



To: Climate Action & Resiliency Committee

June 15, 2020

Aloha CAR Chair King and Members,

The Ma'alaea Village Association (MVA), with over 150 individual and business members, commends this Council for creating this new, much needed committee to deal with Climate Change and the need for Resiliency for Maui County's future.

Being a coastal community, Ma'alaea Village is dealing first hand with Coastal Erosion. Several of our member condominium properties are currently working with the Planning Department on solutions to severe coastal erosion on their seaside properties. Mahalo for the \$175,000 appropriation for the Ma'alaea Coastal Erosion Study. This is the first step. A Ma'alaea Shoreline Erosion Steering Committee has been formed of the condominium properties and will be working closely with the Planning Department to facilitate the study.

In addition to Coastal Erosion, Ma'alaea Village has the major challenge of having only one access – Hauoli Street. Alternative access is needed in case of hurricanes or other acts of nature and wildfires that close the highway, preventing residents and visitors from returning home. MVA has asked the Police Department and Mahi Pono to help outline an evacuation route through the cane fields parallel to Hauoli St. and would appreciate Council's support.

Another factor relating to Sea Level Rise and Coastal Erosion is the fact that Ma'alaea Village relies on 23 individual wastewater treatment plants that use injection wells to handle their waste. The Ma'alaea community has pursued alternatives to our injection wells in the past and diligently for over a year. Individual properties and businesses, with Chair King's support, funded a Feasibility Study that showed a regional system was feasible but that hooking up to the new Waikapu Country Town was more cost effective. We have been assured by Mike Atherton that Ma'alaea would be able to participate with the new Waikapu Country Town private WWTR system. We also met with the Mayor several times, but are not included in the CIP budget detail for a new Central Maui wastewater treatment plant at Waikapu. Since there are no guarantees that the Waikapu Country Town option will be viable in the near future, it is important to have the option of participating in the County's new Central Maui plant if it proves to be more timely and cost effective.

We hope that this Council and the Mayor will include Ma'alaea in plans as they progress for the new Central Maui plant with construction by 2025. We need to keep all options open.

As you can see, Ma'alaea Village is faced with many challenges. Your support is appreciated.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Britton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lynn Britton,  
MVA President and Co-Founder