

GET Committee

From: whitehawaiian11 <whitehawaiian11@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 7:21 AM
To: GET Committee
Cc: Keani N. Rawlins
Subject: Will Spence and David Goode, big negative...

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Aloha mai kakou,

My name is Justin Kekiwi I am a lineal Descendant of Honua'ula Moku. I am testifying today because I don't believe William Spence should be the director of Housing. My first conversation with Will Spence was a few years ago when he was the planning director. I wrote to him about the development in the Makena landing area by ATC Makena, the old Maui prince and its surrounding area. He approved that development accepting an Environmental Assessment rather than an Environmental Impact Statement. I wrote to him stating my concerns and disbelief in the Departments decision that there were many triggers for an EIS to be addressed and that an EA was not acceptable but an EIS was needed to be conducted for this development. I did talk with him over the phone about it as well and when I questioned the Departments decision, I'll never forget this but he told me there was not much of a difference between a EA and an EIS. From that moment on I knew he wasn't fit to be a director for the county no matter what Department he was in. To ignore the laws in place and the importance of protecting our environment was absolutely unprofessional. Fast forward a year or so, a development in Mo'omuku near the Ahihi Kina'u Natural Area Reserve broke ground. The planning Department approved SMA minors and exemptions for an injection well, two Municipal wells, and a 3/4 mile driveway for a farm dwelling in the middle of a very dryland forest with hundreds of rare Wiliwili trees and cultural sites. Community members urged him to stop construction because of the environmental impacts to the Natural Area Reserve with this project being mostly in the Special Management Area. We requested an EA or EIS but he responded there was no triggers. Despite common Sense and the facts of the desecration of cultural sites and the Environmental impacts, our requests were ignored and the construction continued. This project had SMA violations, no SMA permits in several of the tmk parcels within the SMA area, and had signs of a larger development which should have triggered at least an SMA major or an EIS. After about a whole year of emails and correspondence we provided the planning Department of loopholes and violations and instead enforcing penalties and addressing violations, amendments were made to fix the mistakes of the county. William Spence transferred to the Housing sector and left alot of problems for his replacement.

The only possible way I would even begin to think of supporting him as our Housing Director was if he was able to obtain that \$80 million dollar project money for the Wailuku project, and use that soley for true affordable housing for our working class people of this community. That money needs to go to our housing crisis.

I would hope this council will not support the recommendation of Will Spence as our director and get someone in there who will work effectively for our housing crisis we are currently in.

Mahalo nui,
 Justin Kekiwi

Aloha mai,

So now I want to make it very clear that I don't agree with the mayor's decision in the reappointment of David Goode as our Public Works director. So back to the development in Mo'omuku next to the Natural Area Reserve in Ahihi Kina'u. Just so you guys understand, this reserve was formed in the 70s and was the first Natural Area Reserve in our State, it is only one of its kind in the entire world. With very unique anchaline ponds, Maui's most recent lava flow, and it is the only reef in the entire state where the reef is not declining but growing and functioning the way a healthy ecosystem is supposed to (according to DLNR/DAR surveys).

With that being said, the poor decisions made from the planning Department, and Public works which David Goode played a huge role in, have negative environmental and cultural impacts to this pristine reserve.

We filed RFS to his Department about cultural sites being destroyed, about environmental impacts to the reserve, and requesting a work stop order so we could discuss these issues before more damage continued. We were basically given the run around for about a whole year. We found specific violations, which legally grading should have never started because there was no Archeological data recovery submitted by contractors. Significant cultural sites were destroyed, and no accountability.

We provided this information to David Goode and we were told that this information was inadequate. We got OHA involved to request a work stop order to address these concerns, all while construction was happening. He told OHA that if they wanted this to happen then SHPD needed to send the request, basically saying that OHA's word wasn't good enough. These types of correspondences take time and it felt like they were stalling for the contractors to finish the work. SHPD requested the work stop order to David Goode. While all this was going on the contractors were working unusual hours starting at 5am in the morning and paving this driveway till 1am in the morning. Ironically the work stop order was finally issued by Goode a few days after the construction for the road was finished and the permit was signed off on. Coincidentally or not I'll let you be the jury for that. The fact of the matter is that David Goode does not communicate effectively with SHPD when grading should start and does not care that our cultural sites, history, and resources are damaged, but instead favors development projects.

There was also a law suit filed against him, where he demoted one of his employees as retaliation for calling out corruption and shady things going on in his Department. The county did its best to cover this up and make it look like it was false accusations but the reality is that was very seasoned and educated employee with many awards and proof of her good work ethics.

So why in the world would we even consider putting this guy back as a director if these types of things are happening. So in closing I say not a good idea for Will Spence and David Goode as directors.

Mahalo nui,
Justin Kekiwi