroy the hard work accomplished so far and funds invested to date. The negative domino effect on this action is disturbing.

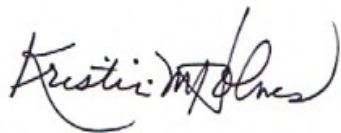
There are linked components to the funding for phases 1A & 1B that cannot be separated. Financial planning was carefully considered to save money wherever possible by planning the phases together. Efficient use of this money should not be ignored.

Bringing new vibrancy to Wailuku is vital to property owners, tenants, clients, businesses and residences. We are on the brink of something positive after years of hard work by so many people. The County cannot afford the negative impact of reversing the actions of previous Council decisions. Set backs will affect businesses and property owners for decades, many that have invested time and treasure to hold a vision of potential.

For so many years, Wailuku has been ignored as sprawl pushes businesses further away the civic heart of the island. Many want to capture and hold the essence of what Wailuku once was yet that character is slipping through the cracks. The Civic Hub Complex has the potential to become the anchor to shape what Wailuku will be for generations to come.

Preserving the money spent to date and building now are smart fiscal decisions that need to be made now.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristin Holmes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kristin Holmes

Representing:

Co-owner, Holmes Family LLC, corner of Church & Vineyard

Tenants:

Empanada Lady Restaurant  
Loft 145 Salon  
Maui Hotel & Lodging Association  
Swan Interiors, Kristin Holmes, Owner