

## **EDB Committee**

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**From:** Susan Halas <wailukusue@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 27, 2019 12:47 PM  
**To:** Keani N. Rawlins; Kelly King; Tasha A. Kama; Shane M. Sinenci; Tamara A. Paltin; Alice L. Lee; Mike J. Molina; EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Testimony Wailuku Civic Center (EDB-76) Meeting 3/29/19

Dear Ch. Rawlins Fernandez & Committee Members

### **TESTIMONY FAVORING ELIMINATION OF CIP FUNDING FOR WAILUKU CIVIC CENTER (EDB-76) EDB meeting March 29, 2019**

I favor the elimination of of all CIP funding in the FY2019 budget for the Wailuku Civic Center beyond Phase 1-A.

This is a hold over project from a prior administration, that was rushed through the last council at the end of December 2018. It does not reflect the current thinking or priority of the community or a majority of the Maui County Council.

It is extravagantly expensive, supersedes and gentrifies Wailuku town, benefits only a few insider land owners, and not a priority use for public funds.

I watched all of you campaign in 2018 and this subject was never a priority item for taxpayer money. During the 2018 campaign I never heard it mentioned once, yet it has become the largest single item in the current CIP budget.

Even where it to be built, the net gain is barely 160 parking stalls. It puts a costly white elephant in the heart of town. It does not really solve the parking problem or the county need for more office space. It is already obsolete before it is built and offers little to either the community or the county, but it is a bonanza for favored commercial interests.

When you add an estimated \$5 million a year debt service cost and a \$6 million estimated maintenance cost across the 25 year life of the bonds the total expense for this project quickly rises to a number north of \$300 million all paid with public funds.

Do the math:

\$72.2 mil remaining appropriation for Wailuku Civic Center

125.0 mil debt service across life of bond

130.0 mil est maintenance over 25 years

**\$327.2 mil total estimated cost for Wailuku Civic Center. Is this your priority?**

I do favor of phase 1-a, the infrastructure improvements on Vineyard and Church. I am against any further spending beyond phase 1-a on this project

I urge you to eliminate the remaining funds for this project and redirect them to housing needs such as affordable rentals.

Thank you,  
Susan Halas  
Wailuku home owner

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