

Dear Chairman Carroll and Committee Members,

I am testifying in **strong opposition** of the permit pending for 355 Haiku Road-allowing for transient vacation rentals and special events, because commercial development of agricultural land does not belong in the Haiku community.

My name is Dr. Cris Ancog Weeks. The Weeks family has lived at 435 Haiku Road for 55 years. We directly adjoin 355 Haiku Road, on the south side of their property. My ohana enjoys the peace, tranquility and rural nature of our home and neighborhood.

Whether there is amplified music or not, 20 or 150 people, allowing commercial activity within an agricultural and residential zone will detrimentally alter the character of our neighborhood. Haiku is not the same as other places islandwide which have been set aside to accommodate the tourism industry. Simply put, the former Baldwin Estate is not meant to hold this type of business, and that land has been zoned accordingly. The land board should respect this designation and not allow commercial use.

There is no benefit to the current residents of the area to have this permit approved. There will be additional traffic, noise and visitors into our community. Currently, we already have to put up with noise and traffic from events at Haiku Mill. We do not need additional intrusion into our community. My ohana has lived in our home since 1962. There have been significant changes to Maui since then. Haiku has remained, for the most part, separate from the massive developments, the resorts, and, until now, the commercialization by the visitor industry. The character of our community is defined by its agricultural nature. Instead of that, we will now have photo shoots, weddings and other events next door, with an increased amount of people who don't have any stake in our community.

Like everyone else in this room, I do not want to be living next door to an event venue. Where we live is quiet and isolated. We will lose much of we love about our home, while the beauty of the former Baldwin Estate is used for commercial purposes. The Weeks Ohana has been a good neighbor and community member for over half a century. Why does the monetary need of one new landowner take precedence over the wants and needs of the current community??

Granting this permit sets a precedent for future commercial use of agricultural land. It takes one step away from the best parts of Haiku towards a neighborhood sacrificed to commercialism, without regard for the residents that have always been here. This proposal will negatively impact my home and the Haiku community.

The future of my community is at stake.

I **firmly oppose** this conditional permit and urge the Council to deny this request.

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