

PC Committee

From: Leila Monroe <leilamonroe@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2018 7:03 AM
To: Mike White; Robert Carroll; Stacy S. Crivello; Alika A. Atay; Elle Cochran; Yukilei Sugimura; Riki Hokama; PC Committee; Kelly King; Donald S. Guzman
Subject: Please Support Amendment of Paia/Haiku Community Plan for Consistency with STRH/B&B Ordinance

Dear Council Members & Planning Department,

As the owner of a residence that is negatively impacted by the inconsistency between the Paia/Haiku Community Plan and the STRH and B&B Ordinance, we are writing to strongly support the adoption of the amendment to the Community Plan to make it consistent with the Ordinance.

I was raised on Maui, and many of my family and friends own homes and small businesses on the Island. From my experience, and from the experience of Maui residents that I know, it is a win-win for visitors to have the opportunity to stay in Short Term Rentals and B&Bs, while also protecting the availability of long-term rentals on the Island. The existing Ordinance allows homeowners and local businesses all around the Island to benefit from tourist dollars, rather than just the large corporations in Lahaina, Ka'anapali, Kihei, Wailea, etc. It also gives the tourists the opportunity to learn about and come to respect the unique and precious culture of Hawai'i and the rare plants, animals and ecosystems that are often very negatively impacted by large resorts.

Having been off-island for some time for school and work, my husband and I had the opportunity to purchase 910 East Kuiaha in September, 2018, so that we would have a home for our 10 mo. old son to return to HI and be with his Tutu, aunties, uncles, cousins, and many friends. We are working to transition out of our jobs on the Mainland so that we can be there, but in the meantime, we will rent our ohana full-time and hope to continue the legal SRTH operations in the main house, so that we may spend time on the island, yet have it occupied when we are not there.

This property had been a long-time legal, registered STRH (Hale Hilu Hilu), but we were required to re-apply for the permit, which we did on 9/25/2018. Because of the inconsistency between the Plan and the Ordinance, our application is currently on hold, although we have paid significant sums to ensure compliance with all rules and submit our application. We sincerely hope that the conflicting language is addressed at the meeting on 11/1 so that we may move forward with this application. Our application is not changing the number of STRH, rather continuing to maintain existing, well run lodging. We hope we have the opportunity to host small groups of guests who will contribute to the local economy while also experiencing and learning about Maui so that they may learn to love and respect its people and places as we do.

Sincerely,

Leila Monroe