

PSLU Committee

From: Mikey Burke <michaellyn.burke@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 22, 2019 2:52 PM
To: PSLU Committee
Subject: 266 Dickenson Street

Welina Mai e Committee Chair Paltin & Committee Members.

My name is Mikey Burke and I live in Lahaina. First, I would like to sincerely thank you for coming out to LAHAINA to hold last night's meeting. I hope by the turn out you can see that having these community meetings at a time that residents are able to attend, in the place that is going to be most impacted by the subject issue, is really valuable to the kind of engagement you wish to see from a community. So mahalo again for holding the meeting in Lahaina last night. I was not able to testify so I am submitting my written testimony below.

I oppose the rezoning of 266 Dickenson Street. The reasons I oppose are:

1. Traffic congestion - As mentioned in various testimony, Dickenson Street is a very narrow roadway. It's already a very daunting and anxious experience to travel this road around school hours. And that's without having 16 + cars trying to enter and exit the property across the street @266 Dickenson. 16 cars may not sound like a lot in terms of apartment complexes, but there are already too many cars and people trying to traverse that part of the street. Let's not tempt fate, please.
2. Community safety - I use this street several times a week and I pinch my okole every time I turn down from HP Hwy and someone is waiting there for the traffic light. It's equally as scary being the one on Dickenson waiting to turn onto HP Hwy and watching a car coming toward you to make that turn down to Dickenson. You're just praying that they don't overestimate that turn!
3. Not affordable - This is one of the most frustrating things about this proposal. Lahaina doesn't need housing. Lahaina needs AFFORDABLE housing. Period. No exceptions. Any proposals that don't meet this single criteria should be opposed. 8 more rentals do not help us with our housing crisis because our crisis is about a shortage of affordable housing. The developer wants you to turn a blind eye because he's adding housing units to the supply and that makes his proposed project okay. 'A'ole! We are in this mess because we've only been adding market units and luxury units to the Westside for DECADES. We don't need anymore!!! It's time to make up for what we've been lacking all these years. Affordable units only! What's affordable? Well, an individual shouldn't have to work 2 full-time jobs to afford to pay the rent or mortgage.
4. Too large for the area - This is kind of touched on in my earlier comment about congestion. The Archangel home that used to be there is the only footprint that should be allowed to be there again. Not an entire apartment complex.
5. In a historic district - the rendering that was shared was nice but it was out of place for Lahaina. It's as if the new owner didn't even do his homework on this town and that's disappointing. On the chance that this monstrosity of a project is allowed to move forward due to rezoning, I hope you at least require that the building design be consistent with other buildings in this historic district - at least TRY to make it look somewhat plantation style instead of Trendy Town, USA style.
6. Inconsistent presentation of information from the landowner - this is concerning to me because either the land owner was ill-prepared or his words cannot be trusted. Either way, this doesn't bode well for him if he wants the community and the council to trust him.

Mahalo for your time and consideration and we hope you will do what is best for the community after weighing all testimony from interested parties.

Me ke aloha no ku'u one hānau,

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Sent with aloha