

Testimony for Maui County Council Meeting

South Maui Community Plan

July 3rd, 2025

Three-Minute Public Comment

Aloha, esteemed members of the County Council, county staff, and fellow residents. My name is Kay Anderson, representing Wailea808, and I am grateful for the opportunity to speak before you today.

Because of time restrictions I will only be addressing three items from the South Maui Community Plan.

The first two are located under **Section 2.2 Safe, healthy, livable communities for all.**

The first is under **Section 2.2.31 Prohibit new gated communities.** This restriction violates your Section heading to provide a Safe community for all. In addition, you will create a disparate impact within South Maui as existing gated communities have a higher level of safety as those communities developed in the future or those existing communities that want to add a gate and cannot because of this Policy. In addition, this may lead to unnecessary legal issues for the County in the future.

The second is under **Section 2.2.5 Support the creation of public campgrounds within the region.** This policy also promotes an unsafe community, which does not follow Section 2.2. South Maui is considered a desert and is basically a tinderbox just ripe for

fires. Also, you state “public campgrounds” so this implies that these would be county campgrounds?

Finally, the description under **Section 3.4 Areas of Change**, were written in broad and descriptive language until Honua’lua and Wailea Golf is described. Both descriptions are not accurate, and we oppose including Developers in the South Maui Community Plan for these reasons. As we all know Honua’lua changes each time the County Council meets to discuss this property. The write up for Wailea Golf is misleading.

The Golf courses have been in Wailea for over 40 years and building over 1,000 homes would violate your policy in **Section 2.5.4** “Protect dark skies, mauka and maukai public view corridors and scenic vistas including traditionally significant views to and from the shoreline.” And **Section 2.5.3** Identify, preserve, protect, and restore wahi kapuna (widely diffused) and significant historic properties in South Maui.

In addition, the changes include one remaining 18-hole golf course, one 18- hole 3 par golf course and a 6-hole 3 tee course. Instead of expanding open spaces, they have been substantially diminished, which violates **Section 2.5.3**. As far as water is concerned, Wailea Golf has eight wells that draw brackish water from the Kamaole aquifer, but they have extremely limited potable water for over 1,000 homes. Also, there is no mention of the resort Wailea Golf LLC is planning to build on their property. Transparency is critical. Wailea Golf is too early in the process for you to consider including them in the South Maui Community Plan. They need to go through the regular process every developer is required to do to obtain a

building permit. As you can see, through the Hanua'lua approval process there are many obstacles and challenges before the Developer can or will ever build out their project. That is why we believe it is in the best interest of the County Council to remove all mention of specific Developers for this plan and just write in general language.

In closing, I thank you for your attention and service, and I remain hopeful that, together, we can build a stronger, safer, and more connected community for all who call South Maui County home.

Mahalo,

Kay Andeson

Vice President

Wailea808