

AH Committee

From: Tom Blackburn-Rodriguez <tominmaui@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2019 7:37 AM
To: AH Committee
Subject: Makila Farm--Support Testimony, AH Committee 9-4-19 Meeting
Attachments: TBR Testimony 9-4-19.docx

Tom Blackburn-Rodriguez

Testifying on Independent Development of Makila Farms, Lahaina

September 4, 2019

Affordable Housing Committee

Madam Chair, members of the affordable housing committee. My name is Tom Blackburn-Rodriguez, I live in Kihei and I am testifying on behalf of Go Maui, Inc. a non-profit organization focused on housing, jobs and water issues affecting Maui County. For more information please visit our website at GoMauiInc.org.

Go Maui is in strong support of the Makila Farms project as proposed by Mr. Greg Brown. While we believe there may be adjustments to the projects agricultural potential, it remains a rare affordable housing proposal.

FIRST. The 19 workforce homes on 2-acre lots would be offered to households who are earning between 50-100 percent of the area median income. The workforce homes would be built first, and the 15 market priced homes would be sold over a number of years.

SECOND. Workforce homes would be built with specifications requested by the household. By that, I mean if all a young couple needed was a one bedroom-one bath as a starter home, then that is what would be built with the potential for add-ons included in the structure.

At a 4 percent interest rate that home could potentially sell for \$161,700.

THIRD. Homes will have a 30-years deed restriction specifying any resale must be done to a qualifying household keeping the home in the affordable housing pool.

FOURTH. Five individual roads access the project and provide for a significant exit capacity in event of an emergency.

FIFTH. No water will come from the streams. The project's water needs will be served by a well that it will drill and freely dedicate to the homeowners association, and also by a private PUC regulated water company on the westside.

Thank you for the work of your committee. You are at the center of Maui's greatest need. The eye of the storm, if you will and it will not go away. We support you and we believe you will make the best decision for the community.

Go Maui respectfully asks for your support of the Makila Farms housing project.

Thank you.

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