

EACP Committee

From: Jenny Pawai <jennypawai@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2019 3:39 PM
To: EACP Committee
Subject: EACP-6

Aloha my name is Jenny Pawai. Apologies for the late email, I had intended to testify at chambers however my one year old wasn't as patient as I am.

I've been in Maui on and off since I was in my moms belly and I humbly know I will always be a guest here and I treat it as such.

I grew up in Ka'elekū 4 months out of the year with my dad. I learned how to drive on Hāna highway. I learned how to swim at Hamoā.

We used to take weekly trips to town to get our groceries and provisions. On the way out we wouldn't pass a single tourist. On the way home to pass the time we would pick a color and count the number of cars in that color (not just tourists). Our numbers never went over 50 from Ha'ikū to Ulaino Road. Now we would have hit 50 before twin falls!

I have now been here permanently for just over 15 years. I began driving to my dads every weekend around 10 years ago and even then I noticed a big influx of tourists.

He passed just over 4 years ago and I can count on one hand the amount of times I've been back East. My one year old daughter has only been once.

The east side is being suffocated with tourists. Not the respectful polite ones - the entitled rude ones that have no respect for this land or it's people.

I understand our economy needs tourism to survive but we need to start capping the amount of tourists we get daily and focus on quality not quantity.

I have often said setting up a toll fee might be an option. A few for tourists, a kama'aina rate, and free for east side residents. Where the profits go to restoration and preservation of Hawaiian culture on Maui island.

I hope we can find a solution soon - I'm not sure our residents can handle the volume and amount of disrespect much longer.

Mahalo for your time