

EACP Committee

From: Timothy lara <timlara81@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 04, 2019 9:08 AM
To: EACP Committee
Subject: Re: Opposition to EACP -27

Sorry. There is a typo in the past sentence of second paragraph. It should read:

However it is my opinion that banning commercial activity at Hanakaoo is NOT the best solution in this case

On Tue, Jun 4, 2019 at 3:15 PM Timothy lara <timlara81@gmail.com> wrote:

Aloha EACP Members,

Tourism is not inherently good or bad, it's how it is managed that largely affects the outcome.

I think everyone acknowledges that we are beyond the tipping point when it comes to tourism on Maui. We are past the point of healthy resident sentiment towards the visitor industry. We desperately need to find solutions. However it is my opinion that banning commercial activity at Hanakaoo is the best solution in this case.

Years ago, CORA was revamped under Mayor Tavares. A massive study was completed to determine which beach parks should permit, which commercial activities. Limits were set for activities at those parks. In some parks, commercial activity was restricted all together. This was a well thought out and studied process. It is not a perfect system, in fact it needs to be completely overhauled again. I don't think it is responsible to start changing parts of the CORA system without researching and fully understanding what unforeseen consequences could arise. Limiting or banning commercial activity at one location, simply pushes it to another location and potentially creates over use there. That is why the CORA permits system spread permits out over several beach parks.

To be clear, i do operate commercial activities. I also paddle Outrigger canoe competitively. I DO NOT do either from Hanakaoo Beach Park regularly. I am not familiar with the issues which have arisen between commercial operators and the canoe clubs, i have only heard brief accounts. I am however hopeful that through communication a framework can be found which would allow peaceful eco-existence between the two. If there are commercial operators who are behaving irresponsibly and not being a good steward of our public parks, then they should be dealt with by the parks department and perhaps lose their permits. However i think it's a bad precedent to ban an activity based off the actions of a few, especially without seeking alternative solutions first.

Lastly, hanakaoo is a large beach with ample parking. It is a relatively safe beach most of the year. There really aren't alternative county beach parks in west maui in which commercial activity can operate in the fashion it does from hanakaoo. The same is true for the canoe clubs. Again, i am hopeful that a middle ground solution can be found.

Sorry for any typos, I'm working off my phone while traveling internationally. Otherwise i would have came in person.

-Tim Lara
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