

## EACP Committee

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**From:** Barbara Barry <begoniabarry@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2020 10:13 PM  
**To:** EACP Committee; GET Committee; Alice L. Lee; Keani N. Rawlins; Tasha A. Kama; Riki Hokama; Kelly King; Mike J. Molina; Tamara A. Paltin; Shane M. Sinenci; Yukilei Sugimura  
**Subject:** Dept of Agriculture in Maui County

Aloha to all,

Mahalo to all of you for your consideration about this important topic today.

With the current pandemic, it is a very timely issue on food security, community resilience, economic diversity and career development.

I strongly support this effort as we have the political will and islandwide need to accomplish this new, bold and very valuable vision for Maui County.

We can create this vision with funding, organization and leadership.

We are in a very unique position to promote all types of agricultural industries in Maui County while securing our local food source and caring for the 'Aina. We can inspire and promote a new reality to share with people who come to visit. There is so much here that is brilliant. Please support forming this Department.

As a member of the Kula Agricultural Park, I support this because there must be funding and strong direction to accomplish these goals. The current system needs support and direction. We have acres of land that was purchased for a second Ag park over a year and a half ago. It's still nowhere near having any farming take place on it.

We must do better. People are waiting for this farmland to become available. There's not even a waiting list being taken and the current park doesn't have availability. There is no farmland supported by the County exclusively for organic growers to avoid pesticide contamination and drift. Organic produce and flowers are in big demand. Ask Costco.

We also must address the need for Regenerative farming since it is our future. The soil must be healed and nurtured to get nutritious quality food. We must understand that chemical farming is not the way forward since it completely relies on fossil fuels, which promotes climate change as well as water pollution. Everything we spray on the plants and put in the soil, land in our oceans. It affects our cultural practitioners, sea life and reef health. The tumors on our turtles are a direct result of what goes into our coastal waters. We need to do better by our pollinators as well.

This is for our future but we need to start now.

Mahalo to all the people who have worked so hard on this effort. The time is now.

Let's do it.

Sincerely,

Ms. Barbara Barry

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