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To:

Maui County Council Member

From:

Douglas Weber

Date:

June 7, 2019

Good Morning Council Members,

My name is Douglas Weber, I'm a local resident born and raised in Hawaii. My friends and family members live in Launiupoku. I oppose the proposed re-zoning of Launiupoku!

3 Main Reasons for my opposition:

#1. Water Issues

Launiupoku is zoned agricultural. As a part of land use in the Maui Island Plan and the zoning, most parcels in Launiupoku have a farm plan. Thus there is a heavy dependence upon water provided by the Launiupoku Irrigation Company. Launiupoku as you well know is very dry and doesn't receive much rainfall. As of March 2018, nonpotable water has been regulated and restricted. All of the properties were forced to shift to more usage of potable water, at much higher rates. Add in the restrictions on nonpotable water for irrigation and the water resources in Launiupoku are maxed out! It would become burdensome for the Launiupoku property owners to have much needed water for agricultural use to be redirected for urban use for the 50 units and presumably over 200 people proposed.

#2. Increased Traffic

The traffic condition would worsen in the area as well as in West Maui!

There is only one way in and out of West Maui and the approximately 13 mile stretch from Maalaea and Launiupoku is only one lane in both directions. In the event of an emergency or natural disaster that affects this stretch, West Maui becomes effectively cut off from the rest of the Island.

#3 Poor Infrastructure

The current infrastructure desperately needs to be built up and improved upon to support the growing population of West Maui. While building more high density subdivisions for Affordable housing is needed, what is more important is building more infrastructure to support the people already in the area.

Don't get me wrong! I support building more homes on Maui but it should not be in Launiupoku, it should be more centralized! Wailuku, Kahului, and Kihei are closer to more schools, retail shopping and the Airport. The available water, comfortable traffic conditions and proper infrastructure are already in place.

That's were the housing should be proposed!

That's why I am opposing the proposed re-zoning of Launiupoku!