

TESTIMONY

LU-2(5) and LU-64 | Wailuku Apartment Rental Housing Project |
TMK: (2) 3-5-001:064

Good afternoon Chair and Members. My name is Livit Callentine. Wailuku has been my home town for over fifteen years, and I own a workforce housing unit nearby in Kehalani Gardens. I am also a certified land use planner, and a senior planner with the County Department of Planning. I'm testifying today on my own time because I feel strongly about certain aspects of the project as proposed. I offer the following comments:

1. **Traffic impacts** – traffic currently backs up along Kuikahi Drive during morning and afternoon rush hours and on weekends. The addition of 300 cars at a *minimum*, from this project alone, will exacerbate the congestion on both Kuikahi Drive and Waiale Road.

The project proponents should consider establishing the main entrance to and from the project as a fifth leg of the Kuikahi Drive/Waiale Road intersection. This could be accomplished by changing the existing traffic signal to a roundabout. A roundabout there would complement the planned roundabout at the Maui Lani Parkway/Kamehameha intersection.

At the very least, please consider limiting egress and ingress to Waiale Road only, or limit access off of Kuikahi Drive to right-turn exit only.

2. **Visual impacts** – Maui County has of late established a disturbing trend to approve projects that provide only partial views seaward and toward the mountains. View corridors are not the preferred means of preserving views. Preserving the views is. The project proponents could easily preserve views AND provide the proposed number of units IF rather than reducing the number of stories, they grade the site to lower building heights. As areas become denser, as is the case with Wailuku, views, parks and open spaces become extremely important for relieving social pressures from living so close together.

3. **Internal and External Connectivity** – Pathways and sidewalks within the project should be provided. Sidewalks and bike paths should be provided around the perimeter of the project. Walking and bike paths should be provided to connect this project to adjacent neighborhoods. At the very least, if the committee doesn't seek redesign of the project, require the applicant to provide a lighted cross-walk signal at the proposed entrance to the project and the Longs/Foodland center on Kuikahi.

4. **Lighting** – Kuikahi Drive is dark. The project should provide lighting on Kuikahi.