

PSLU Committee

From: Karen Comcowich <kcomcowich@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 4:10 PM
To: PSLU Committee
Subject: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY PLAN REVIEW PROCESS (PSLU-6)

To the Planning and Sustainable Land Use Committee,

I am Karen Comcowich. I live in Lahaina, Hawaii and am on the CPAC for West Maui. I have been participating in the We Are West Maui meetings, both the community workshops and the alaka'i meetings. I am impressed with the ways the planning department has encouraged community involvement and created opportunities for more voices to be heard, both on-line and in-person.

Last week's "Community Design Workshops" (February 4-7) were particularly effective in soliciting participation. The west side was broken down into four sub-areas: Ukumehame, Lahaina, Ka'anapali, Kapalua. Each night the meeting focused on one sub-area and was held in that sub-area. This encouraged people to come and speak about the areas that are most important to them. For example, many residents of Honokohau came to the Kapalua meeting to express how important preservation of their valley is to them. The meetings were then broken down into small groups to discuss ideas. This allowed everyone to participate passionately. Surprisingly most participants stayed until the end because they wanted to hear what other groups had discussed. The feedback I have received about the "Community Design Workshops" has been very positive. Community members felt they got the chance to express their ideas and listen to other perspectives.

Thank you for your time,
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