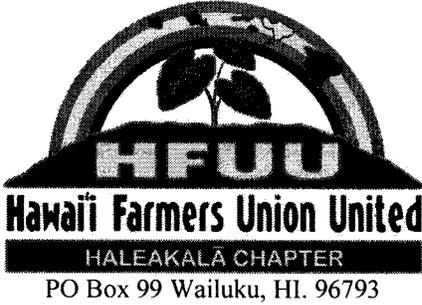


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August 15, 2016

HFUU Haleakala  
Board of  
Directors

**Testimony in support of County Communication 16-147**

Aloha Chair Hokama, Vice Chair White, and honorable Committee members,

Simon Russell  
*President*

HFUU Haleakala Chapter and our 270 current dues paying members in good standing strongly support the acquisition of these lands at Pe'ahi in Hamakualoa.

Phyllis Robinson  
*Vice-President*

We are collaborating with the Mālama Hāmakua, a 501c-3 organization involved in the planning process for the region. We are a voice for agriculture in that organization.

Jenny Pell  
*Secretary*

We respectfully would like to point out some suggestions we have:

Melissa Jenks-Olivit  
*Treasurer*

We feel that the County of Maui must address the significant hohomeless population in the area, and the fact that some of these individuals present a near term security challenge to the concept of building infrastructure that will serve Maui in the long term.

Tara Grace  
*Director*

Mayor Arakawa is interested in Maui County creating a USDA Certified Organic Agriculture park on part of these lands. We are in support of that concept. We are working with him on this idea.

John Dobovan  
*Director*

Housing farmers or security personnel where they can prevent theft and crop damage.

Robert Ward  
*Director*

A regional composting facility in the area will support the farming community and also hedge against the spread of invasive species through green waste to other parts of Maui.

Susan Campbell  
*Director*

A food aggregation, processing and distribution facility (food hub) will be necessary for the region to address food safety issues. There will need to be potable water and abundant electricity at this "Food Hub".

We look forward to working with the County of Maui to grow agriculture in the region, and support agricultural enterprise with our membership and with our organization.

HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED - Haleakala Chapter

Simon Russell  
President

*The Hawaii Farmers Union United and its Chapters is a nonprofit corporation formed under Hawaii law. It advocates for the sovereign right of farmers ranchers and fishes to create and sustain vibrant and prosperous agricultural communities for the benefit of all Hawaii through cooperation, education and legislation.*

RECEIVED AT BF MEETING ON AUG 16 2016