

AH Committee

From: Shauna Buckner <sbuck315@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 02, 2019 8:38 AM
To: AH Committee
Subject: Testimony re: AH-1(1), AH-1(2), AH-27 and AH-28

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Aloha Affordable Housing Committee Chair and Members,

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in regard to AH-1(1), AH-1(2), AH-27 (CC19-250) and AH-28 (CC19-249) - thank you as well as for your many thoughtful questions at the last committee meeting. It is clear that you are taking these proposals and all of the testimony for and against very seriously. I can't imagine the number of hours/days you have spent reading all of the materials provided as well as the oral and written testimony. As a full-time Maui resident that loves this island, culture and people, I thank you for that tremendously.

I am not Hawaiian, but my heart is here, my husband was born on Oahu, and I am passionate about protecting Maui, knowing that the land I live on in Launiupoko is sacred. And, I understand that even the farm I live on and farm on is not land that the Hawaiians wanted to have developed in any way. That was before I was here, but none the less, I respect that I have benefited from that prior development to make this agricultural land. I can't change the past, but I can try to do the right thing now - which means I must speak up.

That said, I need to voice my strong opposition to these resolutions/proposals. While you all asked very important questions at the last meetings, I don't think all of the answers you received were full disclosure or transparent on the side of the developers and some of the other parties provided, such as from the representatives from LIC, the archaeologist, and so on.

I've already provided oral and written testimony providing my point of view in opposition to these proposals, indicating issues on multiple fronts - WATER (don't let them fool you that it is being worked out), there isn't the infrastructure needed on multiple fronts (go where you can connect to county for urban developments), don't circumvent the county planning process that clearly intends to keep this ag land, let's not forget the environmental impacts...the list goes on.

A few comments from the last meeting:

- 1 acre lots for ag land are a joke. How much ag is that really going to be on gentlemen estates of that size? Is there a limit on house size?

- Cul de sacs....how are fire trucks going to fit...we heard they won't. We almost lost our home in the fire last year and there have been multiple fires since, so it's not if but when. Will parking on the street be restricted/off limits? Buses and emergency vehicles won't be able to service. It sounds like they are taking the 'cheap route' in how they want to build out the neighborhood by not having roads that connect.

- What about using land that can be connected to county services? Wainee? I understand there is an effort to look at county land, per a letter I read that Council Member Molina wrote in the paper, so how about that?

- This 'sewer' solution that they are proposing...how much do we know about that? where else has this been used? what about environmental risks?

- Getting in/out of the neighborhood is already restricted to Kai Hele Ku in terms of proper roadway. What about in an emergency when we all need to get out? There are also very limited ways in/out of the proposed development.

- Again, water. They are full of \$%it. We have very significant issues now, and they can say all they want about it being ok and solvable...so why did we get letters up to over a year ago and recently saying to cut back. And, no, we aren't one of the people that take advantage of the ag water by watering a yard or other non-ag watering. I understand some people take advantage of it but not all do and that shouldn't be a reason to go ahead with these projects...that must be solved otherwise, just like the issue with illegal short term rentals.

I greatly appreciate that you have a very difficult job and decisions to make all of the time, including with these proposals, but these greedy, sneaky developers shouldn't be able to get away with slipping these proposals through a fast-track process for affordable housing when we all know what they are really trying to do...just maximize their financial returns. The land should be kept as zoned and homes/farms put in place as already acceptable on those lands (while also LIC solving the water issue).

Mahalo for your consideration,

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