

Hurricane Lane Response Efforts.
Schedule of Revolving/Special Funds for Fiscal Year 2019, by adding a proviso of \$3,000,000 under the Emergency Fund for emergency repairs to Pu'u Way in Haiku, Maui.

Aloha,

My name is Lani Galetto.

I am testifying today in favor of allocating additional emergency funds in order to repair the road at Pu'u way which was destroyed by Hurricane Lane.

In 2016 my husband Ezequiel and I, with the help of our family, purchased the lot at 387 Pu'u way. The home and the land were in a sad state of neglect due to the previous owner's health and financial problems. My husband and I put countless hours into restoring the property; fixing up the house, cutting back the overgrowth, landscaping and planting fruit trees. We had hoped that this investment would provide our children with financial security in the future, and considered it a step towards our eventual retirement. Now in the wake of hurricane Lane we are left without access to the property and the future is uncertain.

The weeks following the hurricane have been immensely challenging for our tenants, a family of seven, who have been stranded ever since the road was demolished. They waited out the storm for days without running water or electricity. They still do not have adequate phone or internet service, (which is essential for Clarissa who works from home). Their vehicles are still stuck on the property while they wait for the county to build a temporary access road.

If there was a medical emergency or a fire, responders would not be able to access the house with their emergency vehicles. In order to leave the premises our tenants use a borrowed car, which they leave parked on a completely different road on the other side of the hill. The only way to get to the car is either through a hole in the neighbor's hedge, or through the river.

Either way it's a struggle to hike through the mud and rain on slippery terrain, with twin babies in tow. They make this trek daily just to complete basic everyday tasks like getting their children to

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school, grocery shopping, and going to work. Every day has been stressful since the storm took the road.

We want nothing more than to help our tenants find a way out so that they can resume some normalcy to their lives. If they do manage to move out before the road is complete, they will be forced to leave behind their vehicles, furniture and many of their possessions. The house will be vacant and inaccessible and therefore vulnerable to theft and vandalism. We are essentially strapped without an access road. As landowners we have lost our ability to maintain our property, to rent it out, or even to sell it if we need to. We are afraid that the land will once again fall to ruin and neglect.

Furthermore the gapping chasm that was once the cul-de-sac at the end of Pu'u Way is now an enormous liability for the county. While 3 million dollars does seem like an enormous amount of money to repair such a relatively small section of road, it's nothing compared to the potential risk of injury, or loss of human life that could easily result if the road is neglected. As it is now, people are having to cross the river out of necessity, without even a basic footbridge or a path. The route is exposed to flooding, the rocks are slippery, the sides are muddy and steep, and there are jagged bits of metal exposed from the broken guard rails and culverts. It poses a hazard for the entire neighborhood. If someone hurts themselves the county will be held responsible and a lawsuit could mean more than 3 million dollars.

On behalf of our neighbors and our tenants, and as a concerned member of the Haiku community, I ask not only that you allocate the money, but that you prioritize this emergency situation and fix the damage at Pu'u Way as soon as humanly possible.

Mahalo for your consideration.

