

AH Committee

From: Hailey Ramey <hlramey@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2019 8:17 AM
To: AH Committee
Subject: Testimony for County of Maui Affordable Housing Committee Meeting June 19, 2019

Aloha Committee Members,

I am writing you to urge you to vote no on the proposed zoning changes in regards to the the Polanui and Makila Rural East projects. My husband and I were both raised on Maui and are raising our two young children here. As local business owners in the community we struggle with the high costs of living and see the necessity for well planned affordable housing. What is being proposed is NOT that.

What this community needs in regards to further development is SMART development, development that is designed to benefit the growing number of people affected by the housing crisis. Development that allows the community who it is intended to serve the opportunity to take part in planning it.

What this 201H fast track process looks like to us is the exact opposite. A development designed to maximize profits off land that was never intended to be urban in the first place. A handful of workforce houses in order to meet the minimum requirements necessary to sell the rest of the plots for maximized profits. A development that is far more beneficial to the developer and investors than the community it claims to be intended for.

IF a change in zoning would be beneficial to the West Maui community in the form of smarter development, we would urge the committee members to consider proposals that offer better long term solutions to the housing crisis. These solutions need to address existing issues with infrastructure such as the water shortage, fire hazards, evacuation routes, flooding of roads (Kai Hele Ku/Bi-pass) caused by prior poor planning, a lack of amenities required to serve a growing community, sewage and waste disposal, etc.

In allowing the 201H fast track development plan to pass we believe the current issues facing the surrounding communities would only be exacerbated. Ten years from now when the hand full workforce homes are sold again at market price we will be left with nothing more than another gentrified neighborhood which will no longer serve the working class people it was guised to benefit in the first place.

Lastly this looks to us like a Trojan horse for further fast track development of this nature... Community planning over developer profits!

Thank you for your consideration,

Jacob and Hailey Ramey