PSLU Committee

From:

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Sent:

Wednesday, August 07, 2019 3:37 PM

To:

PSLU Committee

Subject:

PSLU-24

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts, at least a few of them.

Regarding VACATION RENTALS: Many years ago, the powers to be on Maui decided that it would work well to have the tourist population in south Maui and Lahaina/Kaanapali and the residents in Central Maui and Upcountry, not a bad idea. Today, we find our infrastructure is about 20 years behind our population growth and not improving. The roads are solid traffic all the time, the beaches are sometimes so crowded you can not put your towel down, and you even have to make a reservation to go to Haleakala for sunrise. Yes, tourism is our number 1 industry and while the economics on the mainland are good, our #1 industry will do well and everyone here will benefit economically. However, let me remind you that when the economy on the mainland takes a downturn and those vacation rentals sit vacant for a few months, the owners start renting them long-term to long term residents. This is great; we no longer have a housing shortage although some of us may not have a job either. Then, one day, the economy on the mainland starts to improve and people want to vacation on Maui. The hotels fill up, the vacation condo sends the long term resident packing and starts vacation rental again. Result: more and worse housing shortage, infrastructure now 25 years behind population and the Maui County government raises our property taxes again. I could say more, but you get the idea.

So, Please, lets keep the vacation rentals out of the residential areas.

Mahalo, John Hultquist