

## PSLU Committee

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**From:** John and Christel Blumer-Buell <blubu@hawaii.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 07, 2020 12:29 PM  
**To:** PSLU Committee  
**Cc:** Kelly King; Keani N. Rawlins; Tasha A. Kama; Riki Hokama; Alice L. Lee; Mike J. Molina; Tamara A. Paltin; Yukilei Sugimura  
**Subject:** PUBLIC TESTIMONY.RE: (PSLU-34)(PSLU-44)(PSLU-43) PLEASE CONFIRM RECEIPT. MAHALO!  
**Attachments:** pslu.committee Tesimony 1-8-2020 (PSLU-34)(PSLU-44)(PSLU-43) .pdf; 19870730\_Maui News.pdf

ALOHA PSLU STAFF.....**TESTIMONY ON OTHER AGENA ITEMS.** PLEASE CONFIRM RECEIPT. MAHALO!!! JOHN

LETTER IN PDF AND EXHIBIT IN PDF.

**JOHN BLUMER-BUELL**  
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Email blubu@hawaii.rr.com

January 7, 2020 (Testimony for January 8)

Maui County Council Planning and Sustainable Land Use Committee,  
Tamara Paltin, Chair

Sent Via Email to pslu.committee@mauicounty.us with Request for  
Confirmation of Receipt

**Public Testimony for January 8, 2020, Meeting Regarding Agenda Items  
PSLU-34, PSLU-44, and PSLU-43.**

Aloha Chair Paltin and Committee Members,

I support the creation of the proposed Advisory Committees to the Maui Planning Commission. **However, INSTEAD, I suggest creating a Planning Commission for each community.** This will save time, taxpayer funds and be more accessible to the communities. Legal options and due process for participants will remain the same.

The Lanai and Molokai Planning Commissions demonstrate the practical application. **In contrast, the Hana Advisory Committee to the Maui Planning Commission demonstrates a wasteful duplication of time and expense. And, demonstrates how a good, legal decision in Hana can be totally corrupted by the Maui Planning Department and Planning Commission. The recent example of the proposed Nahiku Community Center demonstrates how the Hana Advisory Committee to the Planning Commission made a community supported legal decision only to be TOTALLY IGNORED by the Maui Planning Commission.** Several

commission members had never been to Nahiku and clearly did not comprehend the applications or situation.

IT IS WAY PAST TIME FOR A HANA PLANNING COMMISSION.

I make these recommendations having served three terms on the Hana Advisory Committee to the Maui Planning Commission. I was asked by Mayor Hannibal Tavares to serve on the initial committee.

The Hana Advisory Committee was initiated by Council Member Velma Santos during a very controversial land use case. Mahalo Velma!

Read the context in the July 30, 1987, Maui News story "Hana Apartment Plan Debated", page 2, last two paragraphs. Attached as Exhibit.

Mahalo for your careful consideration.

John (Blumer-Buell)

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**ON ACCESS** — Hana resident Larry Kaikala discusses beach access with Council Member Tom Morrow during a tour yesterday at Hana Ranch. Kaikala is a member of a coalition now is seeking a workable compromise that will allow local use of traditional access routes between local residents and the corporation that owns Hotel Hana Maui and the

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## Shark attack: Big Isle fishermen tell real-life tale that sounds like 'Jaws'

NAALEHU, Hawaii — Three Big Island fishermen, including a 12-year-old boy, escaped injury Tuesday night when their boat sank after a shark attack about nine miles off South Point.

Ka'u commercial fishermen Walter Gay, 27, and Weston Leslie, 40, and Leslie's son, Newton, were fishing for ahi (yellowfin tuna), using hand lines from a 20-foot trailer boat borrowed from Joe Hauanio of Kalapana, Gay told The Maui News this morning. The boat was borrowed because Leslie's boat is under repair.

The trio had chummed the water and hauled in six or seven ahi ranging in size up to 100 pounds when a large shark hit a fish on one of the lines and bit the tuna in half, Gay said. The shark remained near the boat "waiting for us to throw more food in the water," then started

The shark was "right on the surface" as it tore at the boat's stern, Gay continued, so Leslie was able to prod it hard enough with a 44-caliber "bang stick" to fire a round into the shark. "We just hit it with the bang stick and it rolled off and sank," Gay said.

Once the shark was gone, the trio resumed fishing only to discover after pulling in three more ahi that the boat was rapidly filling with water.

"My partner said, 'hey, there's plenty water coming in this boat,'" Gay said. "We started throwing the tunas back in the ocean, but by the time we had grabbed the second or third fish, we knew we were going down. Within a minute or two the boat had completely sunk. We didn't have time to grab the 'Jaws' shark.

Gay and Leslie salvaged a wooden fish box about six feet wide and three feet deep, pulled the box, and started tugging it toward the shore of South Point and Naahele. The swimmers tied strips of fabric over the box and tied strips of fabric over the box to "hide the whites" from

Swimming mostly in the dark, splashing, the men pulled the fish box toward shore for a landing near Honuapo, about 10 a.m. yesterday. Gay said he was up, they could see what was going on beneath them, but he was shouting underwater and

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evacuate its building, located near the shopping center, but it was not, Manke said. On Friday, a homemade pipebomb

devices, according to police. On Tuesday night, another series of telephoned threats to the hotel prompted another evacuation and

developed part of the bombing at said.

# a apartment plan debated

In T



By JILL ENGLEADOW  
Staff Writer

HANA — Opposition was strong last night to a plan to build 36 apartment units on land in the Waiuku area owned by Parkor and Mary Purdy. Residents requested, and the Purdys agreed, to consider down-scaling the project to reduce the possible impact on the community.

Nearly 200 persons crowded Helene Hall for a meeting of the Planning and Land Use Committee of the County Council, whose main purpose for meeting in Hana was to consider the Purdy request.

The Purdy family wants to change the state's zoning from rural to urban and wants A-1 Apartment zoning from the county. There is no county zoning, because the county does not zone lands designated as rural by the state.

Speakers who opposed the project last night said they like and respect the Purdy family. However, the project is not in the spirit of the Hana Community Plan, would not provide housing local residents could afford and would add undesirable traffic too close to Hana School, they said.

Critics of the plan suggested the Purdys get together with the recently formed Development Steering Committee of the Hana Community Association and try to come up with a compromise plan.

Mary Purdy, replying to some of the criticism and concerns expressed, said since a Planning Commission meeting on the subject in January, no one had come to her to discuss their worries. She said the project already has been reduced from 42 units to 36, and pointed out the proposed zoning would allow 100 units.

Purdy said the project had been developed by legal procedures, that the community needs housing and that her current rental rates for houses on the family property prove that her future rates would be reasonable.

Asked by Council Member Wayne Nishiki if she would be willing to sit down with the steering committee to consider other possibilities, Purdy agreed to do so.

The opposition to the Purdy request was in contrast to the previous Hana meeting on the subject in January, when almost all who spoke to the Planning Commission said they favored the project as a way

to create jobs and housing for Hana.

Last night, some speakers complained that the Planning Commission paid little heed to opposition in the form of a petition signed by nearby neighbors, who feared upzoning might eventually mean higher property values and consequently higher land taxes.

Speaker John Blumer-Buell said it was "an outrage" the way the Planning Commission ignored the petition and approved the Purdy request with no discussion.

Blumer-Buell and others also pointed to the history of the designation of the Purdy land for apartment use by the Hana Community Plan.

Mike Minn, a member of the community advisory council that devised the plan, said Mary Purdy and Alfreda Worst, who owns the Heavenly Hana Inn across from the Purdys, just wanted their operations to be made legal.

At the time, he said, the two were operating visitor rental units illegally. The advisory council's impression was that all they wanted was to be legal and to be allowed to upgrade their facilities, but not to expand.

Minn called for a review of the community plan, which was passed five years ago. Council Planning Committee chair Velma Santos said the final version of the plan called for review within 10 years, and asked the Hana people to wait until the council finishes approving the last two regional plans from the first round before beginning another.

Council Member Tom Morrow said he would support an early review. The Hana plan was the first one done, he said, and provided a learning process for all concerned, including professionals giving advice to the citizens about how to deal with such existing non-conforming uses as the Purdys' and Worst's.

Santos, replying to criticism of the Planning Commission's handling of the request, said she will initiate legislation to create a Hana advisory committee to the Planning Commission, such as those on Molokai and Lanai.

Santos said the Planning and Land Use Committee would defer a decision on the Purdy request for a few weeks until the family can sit down with the steering committee to consider compromises.

Combined

JPO pro

HONOLULU — The Department of Education will have officers in its new community centers.

Officials are unable to get insurance for the new JPOs in the area.

"We were under any circumstances out there without an official Euy meeting of Discipline Committee."

Since 1970 commercial police of consortium companies.

This year on the contract the state's \$100,000 less.

Fire burn

KEALAKEKUA — Fire crews were today burning a landfill site.

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The Maul News / JILL ENGLEADOW photo

COMMISSION AN "OUTRAGE" — John Blumer-Buell said the Planning Commission ignored a petition against the project and approved it without discussion.