

EDB Committee

From: Maile Atay <maileaatay@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 3:31 PM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Wailuku town

Aloha e Maui County Council,

My family moved to Wailuku in 1975. I grew up in a house on Pu'uone Hill, attended St. Anthony Schools, and worked most of my adult life in Wailuku Schools (Wailuku Elementary, Baldwin High School, Hawaii Tech Academy) as a school counselor. Our family of four lives in Waihe'e, where we plan to stay.

The small town charm is what draws us to Wailuku on the weekends and holidays. We love to stroll through the small shops and dine at the eateries when there is parking available, forget weekdays. As it is now, you can't get more than 2 hour parking unless you park before 7:45am.

I strongly oppose the building of the Wailuku Civic Complex for several reasons. Although this project has been in the works for many years, the public has only recently (in the past two years) been in the loop. My understanding is that in the end some 80 parking stalls will be added but more businesses will be born of the monstrosity (meeting rooms, storefronts, office spaces, and eateries). All of which will have a need for parking for employees. We, the public, gain nothing!

Yes, infrastructure repairs (aka parking) is sorely needed, but at the expense of many locals via paid parking and the gain of a small minority of businesses that have already jumped in on the land grab around the area. Follow the tax map and see who is buying up and down Vineyard in the last few years, knowing the old County Council would allow it through with little oversight. You, our current County Council, can do the right thing by slimming down or stopping this project immediately.

Why do we choose to spend 82 million dollars on this fluff when we have a desperate need for affordable housing and addressing homelessness?

We have empty warehouses in Kahului while A&B continues its business of paving over paradise in Pu'unene. All due to the old guard allowing money to be spent with little oversight and a hand shake.

For shame, Maui, let's take Maui back and care of our own, the local working class!

It's all about timing, and the time to build more is not now.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Maile Arensdorf Atay