

AH Committee

From: Amy Stephens <rainbowcountrymaui@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2019 2:05 AM
To: AH Committee
Subject: Do not support the Makila housing development

TESTIMONY RESENT AS I HIT SEND BEFORE I WAS FINISHED.

I am in complete opposition to the Makila Development in Launiupoko. Were the developers satisfied with subdividing agricultural land in Launiupoko to the maximum extent possible? The land in Launiupoko was supposed to be agricultural lots after development yet so few actually grow anything. Maui County Council, please oppose the exemption the developers are seeking!

The developer only plans to build a minimum amount of not-so-affordable housing that will allow them to build four times as many “farm dwellings”, reality mansions, on small agricultural lots. The exemption will ignore the fact that only 35 of 194 homes built will be truly affordable, and the rest will be unaffordable and unattainable by our workforce and local families. The exemption ignores the fact that this area is in an extreme fire hazard zone with very limited water that went up in flames last August during Hurricane Lane.

The exemption ignores the fact that there is only one road in and out of Launiupoko for hundreds of residents to escape from inevitable fires.

The exemption would go against the Maui Island Plan and the West Maui Community Plan that hundreds of hours of community involvement has produced. The West Maui Plan stated the community's common goal to "Encourage infill in order to protect agriculture and mauka open spaces". The Makila project is seeking to do the exact opposite of the community's desires and plans.

The requested exemption forces the Council to approve or deny in just 45 days from June 12th, how can this be rammed through without community input? Has there been an environmental impact study?

We do need truly affordable housing, but why do people who are struggling have to end up risking their lives in a fire or flood zone just to get a home? Maui County can do better than that. Our Mayor and Council need to step up to the plate and help developers build truly affordable housing in places already chosen in our Community Plans.

If these projects get through, they will establish a precedent that will render all of Maui County's

Community Plans toothless. All land between Launiupoko and Olowalu is at risk of being urbanized. Maui Council I respectfully and strongly request that you represent the people of Maui and your constituents by opposing any exemptions for the Makila Project.

Mahalo for listening,

Amy Stephens

Napili