

AH Committee

From: Tara Miller <niobe55@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 02, 2019 3:55 PM
To: AH Committee
Subject: Makila Farms

AH.Committee:

Here I am, writing yet again to protect the beaches near where I live, as well as trying (praying) to prevent another thoughtless building project from being railroaded through. I'm beginning to feel battered, as well as bitter.

I use the term "thoughtless" because nowhere in the plans do I see thoughtful consideration for not only the environmental impact on the beaches just below the proposed sites, but the impact on all the homes already in Launiupoko and the surrounding neighborhoods that use ag water.

I volunteer for Hui O Ka Wai Ola (Association of The Living Waters), a community-based, quality-assured coastal monitoring program on Maui. The project was initiated in 2014 by the following partner organizations: The Nature Conservancy, Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, West Maui Ridge-to-Reef Initiative and University of Hawai'i College, with assistance from NOAA's Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale Sanctuary.

Mission: "to generate quality-assured coastal water quality data, and to provide this data to Hawaii Department of Health, other resource agencies, non-governmental organizations, researchers and the public."

Specific goals are: 1) to increase community capacity for long-term monitoring of water quality in Maui coastal waters; 2) to generate quality-assured reliable data that can be used to assess coastal water quality conditions and detect temporal trends that can augment Hawaii Department of Health-CWB beach monitoring program sampling; 3) thereby empowering community and government resource managers to take action to improve coastal water quality, benefiting the coral reef eco-system and people alike.

I care about Maui, about Maui coastal waters and the life living in these waters as well as the lives that use the waters and more development IS NOT a short-term, and it certainly isn't a long-term, viable plan.

West Maui is already over-developed. And building so close to beaches will have an immense, detrimental effect on the ecosystem, the waterfront and reefs. I'm flabbergasted development keeps being proposed when the dangers have been so well presented in recent past (recall the proposed Olawalu Town). I can only conclude the builders have no souls for anything but making money, with no regard for the long-term, disastrous environmental impacts.

And slapping "low-income" on the project is a shallow, heartless way to try to push their plans through. We have "low-income" housing that just opened next to Cannery Mall, near Baby Beach. How's that working out? Some pretty high (illegal) rentals there (I heard from a resident) not to mention the impact on Baby Beach.

Low-income housing is needed, but builders are taking advantage of this fact by slapping the term on their proposals in an attempt to push their plans through without being honest. How utterly heartless and selfish to try and use this to their advantage.

I live in Launiupoko. I have more than 51% of my property in fruit and flowering trees, vegetables and I recently re-did my entire property, installing new, low-flow irrigation valves and replanting large areas of grass in sweet potato, a plant that needs less water. I consistently replace those plants, vegetables, and trees that die when my ag water has been shut off, without warning, for five days or more periodically, to conserve. It is frustrating to live in an area where I am REQUIRED to carry 51% of my property needing ag water and not have enough ag water to go around. Doesn't sound legal to me to keep requiring, yet there not be enough water to go around and there is plenty of building still going on within Launiupoko. More building IS NOT the answer.

Others have written on the dangers from fire, lack of water, access, evacuation, etc., and we witnessed this in our area last August. We need planning that is concerned, first and foremost, with the environmental impact on the island and the surrounding waters-and the life within these waters. We need planning in our area that is concerned with the limitations ALREADY IN PLACE, with an eye towards long-term impacts.

Enough of these shallow, heartless proposals trying to appear that they are something they are not. ENOUGH!!! I SAY NO, NO, NO to more development!

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