

EACP Committee

From: Kimberley Loiacono <kimberleyloiacono@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 04, 2019 11:17 AM
To: EACP Committee
Subject: Hanakao'o beach preservation
Attachments: canoe beach statement.docx

Please find my testimony letter attached for amending section 13.04A.290, Maui County, to prohibit commercial ocean recreational activities at Hanakao'o Park, Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Kimberley Loiacono

Kimberley Loiacono
Napili Canoe Club
Hanakao'o Park
Honoapiilani Highway
Lahaina, Maui, HI 96761

June 4, 2019

Kasie Apo Takayama
Nicole Siegel
Office of Council Services
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

RE: Amendment of section 13.04A.290

Aloha Ms. Takayama and Ms. Siegel,

The propose of my letter today is to show my support in amending section 13.04A.290, Maui County Code, to prohibit commercial ocean recreational activity at Hanakao'o Park, Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii, also known as "canoe beach", because commercial ocean recreational activity has proven to be increasingly incompatible with the growing need to house recreational and cultural canoe activities at Canoe Beach.

I am a proud member of Napili Canoe Club. This is my ohana and our hale. Hanakao'o Beach is where we commence, young and old, on a daily basis to learn and preserve the Hoe Wa'a (Hawaiian Outrigger Canoe Paddling). It goes so much deeper than just learning how to paddle. It's a place where all different cultures and beliefs come together to understand the importance of our Natural Resources and to always malama (take care) of our land and ocean. Our community will greatly be effected of we don't preserve these traditions and practices for future generations.

Every year the keiki programs in all the paddling clubs seems to grow larger and larger. It gives us great joy to know these traditions will be passed down thru them. It's all about the keiki. Without them, we have no future. This is a direct reflection of how important it is for us to preserve this beach for them.

This past weekend, we kicked off our first regatta of the season with great success. To my surprise, there were some new divisions added this year; men's 70 & womens 70. To know that there are that many kapuna out there paddling to add these divisions in astonishing! This speaks volumes. This, along with the ever growing keiki each year, makes me wonder why we are even here having to fight to save our beloved beach and clubs.

It seems ridiculous to take Hanakao'o Beach away from our community. We deserve not to be kicked out of our hale, lose our Āina, and let down our keiki and kapuna. Hanakao'o Beach is a very special place for so many of us. Please pass this bill to protect our beach for our future keiki and not let it be a distant memory like so much of Lahaina has become.

Mahalo,

Kimberley Loiacono
Napili Canoe Club

NAPILI MISSION STATEMENT

As a member of Napili Canoe Club, we strive to create a family based oriented club, putting out Keiki and Kupuna first and foremost.

We pride ourselves in the teachings and learning's, and preservation of the Hoe Wa'a (Hawaiian Outrigger Canoe Paddling).

It is our kuleana (responsibility) to build and nurture a safe, happy and welcoming environment while embracing and practicing our Hawaiian Culture. Understanding the importance of our natural resources and to ALWAYS malama (take care) our land and ocean is of our highest regards.

We move forward optimistically never forgetting our past and the people who came before us while always preserving and protecting our way of life.