

WIT.Committee

From: County Clerk
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 9:07 AM
To: WIT.Committee
Subject: FW: Haiku Town Hall needed

From: Jennifer Owen <jowen@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 12:13 PM
To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Haiku Town Hall needed

I am writing about the upcoming Council vote on the WUDP. I am distressed that instead of a Town Hall for Haiku/Paia residents, where there is a chance for real community dialogue, a “public hearing” on the same day of proposed vote (September 25) is the only chance being offered citizens.

Haiku-Paia citizens need an online “Town Hall” on the WUDP, before it has its first Council vote, since they are the area where the most water is planned to be developed for others.

Ha’iku Pa’ia residents need to be able to find out what is really planned and what is being done to provide water for those residents on the water meter list, and to protect Haiku streams, fisheries and family wells. Only a real dialogue answers these questions, not a three minute testimony.

Maui County promises of “future studies” to solve any impacts of county wells in Ha’iku is not enough. What happens if studies are not completed properly or are insufficient to evaluate the water situation in our area? Who fixes the problems that may arise with the studies? What happens to people in other areas who thought there would be more water?

The WUDP is mostly based on 2014 water use patterns. The new Maui may have very different water needs for small farms and residents growing food and less dependence on visitors. How can the WUDP talk about those trends?

I myself am a small farmer in Haiku, and am growing more now since the pandemic than I ever have before. So I am an example of recent changes in water needs and water use.

Please satisfy Maui citizens' needs for significant discussion of these issues in a Town Hall setting.

Mahalo,

Jennifer Owen

Haiku, HI