

BF Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 1:17 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: FW: Waiehu Municipal Golf Course - Kahuku Municipal Golf Course - Courses operated by the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Enterprise Services, Golf Course Division
Attachments: Star Advertiser - Kahuku Golf Course.pdf

From: Clif Hasegawa [mailto:clifhasegawa@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 12:18 PM

To: Mayor Alan Arakawa <alan.arakawa@mauicounty.gov>; Mayors.Office@co.maui.hi.us; herman.andaya@mauicounty.gov; "Grace Ishii Executive to Mayor Alan Arakawa" <Grace.Ishii@co.maui.hi.us>; "Managing Director Keith Regan" <md.office@mauicounty.gov>; Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>; County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>; Mike White <Mike.White@mauicounty.us>; Robert Carroll <Robert.Carroll@mauicounty.us>; Stacy S. Crivello <Stacy.Crivello@mauicounty.us>; Alika A. Atay <Alika.Atay@mauicounty.us>; Elle Cochran <Elle.Cochran@mauicounty.us>; Donald S. Guzman <Donald.Guzman@mauicounty.us>; Kelly King <Kelly.King@mauicounty.us>; Riki Hokama <Riki.Hokama@mauicounty.us>; Yukilei Sugimura <Yukilei.Sugimura@mauicounty.us>

Cc: mayor@honolulu.gov; citygolf@honolulu.gov; Tommy Russo <tommy@mauitime.com>; "Anthony Pignataro" <anthony@mauitime.com>; "Joe Bradley" <jbradley@mauinews.com>; "Lee Imada" <leeimada@mauinews.com>; Maui Tomorrow <Webmaster@maui-tomorrow.org>; Maui Causes <info@maucauses.org>; Rodney Yap <rodney@mauinow.com>; Wendy Osher <wendy@mauinow.com>; Debra Lordan <debra.lordan@gmail.com>; editor@mauinow.com; artrego@yahoo.com

Subject: Re: Waiehu Municipal Golf Course - Kahuku Municipal Golf Course - Courses operated by the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Enterprise Services, Golf Course Division

On Fri, Mar 24, 2017 at 12:13 PM, Clif Hasegawa <clifhasegawa@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor Arakawa, Managing Director Regan, Council Chair White, Council Member Hokama and Members of the Maui County Council,

The news article on Kahuku Golf Course is attached for your convenience.

Thank you very much

Aloha

Respectfully,



Clifton M. Hasegawa

President and CEO
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Clif Hasegawa** <clifhasegawa@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Mar 24, 2017 at 5:06 AM

Subject: Waiehu Municipal Golf Course - Kahuku Municipal Golf Course - Courses operated by the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Enterprise Services, Golf Course Division

To: Mayor Alan Arakawa <alan.arakawa@mauicounty.gov>, Mayors.Office@co.maui.hi.us, herman.andaya@mauicounty.gov, "Grace Ishii Executive to Mayor Alan Arakawa"

<Grace.Ishii@co.maui.hi.us>, "Managing Director Keith Regan" <md.office@mauicounty.gov>, county.council@mauicounty.us, county.clerk@mauicounty.us, "Council Chair Mike White"

<Mike.White@mauicounty.us>, "Council Vice-Chair Robert Carroll" <Robert.Carroll@mauicounty.us>, "Presiding Officer Pro Tempore Stacy Crivello" <Stacy.Crivello@mauicounty.us>, "Councilmember Alika Atay" <Alika.Atay@mauicounty.us>, "Councilmember Elle Cochran" <Elle.Cochran@mauicounty.us>, "Councilmember Don Guzman" <Don.Guzman@mauicounty.us>, "Councilmember Kelly King" <Kelly.King@mauicounty.us>, "Councilmember Riki Hokama" <Riki.Hokama@mauicounty.us>, "Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura" <Yukilei.Sugimura@mauicounty.us>

Cc: "mayor@honolulu.gov" <mayor@honolulu.gov>, citygolf@honolulu.gov, Tommy Russo <tommy@mauitime.com>, "Anthony Pignataro" <anthony@mauitime.com>, "Joe Bradley" <jbradley@mauinews.com>, "Lee Imada" <leeimada@mauinews.com>, Maui Tomorrow <Webmaster@maui-tomorrow.org>, Maui Causes <info@maucauses.org>, Rodney Yap <rodney@mauinow.com>, Wendy Osher <wendy@mauinow.com>, Debra Lordan <debra.lordan@gmail.com>, editor@mauinow.com

Dear Mayor Arakawa, Managing Director Regan, Council Chair White, Council Member Hokama and Members of the Maui County Council,

Waiehu Municipal Golf Course and Wailua Municipal Golf Course are comparable. The Kahuku Golf Course operated by the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Enterprise Services, Golf Division, plays, from my personal experience, much like Waiehu. Though the amenities are spartan, the quality of play over 9-holes is every golfer's challenge. Please refer to attachment 1

The entire survey of courses operated by the City and County of Honolulu is provided for your review and evaluation. Please refer to attachment 2.

I wish to personally thank Careen and Mr. Garrick Iwamuro from the Golf Course Division for providing the information in response to my request.

Thank you very much

Aloha

Respectfully,



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City purchase will preserve N. Shore area

The property covers a mile of shoreline, including the city's Kahuku Golf Course

- Honolulu Star-Advertiser
- 17 Jan 2017
- By Timothy Hurley thurley@staradvertiser.com



The City has purchased a stretch of open North Shore ocean front land where the Kahuku Golf Course is located saving it from a planned development. Photo: Bruce Asato / Star Advertiser



Golfers walked down the seventh fairway of the Kahuku Golf Course on Monday. Some 25,000 rounds are played at the course each year. Photo: Bruce Asato / Star Advertiser

The City and County of Honolulu announced Monday the purchase of 114 acres of the North Shore, saving a sizable chunk of oceanfront land that includes the Kahuku Golf Course from possible development.

The city closed the purchase with owner Continental Pacific LLC on Friday, using \$12.1 million from a voter-approved fund earmarked for land conservation.

“This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to keep the land open,” Mayor Kirk Caldwell said Monday during a news conference on the sandy beach fronting the property. “This is one of the most beautiful coastlines in the whole world.”

The property, bordering the 1,100-acre James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge, includes almost a mile of remote shoreline and wild coastal sand dunes. It also protects a surf break known as Seventh Hole.

The stretch of land is home to the only municipal golf course on the North Shore, a nine-hole course the city has operated under a lease agreement since 1937. Some 25,000 rounds of golf are played at the course every year.

Caldwell said the city intends to keep the golf course open and offer upgraded public access to the shoreline.

Councilman Ernie Martin, whose district includes the purchased land, said he’s been pushing for years to acquire the property.

“It’s a hidden gem,” he said.

Martin said the acquisition will not only preserve the scenic beauty of the area, but provide protection for migratory seabirds, turtles and seals.

“The environmental, recreational and economic benefits of acquiring this property are immeasurable,” he said.

Continental Pacific previously announced plans to close the golf course and develop luxury homes on the shoreline.

Negotiations for purchase of the land continued on and off for more than two years, according to Ray Soon, the mayor’s chief of staff, who led the negotiations.

“We had some reasonable disagreements,” he said. “It went back and forth at one point. We stopped negotiating. We thought it was dead. They came back to us, saying they really wanted to protect this area as well. We found common ground and we found a reasonable settlement.”

At one point the City Council set aside \$13.8 million for the purchase, Soon said, so ultimately it was a good deal, especially considering an additional 20-acre parcel was thrown in to better connect the property to the neighboring wildlife refuge.

“It was a fair price we paid,” Caldwell added. “If you look at it long term, absolutely it was a bargain. There is only so much shoreline property on this island. There’s only so much with an incredibly beautiful beach like this on the island. The values are just going to continue to go up.”

Lex Smith, an attorney who represents Florida-based Continental Pacific, said the company’s latest development plan included subdividing the golf course and creating six luxury beachfront homes.

Smith said the transaction was a reasonable deal.

“If Continental Pacific had followed through with their plan, it would have made more money (than the \$12.1 million),” he said.

Approved by Honolulu voters in 2006, the Clean Water and Natural Lands fund was a charter initiative that set aside a half-percent of real property tax revenue for land conservation purposes.

The City Council appoints nine members to the Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission, which evaluates properties targeted for acquisition.

Officials said this is the largest transaction since the fund was established in 2006.

“We have gone a long way working with the county to ensure these beautiful lands are preserved forever,” Caldwell said.

Guy Kaulukukui, director of the city’s Department of Enterprise Services, said it’s gratifying to know that the golf course will continue for the golfing public into the future.

He described Kahuku as the only truly links-style golf course in Hawaii.

“It’s our St. Andrews,” Kaulukukui said, referring to the classic golf course in Scotland. “It’s rustic and beautiful in its own way.”

With million-dollar views, the remote course offers the least expensive golfing on the island at \$1 per hole for residents and less than \$2 per hole for visitors (\$16). However, there are no golf carts, the restrooms are portable and the clubhouse is little more than a dilapidated shack.

“It’s more rusty than rustic,” Kaulukukui said.

He said now that the city has ownership, officials can look at ways to reinvest in the course and make some upgrades.

Caldwell said the course for now will be preserved for golf, but it could easily be transformed into a passive park in the future.

On the beach, the mayor pointed to the sand dunes and said they are part of an ecosystem that was here for thousands of years.

“There were dunes like this all along this side of the island,” he said. “They’ve been basically bulldozed and used for development, or they’ve eroded into the sea because of sea walls and roads that have been built. Here they will be protected.”

Martin said he would like to see the fund also be used to save a sizable portion of the undeveloped property across from Malaekahana Beach Park nearby.
