

GET Committee

From: Patricia Goff-Williams <pattepicasso@hawaiiantel.net>
Sent: Saturday, February 2, 2019 5:37 AM
To: GET Committee
Subject: Testimony concerning Will Spence's appointment as Director of Housing and Human Concerns

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To Maui County Council Members,

I would like to share with you my experience with Will Spence when he was Planning Director for Maui County.

Approximately four years ago Will Spence announced that he wanted to change the zoning of the Kula 200 subdivision and a new subdivision off lower Kula road called Anuheia Rd. from agriculture to rural.

Kula 200 is an older, established subdivision in Upcountry, Maui. I have lived in this subdivision for 45 years and I and many of my neighbors actually do farm our land. By rezoning our land we would lose our designation as agriculture, ag water rights and the subdivision could double its density.

Many of my neighbors and I came to the council hearings and testified and listened to testimony. I took 3 days off of work to attend these meetings. One council member, who did not represent Upcountry, drove around both subdivision and looked at what was being proposed and came back to the council meeting and reported that these two subdivisions a vastly different. The Anuheia subdivision was a new subdivision and did not even have water.

In the end, the council agreed to leave Kula 200 as agriculture and change the Anuheia Rd. to rural so they could further subdivide the lots. Will Spence was present at some of these meetings. However he neglected to disclose that he owned a lot in the Anuheia subdivision and that his wife is an active realtor. This seems like a blatant conflict of interest.

I feel like this was total shibai. We spent days in council meetings and the Planning Director Will Spence staged this whole ruse so he could have his subdivision redrawn as rural. As a side, a month later the subdivision got water meters.

Thank you for your time. I hope you will choose an Honorable Director for the position of Housing and Human Concerns. One that is educated, qualified and does not have outside interest.

Yours,

Patricia Goff Williams