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441 Ala Makani Place
Kahului, Maui, HI 96732-3507
 Phone: 808-243-8585 ~ Fax: 808-243-8585
 Dave DeLeon, Government Affairs Director
 Cell: 808-281-3269
 E-mail: GAD@RAMaui.com
 www.RAMaui.com

Aloha Chair and Councilmembers,

My name is Lawrence Carnicelli and I am here testifying on behalf of the REALTORS Association of Maui and their 1500 families and affiliates.

We would like to go on the record, again, as supporting the County's purchase of the four lots totaling 267 acres in Kuiaha, Hamakualoa. We support such a purchase as long as there is a Trust in place to take over management and liability of the land and there is a definite plan of action to protect and steward the land moving forward.

We understand that this is a large expense to the County but feel as though that some lands need to be protected and saved for future generations. This is one of those properties. It has historical significance. It is culturally sensitive. It has public use. And it is infamous.

We now have a one-time chance to save this property as once it has gone to development we will never be able to do what we have the chance to do now.

We are in support of the current use model being proposed by the Public Trust. However, this property has the possibility of becoming a huge liability for the County. So, we would also like to see the plan include the transition from purchase to implementation of the use model proposed.

We are not in support of buying this property solely to land bank it and have it go fallow. We feel as though there is a strong need to have a plan in place to care for this land. We feel as though it would do the public a disservice if we let squatters in, cars to be junked, trash to be dumped or make it a place of refuge for the unsavory.

With that said I want to reiterate that as long as there is a Trust in place with a clear plan to care for the land the REALTORS Association of Maui is in support of the County buying all 267 acres along the Hamakualoa Coast.

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