

AH Committee

From: Bob Sternthall <mauibob@hawaiiantel.net>
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2019 8:02 AM
To: AH Committee
Subject: Makila Farms Development

Dear Madame Chair and committee members, Thank you for the work that you do on behalf of your constituents.

I am writing to you on behalf of my wife and myself. We urge you to vote to disapprove the Makila Farms Project.

First of all, I would like to commend Greg Brown for the steps that he has taken to address infrastructure issues from his side of the development. However, larger infrastructure issues off the community as a whole still exist. Supporters of the project state that traffic will be reduced. In reality, the small number of dwellings in this project will not really effect the traffic problems on the Lahaina bypass and Honoapiʻilani highway. Also, these residents will continue to shop in Kahului as do most West Maui residents.

The steps that Greg has taken for fire protection are good, but the project is still surrounded by very dry open space with highly combustible material. If development is allowed to continue to the south of Lahaina, there should be a new fire station built to better serve this area. Some insurance companies refuse to insure dwellings in Launiupoko and Makila because the distance to the existing fire station is too far away. Evacuation routes are also a continuing issue.

We also feel that there should be a moratorium on multiple housing projects until the updated West Maui community plan is approved.

There is no argument about community support for workforce/affordable housing. We feel that developers should not be exempt from the permitting process under HRS 201H 38. They should be under the same county and state scrutiny that applies to individual homeowners, thus giving all citizens equal protection under the law.

Finally, if Greg Brown is as concerned about affordable housing as he states, he should strive to build 100% workforce/affordable projects and refrain from building large homes that contribute to the high housing costs in Launiupoko and Makila.

Thank you for your attention to the points of this written testimony and for voting to disapprove the Makila Farms project.

Respectfully,

Robert and Cassandra Sternthall
Lahaina

Sent from my iPhone