

## BF Committee

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**From:** Martin Zorn <mzorn@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 27, 2018 7:20 PM  
**To:** BF Committee  
**Subject:** Emergency Removal of Dead Trees on Pi'iholo Road

Honorable Finance Committee Members:

I live at the 4 mile marker of Pi'iholo Road and drive past the grove of dead trees on a daily basis. Especially during wet and windy conditions I am concerned about the danger of driving on the road and worry about other drivers on the road especially school buses, postal workers, and police who have to travel the road on a daily basis. The infected and dead trees create a risk to life and safety of all who drive on the road.

Further with the increased incidence of falling trees we have lost power and internet numerous times this year. I often work from home and the repeated loss of power and internet negatively impacts my ability to communicate with my office and customers. On a personal note, I removed 18 trees from my property because of the potential threat from the expansion of these invasive beetles and did not want to accept the risk and danger of falling trees on my home. These trees were still healthy but after having them examined by an arborist I was told that it is just a matter of time before these beetles did damage to these trees as well. It was prudent risk management to remove these trees based on the increased risk that they now pose.

Given the increased risks posed by the dead trees the only prudent decision is to remove them. I recognize that the cost of removal is significant but given that one tree has already fallen on a vehicle traveling on the road and the constant risk to crews from MECO and MPD means the increased cost of removal is insignificant compared to the potential liability to the County and others if someone is severely injured or killed as a result of not taking action.

I pray that the Committee vote to approve the funding to reduce the risk that currently exists along this stretch of Pi'iholo Road.

Sincerely,

Martin and Nancy Zorn  
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Makawao