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COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

June 21, 2021

Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

RECEIVED
2021 JUN 22 AM 9:01
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Ms. Kathy L. Kaohu, County Clerk
Office of the County Clerk
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Ms. Kaohu:

**SUBJECT: TOURIST TRAFFIC EAST MAUI AND
KAHAKULOA**

I am placing the matter relating to tourist traffic in East Maui and Kahakuloa on the next Council meeting agenda.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alice L. Lee", is written over a horizontal line.

ALICE L. LEE
Council Chair

Attachment

COUNTY COMMUNICATION NO. 21-310

June 14, 2021

Alice Lee, Council Chair

Shane Sinenci, Council Member

Subject: Tourist, Traffic East Maui

Following is a suggestion for controlling the tourist traffic on Hwy 360 going to Hana. The DLNR has been successful with limiting access for Haleakala Sunrise. The following link discusses overcrowding in Utah's Big Five National Parks: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/national-parks-are-overcrowded-and-closing-their-gates-11623582002>

The broad conceptual ideas for controlling tourist/traffic on the Hana Hwy are either A or B.

A. Ban Rental Vehicles on Route 360

Only residents and essential delivery vehicles and tourist vans would be allowed to drive on the highway. Tourists wanting to travel the road and view the attractions could only go in tourist vans. The vans would collect a surcharge for each tourist (\$50). The funds would be used to develop pull over areas for the vans so tourists could view the popular sights.

This is not an original idea because the concept is already in practice in many of the National Parks. Zion NP in Utah bans all tourist traffic on the roads. On a larger scale, Grand Canyon NP South Rim allows cars to enter the Park but all vehicles must park and tourists then use shuttles to the scenic vistas.

All van passengers would be picked up at hotel or condo as is the current practice.

B. Toll Road

Make Route 360 a toll road complete with booth and collection personnel. The fee would be a minimum of \$250/car. Tourist have shown their budgets support current high rental car rates.

For either A or B, all residents, essential vehicles, and vans would be equipped with electronic transmitters at a control/toll booth to allow traffic to proceed without slowing or stopping. The same concept is used in California for HOV lanes.

Also, in locations where crowd/tourist control are implemented, it has not resulted in the areas being boycotted by travelers. Most people accept the idea of crowd control. Where controls are not enforced the average tourist will push the envelope as far as possible.

Your jobs require making difficult decisions. Tourists would fully accept the changes over time but more important, after the controls are implemented, it will allow Maui to be enjoyed for generations ahead.

Thank you for reading.

Regards,


Jerry Wiedeke, 539 Polulani Dr. Wailuku