

PEA Committee

From: Yukilei Sugimura
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 1:24 PM
To: PEA Committee
Subject: FW: AgParkExtension
Attachments: AgParkExtension5.docx

-----Original Message-----

From: William Greenleaf <bgreenleaf.maui@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 14, 2018 9:57 PM
To: Yukilei Sugimura <Yukilei.Sugimura@mauicounty.us>
Cc: Kelly King <kelly@kellyking.org>; Elle Cochran <Elle.Cochran@mauicounty.us>; Alika A. Atay <Alika.Atay@mauicounty.us>; Donald S. Guzman <Donald.Guzman@mauicounty.us>; Mike White <Mike.White@mauicounty.us>; Stacy S. Crivello <Stacy.Crivello@mauicounty.us>; Rob Parsons <Robert.Parsons@co.maui.hi.us>
Subject: AgParkExtension

This attachment is my testimony which I will make in person in the morning... Thanking you for your service Aloha Bill Greenleaf

I support the acquisition of land to develop the Ag Park Extension with reservations.

Supporting the development of agriculture on Maui is of the utmost importance.

Agriculture is a dying industry. Aging farmers are not being replaced by the youth. The youth are interested in agriculture as a career but are certain they and the community are unsafe using poisons to grow food.

The future for agriculture on Maui needs a plan that includes a major training program. The Farm Apprentice Mentoring Program has 4 years of experience training young farmers to grow food by rebuilding soil fertility vs spraying chemical poisons. Growing without poisons is necessary as more neighbors challenge 'Right to Farm' laws when the farmers spray poison that has been revealed to be harmful in a California law decision.

We need Agriculture training that goes to the roots of agriculture...build soil fertility and the plants will thrive.

Regenerative Agriculture training is timely and will mean jobs for Hawaii youth. Many start up companies are making value added products from Hawaii agriculture. Reef safe sunscreen, fruit jewels, nutrient dense snacks, ferments and so on. The financial future of this sector could easily be counted in billions of dollars.

Maui is a powerful brand. Those interested in this sector need County and State help to launch. Support for this sector would create jobs on the land, jobs in production, jobs in advertising, jobs in legal, jobs in shipping and jobs in sales.

My reservations are:

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What provisions are being made to supply potable water at both Ag Parks to satisfy the provisions in the Food Safety Modernization Act?

Is the County willing to fence the land as a preventive measure to stop agriculture thievery?

Is the County willing to write an ordinance that would permit farmers to live on their land?

The County and State are spending \$3.5M to improve the pump in the reservoir. Will A&B have rights to use the water in the reservoir for areas other than the Ag Parks? Is there a written agreement providing the Ag Parks exclusive use of the water in the reservoir when in times of drought?

Why: A 50M gallon reservoir supply 3M gallons a day has at most 17 days of water at full use when a drought occurs. Droughts last longer than 3 weeks.

Is A&B required to remove chemical injection equipment on the land proposed for the Ag Park Extension?

In conclusion: I argue that going forward piecemeal will get us more of what we have, which is a struggling agriculture sector. I request that the Maui County Council place agriculture at a level of importance equal to tourism.

After all, you can't eat money.