

IT Committee

From: Timothy Wolfe <wolfemanmaui@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 10, 2021 4:55 PM
To: IT Committee
Subject: Update on HCA Traffic Safety Requests
Attachments: HCA 4 Way Stats Update Final.pdf

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Aloha,

The Board of Directors of the HCA approved this draft of the attached letter on October 6th during a zoom meeting of the directors.

Thank you for adding this testimony to your records regarding this matter, IT-35.

Mahalo,

Tim Wolfe

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6 October 2021

Council Member Mike Molina
Maui County Council
Infrastructure & Transportation Committee

Aloha CM Molina,

Thank you for the attention that you, your Executive Assistant Ana Lillis, and the Council's Infrastructure and Transportation Committee have devoted to safety issues regarding the 4 way intersection in the center of Ha'iku Town. We support adding safety measures that will benefit pedestrians, vehicle drivers, and local business operators in our community. Please accept this letter as a statement of our current concerns regarding these important safety matters.

At this time we strongly support the addition of "No Parking" signs as soon as possible on the western portion of the shoulder of Ha'iku Road in front of Nuka Restaurant. We believe that this will improve the sight lines for both pedestrians and drivers as they approach the 4 way intersection that presently does not have an installed stop sign on Haiku Road. The safety of citizens and schoolchildren using the crosswalk at this location, and for drivers turning out of the Aloha Aina Center parking lot, will be much improved. There is support both in the community and also from the owner of Nuka for this improvement.

An additional improvement would be to add shallow surface ribs to the shoulder of H'aiku Road that is currently marked with painted lines as a "no parking area" makai of the crosswalk. We suggest that the same treatment be applied to the painted "no parking" crosshatch in front of the Ha'iku Post Office, with "no parking here to corner" signage.

We also suggest that the addition of small "Three Way Stop" signs be added below the three stop signs at this location. These would be similar to the small "All Way" signs that were added to signs on Ha'iku Road at the intersection with Kauhikoa Road some years ago. They show motorists that this intersection now has "All Way" stop signs. Witnesses have reported that traffic coming down Kokomo Road sometimes fails to observe the stop sign at the corner with Ha'iku Road, in spite of a warning sign and speed humps before the corner. A new "3 Way Stop" warning added to the stop sign at the Kokomo corner could improve safety here.

We plan to work with the Department of Public Works for these improvements, and to request that a traffic survey be conducted at this intersection. We will also continue our research with the Maui Police Department to learn more about the extent of the injuries listed in the traffic citation history at this corner over the past decade. While we know that some 85 citations have been issued since 2010, only 4 indicate that an injury occurred. We hope to learn the nature and extent of those injuries at this intersection with our ongoing research into those 4 accident reports.

At this time we do not support the addition of speed humps or rumble strips on Ha'iku Road as it approaches this corner from the makai side. While we understand that the addition of a 4th stop sign at this corner may be desirable in the future, an examination of the traffic citation history of this intersection performed at our request by the MPD does not fully support that necessity today. In addition, there is also some written opposition from the public based on the historical use of Ha'iku Road that mitigates against the addition of another stop sign at this time.

Thank you for your interest in this important safety concern in our town. We will keep you and the Infrastructure and Transportation Committee of the Council informed as we complete more of our research.

Sincerely,

Tim Wolfe, Treasurer, and the Board of the HCA