

AH Committee

From: Tara Miller <niobe55@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2019 2:17 PM
To: AH Committee
Subject: NO to

Aloha Members,

I am a full-time resident of Launiopoko. At the time of this email, I have been without ag water for five days or more. I have many trees, plantings wilting, dying, yet am required to have 51% of my property in flowers (I have plumeria trees, gardenia bushes, night blooming jasmine, etc.), fruit trees (mango, papaya, black mission figs, various citrus), garden areas (herbs, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, pineapple, cucumbers, etc.) I am to replace all that dies to maintain my 51%, and yet several times a year, there is no water.

And now, MORE homes are to be built, way too close to our precious beaches, reefs, who will also need water, designated ag or not.

I am against this development 1000%. I am also against "fast-tracking" a development ANYWHERE on Maui. We desperately need thoughtful planning, with an eye toward sustainability and conserving Maui's lands.

We need to look to other communities in the world, come up with a model that best suits Maui and her people in creating affordable homes/rentals as well as focusing on a quality of life that benefits many, not a few out to make a buck.

I'd like to suggest, instead of having affordable homes/rentals (I believe we need both) in a designated area, that they are spread out in all communities (including Launiupoko), blending in rather than standing out.

In Yellow Springs, OH they started Yellow Springs Home, INC: "The mission of Yellow Springs Home, Inc. is to strengthen community and diversity in Yellow Springs and Miami Township by providing permanently affordable and sustainable housing through our Community Land Trust (CLT)."

Granted, Yellow Springs is on a smaller scale than Maui, but the concept is the same. Home INC buys the land and builds an affordable home in an established neighborhood. I personally am against a neighborhood of only affordable, low-income homes/rentals and the stigma that is so often attached. Many of the people who seek affordable homes are hard-working, good-hearted people, raising families, contributing to the community and deserve respect, as well as a home.

There is much information on Home INC's website, www.yshome.weebly.com.

And Yellow Springs isn't the only community who have committed to making their town a place where the quality of life of locals is emphasized over making a buck. A little research will turn up a myriad of ideas.

One example, Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Due to the hugely popular show, Game of Thrones, Dubrovnik has had a "turbo boost" of tourists since the town was featured in the show as King's Landing, the capital of Westeros. Dubrovnik was, already, a popular tourist attraction,

but tourist numbers in the past few years has caused many, many problems, one being overcrowding and the numerous daily problems associated (sound familiar?).

Dubrovnik's mayor, Mato Frankovic, has a two year plan to cap the number of tourists to "just 4,000 a day." And while the benefits of tourism, including boosting the economy, are real, "Croatia isn't willing to give itself over to mass tourism unconditionally."

"I am not here to make people happy, but to make the quality of life (in this city) better", he said.

Maui has enough hotels, rentals, Air bnb's, etc. I think it's time to focus on the quality of life for the people who live here. I believe our visitors have been given enough. A little research may get us off the dismal track Maui has been on fo far too long. But this will take some time, and "fast-tracking" hundreds of homes will not help.

It may seem strange to mention snow in relation to Maui, but to quote Game of Thrones and the direction Maui has been heading, "Winter is Coming."

Tara Miller