

Water and Infrastructure Committee (2023-2025) on 2024-08-22 9:00 AM

Meeting Time: 08-22-24 09:00

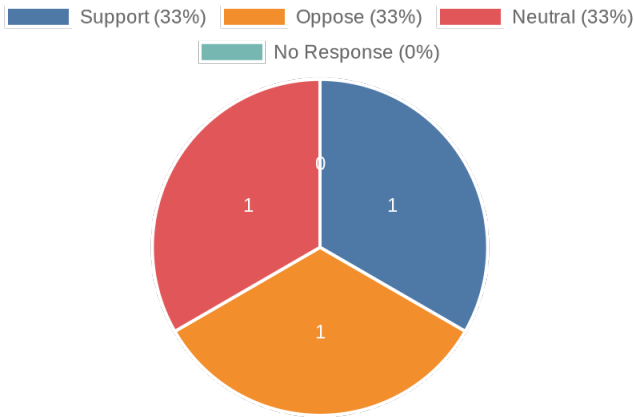
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Water and Infrastructure Committee (2023-2025) on 2024-08-22 9:00 AM	08-22-24 09:00	2	3	1	1	1

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



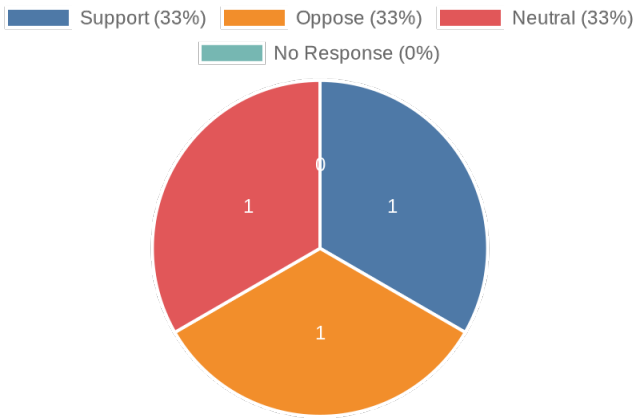
Water and Infrastructure Committee (2023-2025) on 2024-08-22 9:00 AM
08-22-24 09:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
WAI-27 Bill 110 (2024) BILL 110 (2024), AMENDING SECTION 16.25.201, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC STREETS (WAI-27))	3	1	1	1

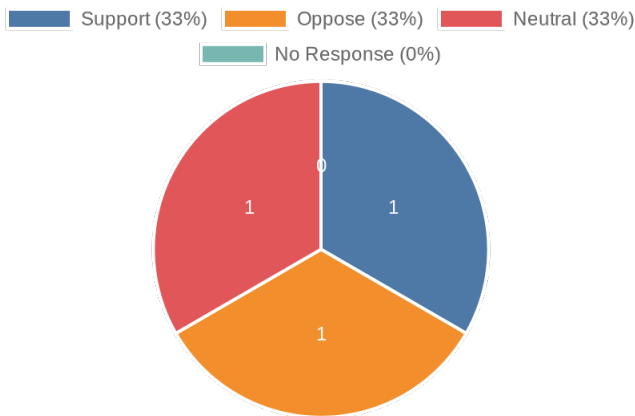
Sentiments for All Agenda Items

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Overall Sentiment



Pamela Tumpap

Location:

Submitted At: 8:57am 08-22-24

Please see attached testimony.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:40pm 08-20-24

Aloha Council,

While I appreciate the intent to help Lahaina be rebuilt, the potential impacts of Bill 110 would be bad for Lahaina and the greater Maui community. I oppose Bill 110 as written because it discounts and expedites rebuilding for current owners at the expense of future improvements that would better serve Lahaina and will end up as an expense for taxpayers County Wide.

We want a rebuilt Lahaina to be an amazing place to live and a better place to visit. In recent years Lahaina has been lacking pedestrian infrastructure and trees for shade and cooling. We have the opportunity to make the pedestrian improvements including wider ADA accessible sidewalks, with space for trees and undergrounding of utilities while Lahaina is being rebuilt. Commercial property owners will benefit from these improvements because it will make the commercial areas more attractive to customers. If expediting the commercial rebuild is desired, plan for the improvements that are necessary so that subdivisions of lots and improvements can be implemented in a cohesive way.

Please oppose Bill 110.

Mahalo for your time,

Karen Comcowich,

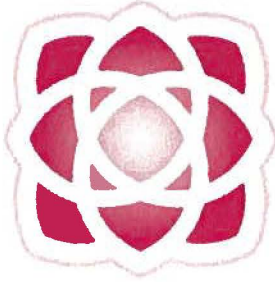
Lahaina, HI

Jonathan Helton

Location:

Submitted At: 6:44am 08-19-24

Please see attached



MAUI

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VOICE OF BUSINESS

Maui County Council
Water and Infrastructure Committee
Tom Cook, Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee

August 22, 2024

COMMENTS on WAI-27 – BILL 110 (2024), AMENDING SECTION 16.25.201, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC STREETS

Aloha Chair Cook, Vice Chair Sugimura and members of the committee,

The Maui Chamber of Commerce appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed Bill 110.

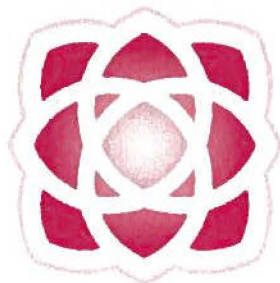
We recognize that rebuilding homes destroyed by the wildfires will be significantly more expensive than anticipated for many affected residents. We understand that these individuals are trying to manage their insurance funds carefully as they plan to rebuild. We are grateful for the County's efforts to alleviate the financial burden on property owners, especially since these costs arose from unforeseen and tragic circumstances. We support the intent to reduce costs for our West Maui families as they navigate the rebuilding process.

However, we note that those affected by the wildfires are facing difficult decisions daily, such as whether to stay in the area or move elsewhere, and how or whether to rebuild their homes. These are incredibly challenging choices.

Our primary concern is the necessity of establishing a comprehensive plan before rebuilding begins, particularly in the historic areas. This plan should include an overall roadway and drainage strategy, with safe evacuation routes as a priority. We have received feedback from many residents that the plantation roads in these areas are too narrow by modern standards. Therefore, it is crucial to identify which roads need to be widened, assess the impact on parcels and the rebuilding of homes, and determine how these issues will be addressed.

We must avoid rebuilding neighborhoods with the same substandard and disorganized layouts that contributed to the severity of the current situation. Both the County and property owners need clarity on which land will be required to create safe evacuation routes. This information should be available before any rebuilding occurs, so property owners are not caught off guard by the County's need to acquire portions of their property for road widening.

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.



MAUI

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Water and Infrastructure Committee
August 22, 2024
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We also suggest that the ordinance's effective date be changed to "upon approval," as it seems that anyone currently rebuilding is already exempt from road improvement requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our testimony on this matter.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.

Aug. 22, 2024, 9 a.m.
Council Chamber, Kalana O Maui Building

To: Maui County Council
Tom Cook, Chair
Yuki Lei Sugimura, Vice-Chair

From: Jonathan Helton, Policy Researcher
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii

RE: Bill 110 — A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 16.25.201, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC STREETS

Aloha Chair Cook, Vice-Chair Sugimura and other members of the Council,

The Grassroot Institute of Hawaii **supports** [Bill 110 \(2024\)](#), which would exempt Lahaina and Kula property owners whose homes or businesses were damaged or destroyed by the Aug. 8, 2023, wildfires from normal street-improvement requirements.

Typically, Maui property owners must pay for improvements to public streets that are adjacent to their properties whenever they remodel their existing buildings or build new commercial or residential structures and the value of the work done to the structure exceeds 50% of its value. Such improvements can include repaving roads, adding sidewalks or placing utilities underground.¹

Because many of the owners in Lahaina and Kula are faced with the need to completely rebuild, waiving this requirement would help such residents afford to rebuild their homes or businesses.

The Grassroot Institute of Hawaii discusses other strategies to assist in Lahaina's rebuilding in our recent memo, "[Six ways to speed up the recovery and rebuilding of Lahaina](#)," which you can access on our website.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Jonathan Helton
Policy Researcher
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii

¹ Maui County Code, [16.25.201 - Applicability and Scope](#), accessed July 15, 2024.