

EACP Committee

From: cris González <mauinani@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2019 6:27 PM
To: EACP Committee
Cc: Riki Hokama; Tasha A. Kama; Kelly King; Alice L. Lee; Mike J. Molina; Tamara A. Paltin; Keani N. Rawlins; Shane M. Sinenci; Yukilei Sugimura
Subject: COQUI FROG IMPACT TESTIMONY

Aloha Councilmembers & EACP Committee,

2/25/19

I am writing to testify on behalf of my entire ohana who reside in the Haiku Hill neighborhood.

Our neighborhood has been very active in the fight on Maui to eradicate the invasive Coqui frogs (see <http://www.mauinews.com/news/local-news/2017/02/haiku-hill-community-honored-as-mvp-during-annual-event-on-invasive-species/>).

These tiny frogs continue to multiply while spreading from Maliko Gulch to neighborhoods like ours, which lowers the quality of life we all so cherish on Maui due to their 85 dB calls (which is louder than some weed whackers) during nighttime hours. They undoubtedly have the potential to lower Maui property values **ISLAND WIDE** as they continue to spread. The tourist industry will be devastated if these frogs are allowed to overrun our island.

The Big Island of Hawai'i has succumbed to the Coqui frogs and literally given up trying to control them. We, on the other hand, still have a fighting chance. Our neighborhood has banded together to learn the frog's life cycle, clear overgrown areas that provide habitat for the frogs, utilize Citric Acid & sprayers provided by MISC (Maui Invasive Species Commission), hold regular neighborhood meetings, and have taken responsibility for our own properties.

On behalf of my entire ohana I respectfully request additional funding and resources be allocated to support homeowners like myself and MISC, who has been essential in providing the education, training, Citric Acid and Sprayers to combat this tiny, but **HUGE** threat, to our tourist industry, property values and quality of life on Maui.

Respectfully,

Cristina Gonzalez
Haiku Hill, Maui