

IEM Committee

From: Warren Vinzant <wvinzant@chargeone.com>
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 7:26 AM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: Testimony for INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, Monday, March 20, 2017

Testimony for
INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
BEACH EROSION, SEA LEVEL RISE, STORMS AND FLOODING IMPACTS ON COUNTY
INFRASTRUCTURE (IEM-26)

Monday, March 20, 2017

Councilmembers,

My wife and I offer our testimony as residents on Kahana Bay. Beach erosion has been a serious problem, resulting in the loss of many beach areas along west Maui. The problem has been accelerating of late, and is threatening more beaches and properties along our coast. Kahana Bay including S-Turns is at a tipping point in beach loss. Without a serious and determined response from the county, we will lose the beach along this entire area.

As our representatives, we look to you to allocate the tax dollars we provide to help ameliorate these escalating problems. Among the budget items under consideration, we support:

- Establish a County fund for cost matching private beach nourishment projects
- Sponsor a study on locating offshore sand resources with potential for beach replenishment
- Allocate a portion of the annual budget to a dedicated beach management fund, which would be used for land banking, shoreline access and beach and dune restoration projects as well as continued coastal zone research and monitoring.
- Ultimately, we are looking to Maui County to participate in funding and assisting the efforts of the Kahana Bay Restoration Foundation to identify and to implement a plan to restore and protect Kahana Bay.

The at-risk shoreline properties at Kahana Bay represent the personal and financial interests of many Maui residents. Many other Maui residents regularly enjoy the beach from S-turns north. The nine (9) condominium properties, plus one residential property pump tens of millions of dollars a year into the Maui economy. It is not just the many homes at risk. It is not just the more than \$10 million in annual tax revenue that is at risk. It is also the livelihood of hundreds of other Maui residents whose jobs directly depend on these properties, and many others (such as our general contractor and other subs and workers) who also benefit. It's time for Maui County to step forward with funding and political support to help us rescue Kahana Bay.

Mahalo for taking the time to consider our concerns.

Warren Vinzant and Tracy Vinzant