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"Beach Erosion, Sea Level Rise, Storms and Flooding Impacts on County Infrastructure" (IEM-26), which is on the Agenda for Monday, March 20, 2017.

Aloha Elle Cochran and Infrastructure & Environment Committee members,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this very important subject.

We support that Maui County starts budgeting and planning for Coastal erosion issues now and for the future. Science has shown that the oceans are getting warmer and the water levels are rising. Sea levels rising contribute to Beach Erosion, increased storms and flooding that affect Maui County Infrastructure. Ocean water temperature getting warmer affect the Corals in near shore water that help buffer the coastal land from erosion.

We testify that Kahana Bay is in need of your support, as is all of the West Side of Maui. There is much happening up and down the West coast and I'm sure, beyond that, which we don't see. Olowalu, Kaanapali beach, North Kaanapali beach, Honokowai, Kahana, Napili Bay are experiencing the results of Storm surge causing beach erosion that endangers Maui County infrastructure, such as, Lower Honoapi'ilani Road & Sewer Pump station at Pohaku Park and Sewer lines in Kahana.

The following items are important to start budgeting for and fund:

- Establish a County fund for cost matching private beach nourishment projects
- Sponsor a study on locating offshore sand resources with potential for beach replenishment
- Allocate a portion of the annual budget to a dedicated beach management fund, which would be used for land banking, shoreline access and beach and dune restoration projects as well as continued coastal zone research and monitoring.
- We also support Maui County/State consider adding a fee to airplane tickets, car rentals or a local tax to help fund this ongoing beach erosion mitigation.

As you may already know, **Article X of the Hawaii State Constitution** mandates the state to conserve and protect Hawaii's natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations. Because the state owns the beaches and is the trustee of that resource, it is the state that has the **fiducial responsibility** to take the lead in beach management. We are hoping that we can look forward to the State taking the lead on this and future erosion issues in the State.

The DLNR is to develop a Strategic Plan for protecting our Coastal Lands. We're hoping that the Maui County Council ensures that the "Beach Management Plan for Maui" aligns with it. The objective of these plans should include objectives, and the public dialogue it seeks to foster, to outline socioeconomic and technical mechanisms for conserving and restoring Hawaii's beaches in a framework of mitigating erosion impacts and reducing exposure to coastal hazards for future generations.

It is a complex problem as there are multiple agencies that need to be involved. We need plans to help facilitate all of these agencies working concurrently to fast track the initiatives your planning.

- Federal Authority through the Army Corp of Engineers, as they are responsible for Navigable Waters, from the High Water Mark to 200 miles, for building anything that can effect that, as well Clean Water Act, etc.. Need Permits.

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- State of Hawaii, Dept of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), is the trustee of coastal lands to include the beaches. Need Permits there.
- Maui County, Planning Department is responsible to enforce State and County laws, there is a permitting process, as well.

While these long-term projects may take between 3 to 5 years to design, permit and construct, the County may also consider smaller, individual emergency projects that could be permitted under the Small-Scale Beach Nourishment (SSBN) regulation. These projects would address the urgent need to protect the coastline, as well as serve as pilot projects to demonstrate the use of nourishment along with geo-bag T-head groins. Perhaps the State could/would have to allow a bit LARGER Small-Scale project.

Our Kahana Bay community is working together with Maui County Planning department for a solution to this chronic and now acute problem. There are now 3 properties, Valley Isle, Royal Kahana & the Hololani that have temporary permits for Sand Bag Revetments. It started with the Hololani installing their revetment, then heading south the Royal Kahana had to install one in 2015 to protect further loss. Then in the Spring of 2016 the Valley Isle installed theirs. Guess what? After the Valley Isle installed their revetment, the problem is moving down the line to the Sands of Kahana. These 9 condo properties generate a lot of Tax Revenue and support all the people that work at and around these properties, plumbers/electricians, local businesses, etc...

Our community group understands that this needs to a Public/Private project. We want to protect our property and beaches and the State/County should want to protect the beaches that help protect infrastructure.

- The Kahana Bay group has put together a Steering Committee to address the next steps and how to fund getting the Environmental Assessment/Impact study going. **We are hoping the County will provide matching funds.**
- Concurrently, our community group is going to investigate how to get a Maui County "Improvement District" going per: Maui County Improvement District ordinance – Title 14 Public Services, Article 3 Improvement Districts. This may be the best option to get this process going and funded.

These 3 properties have already spent an estimated \$2 million to build these temporary revetments to protect further loss of their property! We really need the State to come forward and help facilitate a solution.

We view the institution of a Beach Management Plan for Maui a very positive step!!

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Aloha,

Terry & Marie Schroeder