

AH Committee

From: Karin Sagar <ksagar@k3marketinggroup.com>
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 11:23 AM
To: AH Committee
Subject: Affordable Housing Committee - TESTIMONY for September 23, 2020 meeting

Aloha Members of the Affordable Housing Committee,

While I appreciate the dire need for more affordable housing to meet the huge need of residents, I do not support development of the proposed 201-H housing development in Olowalu.

As one of the last undeveloped and culturally significant areas on West Maui, I think any and all development for this area must take the input and lead from long time local residents and families of the area as well as taking into consideration many problematic issues that need to be addressed.

Specific issues include:

- There is virtually NO infrastructure including schools, markets, medical, work in addition general facilities such as sidewalks and roadways for access (to my knowledge seems to be on way in/out which I would assume would need to be drastically improved for any development)
- The area is well known for fire risk and as we saw from the Lahaina fires and last year's terrible fires, managing and stopping large scale fires is a very difficult proposition for Maui County
- The reef directly across the street from this area is one of the last pristine marine areas and any impact would need a detailed and thorough EIS and plan for mitigation of damage to the environment
- The cultural significance of this area needs to be reviewed and assessed by the appropriate agency to determine that there would be NO negative implications to burial or other historical sites
- "Affordable" does not necessarily translate into affordable for the local community. Many projects claim to be affordable and aimed to meet the needs of the lack of housing for residents but when the rubber hits the road only a small portion of these homes goes to those in need (and/or only a small portion are designated to this audience) and is actually priced at a level local families can afford.

Because of the areas noted above, we do NOT support development of this area and do not approve of this development.

Mahalo
Karin & Steven Sagar
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