IEM Committee

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments:	Stacey L. Vinoray Monday, July 31, 2017 11:34 AM IEM Committee FW: support moving IEM-33 from title 19 to title 20 support moving IEM-33 from title 19 to title 20.pdf
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Aloha,	
The attached document is my t	testimony in support of moving IEM-33 from title 19 to title 20.
Mahalo,	
Paul Hanada	

July 29, 2017

Aloha Council Chair Cochran, Vice Chair Guzman and members of the Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee,

I support placing IEM-33 as an Environmental Protection Measure (under title 20, mcc).

The Central Maui Sand Dunes once covered the area between Waihe`e, Paia, Kihei and Maalaea. Ocean currents, waves and persistent strong trade winds pushed the skeletal remains of once living organisms from the North Shore of Maui onto this area. In some places, the winds pushed the sand up the slopes of West Maui Mountain (Kahalawai) and formed dunes more than 700 ft. above sea level.

The sand dune in Waihe`e is protected but the rest have been destroyed by modern human activity. Pollution, agriculture, invasive species, buildings, golf courses, roads, Kahului Harbor and other human related structures and activities have either covered, decimated or have negatively impacted what remains. The coral reef struggles to survive and cannot produce sand for the beaches. Most sand beaches have disappeared altogether. The protected Waihe`e sand dune and all other sand dunes **will never be replenished**.

There are a few remaining inland areas where the dunes are undeveloped. One of the few remaining areas is in the Wailiku/Waikapu area and should be preserved and protected.

Using this precious natural resource in unsanitary school and playground sand boxes, on golf courses, for building materials, farming and landscaping is ludicrous. There are better alternatives. Using inland sand to nourish beach replenishment projects should be prohibited because of the negative consequences to the marine environment. The inland sand is fine grained and contains a lot of silt and dirt. When placed in the ocean, it covers, suffocates and kills the living reef, destroying its ability to produce more sand. The cloudy water decreases the amount of sunlight necessary for coral and seaweed growth.

Lowering the cost of housing can be achieved by lowering land costs. The demise of HC&S has opened up large tracts of land. The sand on this land has been compromised by agriculture and can be used to build homes, especially affordable homes. This land should be used instead of the remaining dunes.

Protecting and preserving our precious natural resources for our grandchildren and their grandchildren is priceless. Moving IEM-33 from title 19 to title 20 is a step in the right direction.

Thank you.

Paul Hanada

Kula, Maui, Hi