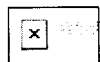


EDB Committee

From: anthony marletto <anthonymarletto@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 4:10 AM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: property tax increase

My name is Anthony Marletto and I own a home on Halama St. I have been coming to Maui since 1984 and have owned three different homes since 1999. I own a working cattle ranch in Montana and generally try to spend 3-4 months in the winter at my Maui home. I purchased my current home in 2012 and it has been in the short term rental program. I had not planned on purchasing another home because of the high costs of maintaining a home when not in residence. The current program helps with these costs. The home is and older and I have made improvements with any surplus income which has meant hiring local contractors, landscapers etc. for these improvements. I feel that people like myself are very important to the Maui economy and local businesses. I have used the same veterinary clinic for the last 10+ plus years as I bring my dog to Maui when I visit. I told him last month that we might not be returning and he commented by saying "a lot of people come and go but you hate to see the good ones go". If the proposed new property tax passes I will simply sell my home and go to Arizona for a few months in the winter.

Regards, Anthony Marletto



Virus-free. www.avg.com

EDB Committee

From: The Forbes <bforbes488@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 9:44 AM
To: EDB Committee; Keani N. Rawlins
Subject: Short term rental tax increase

One of the reasons that Maui has so many visitors is that there are economical short term housing opportunities available at rates substantially less than the hotels on Maui. If you raise the taxes on short term rentals by the 66% proposed, you will be doing great harm to many levels of business on Maui by decreasing the number of visitors. This harm to small businesses will then directly lead to lost tax revenues to the County.

Also, I feel that an increase from \$9.29/\$1000 to \$15.41/\$1000 is excessive (inflation is only 2 to 3 percent, not 66 percent), the increase is egregious and harmful to nearly everyone involved in tourism on Maui. I don't own this condo to make money, but the tourist short-term stays do help offset the operating expenses of my second home.

Keep the Aloha spirit alive and don't implement this punitive tax.

Thanks,
Bert Forbes
Kahana Reef

EDB Committee

From: Carl Brandes (Laptop & iPhone) <carl.brandes@shaw.ca>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 8:58 AM
To: EDB Committee; Keani N. Rawlins
Subject: Maui County Budget Hearings - I support fair tax rates

Dear Committee Chair Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez and Economic Development and Budget Committee Committee Members,

I am writing in favor of fair and reasonable tax rates for the vacation rental industry.

Each segment of the taxable base should have an equability test provided such that one segment is not being singled out for an extra-ordinary increase in taxation.

Taxation has to be considered fair, but your proposed increase of 66% does not meet equitable standards but is draconian. It places an unfair burden on one segment of the tax base.

We use our condo personally about 50% of the time and are already aware that we non-resident Owners pay significantly more property taxes than resident Owners.

Not only do we pay more property taxes in general by being classified as vacation rental industry, but we also contribute significant tax revenues on our rental revenue.

This shift of more taxes upon non-residents, which a very high proportion of the vacation rental market represents, is an easy target for extraordinary increases because your voting constituents will not find this increase flawed. They are not affected by this 'tax the rich' process you are driving towards with this unfair increase.

Hopefully, the Budget Committee as a whole will see that fair and reasonable taxation on each market segment is a principle to aspire to.

Thank you for considering my comments and I hope you will enshrine equitability as a goal as you continue to craft this bill.

Mahalo

Carl

Carl Brandes
604-773-8900
carl.brandes@shaw.ca

EDB Committee

From: catherine medina <cathymedina@apvr.net>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 12:48 PM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Fwd: Proposed 66% increase for the Short Term Rental tax classification

Aloha,

My husband and I own a Property Management Company on Maui and represent owners of properties in Puamana and Lahaina Shores. These properties are a second home for our owners who are typically retired and look forward to spending quality time on the island of Maui every year. Our owners are renting their homes while they are off island to offset the high cost of maintaining these homes. I'm sure you will be hearing their personal stories as well.

Please consider the negative effect of this tax increase which in effect is punishing a small segment of owners who feed the economy of our small island. This is home to them, not just a one time vacation. They typically spend several months a year here and support the local economy in a big way, including providing employment to vendors such as housekeepers and maintenance personnel.

Mahalo for your consideration of our testimony and we hope that you can see what a hardship this will create for the owners that rent out their homes in their absense.

Cathy and Dave Medina

Cathy and Dave Medina |

A Perfect Vacation Rental

355 Front Street

Lahaina, Hi 96761

Office: (808)-215-9225

Cell: (707)-953-3445

cathymedina@apvr.net

WEBSITE www.aperfectvacationrental.com

EDB Committee

From: christy s <smilingathlete@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 10:14 AM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Third Saturday Recycling

Council members,

Please fully fund Third Saturday Recycling. It is vital to our community. Without it we will be forced to overfill our local dump and worse yet some will chose to leave rubbish on the roadside.

Please support full funding.

Thank you
Christy Shaver
Lahaina resident

EDB Committee

From: Ann & Dan <econrad1@cogeco.ca>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 5:41 AM
To: edb.committee@mauicounty.us; Keani.Rawlins@mauicounty.us; info@aliiresorts.com
Cc: Kelly.King@mauicounty.us; Riki.Hokama@mauicounty.us; Tasha.Kama@mauicounty.us; Alice.Lee@mauicounty.us; Mike.Molina@mauicounty.us; Tamara.Paltin@mauicounty.us; Shane.Sinenci@mauicounty.us; Yukilei Sugimura
Subject: Proposed Short-term Rental Property tax increase

Dear Sir or Madam,

As short term rental property owners, we felt it important to share this information with you, regarding the proposed 60% property tax increase for short term rental properties.

We think that the committee may be inadvertently minimizing the jobs that are supported by short term rental accommodation owners, as these jobs are more indirectly supported than those in the hotel industry.

- We utilize an on-island management company, and they employ many people – not just housekeeping, but those booking units, managers that go to each property to inspect it prior to guest arrival, staff doing laundry.
- Contractors, large and small – all on-island, that maintain the units – people who do drywall, paint, install carpet and tile, or do glass work, plumbers, electricians, lock smiths, people who repair screens, clean carpets
- the employees at our resort have full benefits – the site manager, the ladies that work the desk, the men who take care of the property
- We are small business owners who purchase things like insurance locally, and purchase our consumables locally, thus supporting local retail. This includes not only small items like toilet paper and towels, but large items like mattress's and other furniture
- Car rental employees – those that work at the desk, clean the cars, process the orders, and the on-island mechanics and sales people who support this industry as well

To give you an example of how much money we leave in Maui, we wanted to share our numbers with you. We purchased our property approximately two years ago, with the intention that we will spend winters in retirement there. We are not rich people, we rent out our unit while not there to help cover expenses. We are by default, small business owners.

In purchasing our property, we supported the local real estate industry, which employs over 1600 people.

Since purchasing our property, we have made just under \$120,000 in gross revenue. Of that we have paid:

- over \$36,000 in commissions to our Maui based property management companies
- over \$24,000 in HOA fees. As mentioned previously, all staff at our resort have full benefits
- over \$23,000 in renovations – including labour and products, all sourced on-island.
- \$13,000 in property taxes

There was a comment made at the April 3 meeting regarding the accommodation tax rate paid by time share owners. I believe the Transient Accommodation Tax on Timeshares is 7.25%. I would like to point out that the transient accommodation tax on short term rentals is 10.25%. It is a travesty that the state retains such a large percentage of TAT revenue, but vacationers are paying a significant consumption tax for the privilege of vacationing on Maui.

We also realize that Maui County has the lowest effective property tax rate, not only in the state, but in the entire country. Perhaps this rate needs to be adjusted.

Driving short term rentals out of the market will ultimately mean that any tax revenue shortfall will need to be made up by county residents.

Respectfully yours,
Dan and Ann Conrad

EDB Committee

From: Dennis Garlock <dgarlock@mauibeachbums.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 6:48 AM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Vacation Rentals Property Tax

Aloha

We are writing in opposition to the idea of drastically increasing the property tax on vacation rentals on Maui.

Not Hotels???? Why??? And, why so large an increase? The mayor's proposal of a 3 per cent increase seems reasonable. Can't argue that.

However, individual owners of a vacation rental cannot afford to pay taxes like that proposed. Is the reason to drive vacationers to the hotels?

We are owners of two condos at the Valley Isle Resort in Kahana which we rent out as vacation rentals. We also spend 4 months a year occupying them, a couple of months in each. Our second homes. Many vacationers prefer individual condos to a resort hotel room. Maui is expensive as it is and not everyone can afford an expensive hotel room. And not everyone wants a hotel type situation.

Please think about what this would mean to individual owners, both local and off island owners like ourselves. We are not timeshares and we must pay for all of our expenses 365 days a year.

Mahalo for listening.

Dennis & Karen Garlock
dgarlock@mauibeachbums.com

EDB Committee

From: Marsha <nakamurad016@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 5:35 PM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: West Maui Recycling Program

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

We are West Maui residents. We recycle as much as possible and are very "green" conscious. Unfortunately, Maui County does not have the services that Honolulu has with recycle bins for their residents.

The 3rd Saturday recycling program has been so convenient for us here in West Maui. We don't have to go all the way to Olowalu to recycle. I'm sure there are people who dump recyclables in the trash because of the location of our County recycle center. Such a shame.

Please help us out in West Maui. Help us to help the earth. Help us to make it convenient for all residents here. Recycling is so important. We need to make it as convenient as possible to encourage those who may find it too troublesome to become more responsible. West Maui community volunteers through the Rotary Club as well as individual citizens are willing to continue this great program.

Won't you support our efforts?

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,
Dennis and Marsha Nakamura

EDB Committee

From: Ilse-Mari Lee <ilsemarilee@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 7:43 AM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Proposed 60% increase in Property Tax

Dear members of the Maui Economic Development and Budget Committee:

We respectfully stand in opposition to the above proposal, specifically to align Short Term Rental properties with Time Share units.

To us, there is a major difference between short term rental properties and time share units. Our condo, is our *home*.

We bought our condo three years ago, and have been able to pay the mortgage on our condo because it is a short term rental property.

We have visited Maui every year for the past 17 years, until we could finally realize our dream to slowly purchase our one bedroom condo, where we want to retire, in the very near future.

Our condo building, the manager, repairman and fellow owners, are our Ohana. We gather for Christmas, New Year's and Valentine's Day, as well as our annual meeting in June. We also support our church, Keawali'i Congregational church, and when on the island, actively participate in the work of our church Ohana.

Time share owners, are transient. They have no connection to the island-- but we do.

For all the remodeling projects we have done, we have contracted local craftsmen, and have provided work for all those involved with our management agency. They are also, our Ohana.

We understand, that funds need to be raised for infrastructure. We are in support of a modest increase, but feel it unfair to be grouped with time share rentals, at a rate higher than hotels.

Mahalo nui loa,
Ilse-Mari, Denny and Elizabeth Lee

EDB Committee

From: Ilse-Mari Lee <ilsemarilee@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 8:02 AM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Re: Proposed 60% increase in Property Tax

I just wanted to add that we are owners of Kihei Surfside 511.
Mahalo,
Ilse-Mari Lee

On Sat, Apr 20, 2019 at 11:43 AM Ilse-Mari Lee <ilsemarilee@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear members of the Maui Economic Development and Budget Committee:

We respectfully stand in opposition to the above proposal, specifically to align Short Term Rental properties with Time Share units.

To us, there is a major difference between short term rental properties and time share units. Our condo, is our *home*.

We bought our condo three years ago, and have been able to pay the mortgage on our condo because it is a short term rental property.

We have visited Maui every year for the past 17 years, until we could finally realize our dream to slowly purchase our one bedroom condo, where we want to retire, in the very near future.

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Mahalo nui loa,
Ilse-Mari, Denny and Elizabeth Lee

--

"Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything." Plato

EDB Committee

From: Jayar Mangiduyos <jvmangiduyos@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 10:02 AM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Help keep third saturday recycle going

Aloha, i'm writing this letter with regards to the 3rd saturday recycling in lahaina. I think this program is really really helpful for us who live in the west side. It helps people be more responsible when it comes to throwing away their broken appliances. I've been using this service for awhile now and i think it should be going every 3rd of the month. Please help us with having the program available so we can help maui county to be clean and green. Mahalo for reading my email. God bless!

Sent from my iPhone

EDB Committee

From: Susan Nygren <susan@aliioresorts.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 8:49 AM
To: Keani N. Rawlins; EDB Committee
Subject: Fw: Tax notice

From one of our owners of Sugar Beach #518.

Mahalo,

Susan Nygren
Ali'i Resorts, LLC
128 Kio Loop
Kihei, HI. 96753
#808-879-6284
#866-284-2544
Days off Sunday & Mondays

<http://www.aliioresorts.com>

From: Ken Smrstik <ksmrstik@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 8:15 AM
To: Susan Nygren
Subject: Tax notice

Aloha and thank you for your service to Maui County. As a manager and leadership role in business and community activities, I totally understand the pros and cons of service.

I recently received a notice that the Maui Council is considering a 60% tax increase to condo owners that lease privately and through various Maui Agents.

A better way to increase operating/taxing revenues is by slashing costs; not through tax increases. The proposed increase will crash the the ownership/ part time residents and send a catastrophic collapse to the Maui Count economy.

My listing of permanent Maui residents affected would be redundant, as I am sure you are in receipt of such. Being a condo owner since 1998, the monies I spend to enjoy Maui provide an income for the beautiful people who clean, maintain, manage and advertise Maui as the place to vacation. I trust you agree.

Mahalo,

Kenneth R Smrstik
Cell # 616-540-3586

EDB Committee

From: Ken Smrstik <ksmrstik@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 8:13 AM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Tax notice

Aloha and thank you for your service to Maui County. As a manager and leadership role in business and community activities, I totally understand the pros and cons of service.

I recently received a notice that the Maui Council is considering a 60% tax increase to condo owners that lease privately and through various Maui Agents.

A better way to increase operating/taxing revenues is by slashing costs; not through tax increases. The proposed increase will crash the the ownership/ part time residents and send a catastrophic collapse to the Maui Count economy.

My listing of permanent Maui residents affected would be redundant, as I am sure you are in receipt of such.

Being a condo owner since 1998, the monies I spend to enjoy Maui provide an income for the beautiful people who clean, maintain, manage and advertise Maui as the place to vacation. I trust you agree.

Mahalo,

Kenneth R Smrstik

Cell # 616-540-3586

EDB Committee

From: Lanny Daise <lannydaise@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 4:42 PM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Third Saturday Recycling
Attachments: Recycling Saturday Letter.docx

Please review my attached letter.

Mahalo,

Lanny

Aloha from Lahaina:

I just took a broken-down air conditioner to the **Third Saturday Recycling Program** offered to residents. We've heard there is discussion at the county level, considering cutting the funding to this marvelous program.

May I point out what this means to our family:

1. Two years ago we had to dispose of another broken-down air conditioner, and the only proper disposal method was to drive to Kahalui Side, wait in line at a metal recycling plant and even pay a fee to dispose of it...not consumer-friendly!
2. We have seen over the last year, roadside "dumping" of appliances drastically reduced on the Westside, most likely because of the convenience of this recycling program.
3. This has great exposure for the community and a great example for our keiki, as volunteers from local service clubs and students (fulfilling community service hours) manage all of the traffic flow and unload your truck for you!

If we make it hard for residents to recycle; this very important & necessary mentality, certainly will go the wrong direction. I was pleased to see the separate containers almost full today, helping keep the Westside clean and helping the residents with the convenience of dealing with their difficult materials. Again, the service clubs and students who were helping today, had great attitudes and managed the program really well.

Please consider not cutting funding for this great program!

Respectfully,

Lanny V. Daise
519 Aki Street
Lahaina, HI 96767

EDB Committee

From: leejames <slip17charters@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 9:17 AM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: 3rd Saturday Lahaina

Every month collection, is obviously a service that is utilized every month. Decreasing this service increase the potential build up of road side waste. Please continue to support this program.

Ultimate Whale Watch
Owner, Lee James
Booking number: 808-667-5678
Cell: 808-757-1490

EDB Committee

From: Lee Ohler <lee.ohler@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 12:04 PM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Third Saturday Recycling at Lahaina Cannery Mall

I am writing to urge that funding is provided to continue Third Saturday Recycling EVERY MONTH at the Lahaina Cannery Mall. Today I recycled an old printer and there were two very long lines of vehicles participating in the recycling efforts! Please do not cut funds!

- Lee Ohler

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

EDB Committee

From: Laura Hansen <Islewise@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 8:28 AM
To: EDB Committee
Cc: Keani N. Rawlins; Kelly King; Riki Hokama; Tasha A. Kama; Alice L. Lee; Tamara A. Paltin; Shane M. Sinenci; Yukilei Sugimura
Subject: Increase in Short-Term Rental Property Tax

Dear Budget Committee Members,

It has come to our attention that you are considering a 66% increase to the current property taxes we pay on our Short-Term Rental properties on Maui. We have two properties in West Maui considered to be Short-term Rentals. These are our second homes as we stay in both units frequently to get out of the rainy Seattle weather. We are not a time share or a hotel that have visitors 24/7. Our rentals are seasonal and we are not fully booked as a hotel might be.

A tax increase of 66% is very alarming and is completely unfair, as we bought both units recently understanding what our expenses would be. We already pay an incredible amount of property taxes based on the size and condition of our units. I'm not sure we would be able to afford to keep both units if you approve such a tax increase. The condo market in West Maui has many properties that are aging and we would have to raise our rates in order to cover this increase in property taxes, making us less competitive with newer hotels. Passing costs along to Maui visitors will make places like Mexico and Florida a more affordable option in the winter. Please help us keep Maui affordable.

Please reconsider this very unfair increase to Short-Term Rentals. The mayor submitted a budget with a 3% increase which is more in line with what we would expect.

Mahalo,

Mark and Laura Hansen
Papakea L207
Lokelani B203

EDB Committee

From: Penny Tuipulotu <pennytui808@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 10:13 AM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Third Saturday Recycling Lahaina

Council members,

Please fully fund Third Saturday Recycling. It is vital to our community. Without it we will be forced to overfill our local dump and worse yet some will chose to leave rubbish on the roadside.

Please support full funding.

Thanks
Penny Tuipulotu
Lahaina Resident

Sent from my iPhone

EDB Committee

From: Norman Helsel <helseln@pacbell.net>
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 12:38 PM
To: EDB Committee; Kelly King; Riki Hokama; Tasha A. Kama; Alice L. Lee; Mike J. Molina; Tamara A. Paltin; Shane M. Sinenci; Yukilei Sugimura; JAMES E KEEHNER
Subject: Maui County Budget Hearings - I support fair tax rates

Dear Committee Chair Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez and Economic Development and Budget Committee Members

I am writing in favor of fair and reasonable tax rates for the vacation rental industry.

Short Term Rentals are currently taxed at \$9.28/\$1000, the third highest only exceeded by Hotel and Resort and Time Share rates. Increasing the Short term rental rate TOO extreme puts an unfair burden on the individual owners of these properties, and the guests to these properties, and can only move to harm the small businesses that depend on vacation rental industry.

Our condo (Kahana Reef 216) has been in the family since 1985. Purchased in 1985 by our parents and passed down to their children. The children and their grand children have used the condo approximately 40-50% of each year, and has been rented to guests who contribute Maui's economy. We have used the condo for honeymoon's and for vacation get a ways. The condo has been a blessing for four generations for many years, and our family's have come to know and Love Maui and the state of Hawaii. Our children and grand children want to use the condo for many years after we are gone.

My wife and I are now in our late 70's and are on a fixed income. The current expenses to maintain our condo has been a struggle. But, the proposed extreme real estate tax increase would create an added burden that would make it impassible for us to hold on to our beloved second home.

We are supportive of the Economic Development and Budget Committee efforts to find a fair and equitable solution for taxing the vacation rental industry that limits any negative implications for the community. Short Term Rentals brings in a large flow in direct taxable revenue, and has created thousands of jobs for our island as well.

Mahalo.

Phyllis and Norman Helsel

Kahana Reef 216 & 59 Parklite Circle, Sacramento, CA, 95831-2158