

PC Committee

From: Erika Lechuga Disalvo <erika.lechugadisalvo@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2018 3:49 PM
To: PC Committee
Subject: Thursday meeting, request to DEFER PC-22

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Aloha,

My name is Erika Lechuga DiSalvo and I am writing with great concerns about PC-22. I was a resident of Kihei for 16 years and this beach was the place my family would go to enjoy the magnificence of the south Maui coastline the most. Keawakapu beach is cherished by our entire island community. This particular area where the Oceanfront Inn resides is one of the only places where there is parking (and still there is not enough) for residents/locals so they can access the beach.

I am absolutely against the proposed Community Plan amendment from single family to hotel. Granting this change would have huge negative impacts on the local community. If this parcel becomes designated "hotel" I would imagine that the value of the parcel will increase. With this then comes the very real potential of the current owners selling to an even larger biz owner and then the community is most likely left with a mainland developer/owner who will most certainly do what they will to expand and increase their profit with no care for the community. Make no mistake, with this designated change, comes expansion and at the very least -a reduction of parking for residents- because more would be needed for their own hotel guests. This means less access to the beach. No. Just no, there cannot be any more beach access taken away from Maui residents. As it is now, the Maui Ocean Front Inn is already taking parking away from locals. You can find a perfect example of this at Uluu Beach next to where the Andaz is now. The parking is absolutely ridiculous. There isn't any and you know what, we stopped going there because there isn't sufficient parking because the hotel is utilizing it for their guests.

This land we are discussing is also public lands, owned and managed by the state DLNR. Why do they need a change in zoning now? Is it because their lease expires in 2033 and they have plans that we don't know about. They've done just fine since the mid 60s.

It is my understanding that the Kihei Community Plan Update is coming on the heels of West Maui, so it is on the horizon. Why not wait until the update takes place? The community of Kihei deserves to have a meeting on this issue and this entire area we are discussing needs a master plan. Kihei was not meant for hotels. No more of Maui needs to be built upon to serve those who don't live here and work in our communities. All of the sitting Council members need to do a site visit to see how this area would be impacted. This is a big deal and I ask that the Council really stop to consider where we are right now as a small island community where more and more of what serves the community is overlooked while decisions are made that serve outside monetary interests.

I ask that you do not approve a change in community plan designation. IF a change IS allowed, there needs to be a condition written in that the hotel may not increase the intensity, density or footprint of their operation, so as to prevent any expansion of the hotel.

I ask that this item be deferred, a site visit take place by all Council members, that the residents of Kihei be included by way of having a planned community meeting and that a master plan be created for this area.

Thank you for taking into consideration the residents of Maui and what would be in their best interest first and foremost.

With gratitude

Erika Lechuga DiSalvo

--

With Aloha,

Erika Lechuga DiSalvo
808.250.5548