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November 15, 2016

To Council Chair Mike White and Council members,

Regarding PAF 16-096 - entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO CONCESSIONS AND SPONSORSHIPS IN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES,"

Dear Council members,

We are requesting that the council and budget and finance committee add language to amend PAF 16-096 to exclude all CORA activities from this Ordinance.

As currently written "PAF 16-096" could potentially derail the entire CORA industry, and displace thousands of jobs, and the families in our community that depend on them. This ordinance if unchanged would negatively affect commercial activity in all parks, by changing individual permits into unregulated and arbitrary concessions without the benefit of a public bid process. As currently written the Parks Director would have exclusive and unlimited power to arbitrarily allocate new "Concessions", at will, and his own personal discretion, without any accountability or oversight. This is contrary to the public interest, and negatively impacts all user groups, stakeholders, and CORA businesses, that currently use these public areas recreationally and commercially.

About CORA:

The current CORA industry permit system and rules are the result of over twenty years of painstaking development, and thousands of hours of critical feedback, county meetings, sub-committees, focus groups, input from community stakeholders, user groups, and the general public. The creation of the CORA permit system included the publicly funded EIS studies, and multiple public hearings and testimony, The current Permit system balances the needs of the community, the resources, and the industry. This system has in place checks and balances, including the vetting of permittees, and puts limits on the number of permits to prevent parks overuse. This system reflects the specialized and complex nature of different types of CORA activities, and the unique nature of each individual park.

CORA should not be included in a blanket ordinance that lumps them in with "Concession stands, and Food Carts". Especially with no public process, or oversight.
Reminder about Council Meeting:

As a reminder, at the Council meeting for EAR 37, on November 3rd 2015, when "section 7" was removed from 13.04 at which time we (CORA) were promised by the Council chair, Parks Director, Council Members and Corporation Council that CORA members would still be able to renew their CORA permits on an annual basis.

Thank you,
David Dorn
Action Sports Maui LLC - 808-871-5857

RECEIVED AT BF MEETING ON NOV 15 2016
(BF-129)