

BF Committee

From: Teri Gorman <terifgorman@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2018 4:11 PM
To: BF Committee; County Clerk
Subject: Testimony in Support of CR 18-210, December 11, 2108
Attachments: Wailuku Civic Complex Support MNHCoC.pdf

Teri Freitas Gorman
terifgorman@icloud.com

808.298.5071

"E holo i ka pono" --Do the right thing.



December 11, 2018

Council Chair Mike White
Members of the Maui County Council
Kalani o Maui
200 High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF CR 18-210

Aloha e Chair White and Councilmembers:

On behalf of the Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, it is my pleasure to testify in support of the Wailuku Civic Complex. Our mission as a Chamber is to promote and sustain our Hawaiian Culture, nurturing a strong community of Hawaiian Values and to enhance opportunities for success in business and education.

Board of Directors

Teri Freitas Gorman
President

Frank DeRego, Jr.
Vice President

Doreen Pua Canto
Past President

Shirley Kaiahua Blackburn
Treasurer

Sharron Joseph
Secretary

Ryan MacLaughlin

Paul Mancini

Kaleo Padilla

Kai Pelayo

John "Hau'oli" Tomoso

Cory Vicens

Mercer "Chubby" Vicens

Wayne Wong

We are quite familiar with the work that has been done by Ramsay Taum of PBR Hawai'i to ensure that Hawaiian cultural sensibilities have been incorporated into the Wailuku Civic Complex. Although Ramsay is not from Maui, we are pleased with his community engagement, cultural expertise and earnest consultation with area kūpuna and kama'āina. We feel confident that Wailuku's heritage will be properly expressed in this much-needed civic complex.

Our members have told us that there is growing interest among local small businesses to redevelop and reinvest in Wailuku. This is important because we know that millennial travelers prefer authentic, unique, home-grown experiences over the homogenized experiences offered by national chains and franchises. By increasing the appropriation for the Complex, the project can move forward, enabling small businesses to plan and participate in the revitalization of Wailuku town. We believe this project will benefit the surrounding communities of Maui Lani, Waikapū, Pi'ihana, Waihee, and Waiehu areas because the Wailuku Civic Complex is a keystone component of a larger regional improvement initiative.

With the proper cultural framework, we believe the Wailuku Civic Complex has the potential for serving as a much-needed gathering place and source of cultural pride for the entire community of Maui. We urge the Council to support the forward progress of the Wailuku Civic Complex.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Teri Freitas Gorman".

Teri Freitas Gorman
President