

PEA Committee

From: Tamara Paltin <tampaltin@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 09, 2018 9:30 PM
To: PEA Committee
Cc: Elle Cochran; Donald S. Guzman; Riki Hokama; Yukilei Sugimura; bob.carroll@mauicounty.us; Robert Carroll; stacy.crivello@maui.county.us; Alika A. Atay; Mike White; Kelly King
Subject: West Maui Community Plan Advisory Committee nominees PEA-75, CC 18-134

Aloha Chair Sugimura and members of the Policy, Economic Development and Agriculture committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on the nominees to the West Maui Community Plan Advisory Committee. I have been following the General Plan process for about a decade now and have attended many of the workshops that the Long Range Planning Department has had in West Maui in preparation for the West Maui Community Plan update.

I understand that our community plan advisory committee should have a diverse reflection of our community and that the Mayor will choose the remaining four members on the CPAC.

I would like to share with my picks for our community plan advisory committee.

I tend to favor nominees who have participated in the workshops, especially because they are familiar with much of the ground that we have already covered and the committee will be meeting for a set amount of time and they can help this group to hit the ground running.

-I support Leilani Pulmano as she has attended many of the workshops, and brings the perspective of real estate development and knowledge as a board member of HHFDC which will be a valuable.

-I support Kai Nishiki as she has also attended many of the workshops and brings a widely held perspective in regards to development and public access, I know that she has broad community support

-I support Don Gerbig because of his historical knowledge of the plantation and water systems of this area. He and his ohana have been active in our community and bring also a senior citizen perspective as well.

-I support Dawn Hegger-Nordblom because of her extensive background in coastal management and planning, which is a huge issue especially in West Maui right now we need this type of perspective/expertise on this committee

-I support Lee Chamberlain as he has also attended many of the workshops and I think many in our community support his visions of alternative modes of travel

-I support Ravi Bugga, I have had the opportunity to meet him and I believe he has a sincere desire to keep West Maui a wonderful place to live, I think his background qualifications will be an asset to this board and I believe he will be an intelligent, neutral voice to help the committee move forward through whatever challenges they may encounter

-I support Michele Lincoln she has also attended some of the workshops and has shown a willingness to stand up for our historic and cultural sites through legal avenues. I think it would be wise to include her in the committee so these issues can be addressed at the community level rather than in court while the development is ongoing.

-I support Joseph Aquino because of his community involvement and to bring the perspective of union developers - reading his application - I would like to know how he would address the road problem and affordable homes before more development is allowed.

-I support Karen Comcowich because of her involvement in our community and I think she represents a needed perspective that has been underrepresented in this process.

I am thankful for all the applicants and their willingness to serve our community in this capacity. However, I did want to point out nominees who I feel have a serious conflict of interest to serving on this community committee.

-Rick Nava is a candidate for county council and with the timeline of things I feel this is an unnecessary distraction to this process as the committee will be chosen before the general election and I wonder is it possible for a council member to be on the citizen advisory committee and then also the council that will review? I am also a candidate for county council and did not put in an application because I do not think it is proper with the uncertainty of elections.

-Dylan Payne as a realtor with West Maui Land Company and while there is nothing wrong with having more realtors on this committee the various land use issues that the committee will be deciding on could result in a specific huge financial gain for him and so I see that as a big conflict of interest.

I would add that there is nothing stopping those not selected in participating in the process, through public testimony. I believe that the 9 nominees I have supported would be a balanced representation of our community and I trust they will work well together for the benefit of us all and I hope all those who are not selected do continue to participate in the process together with our wider community.

Mahalo,

Tamara Paltin