



Waikapū Community Association

To enhance the quality of life for the residents of Waikapū through the preservation and appreciation of its history, natural environment, and values of its rural tradition.

JULY 3, 2012

TESTIMONY BY THE WAIKAPŪ COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
TO THE
BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON THE
ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY AT WAIKAPŪ (BF-67)

Dear Chair Pontanilla and Committee Members,

The Waikapū Community Association (WCA) is pleased to have this opportunity to present testimony on the proposal by the administration of Mayor Arakawa to purchase 100 acres in Waikapū for a proposed County base yard complex.

At this Committee's meeting of March 13, 2012, you received testimony from the Waikapū Community Association expressing its grave concerns about the proposed purchase of this land and the plans for this property, as explained by Mayor Arakawa at a general membership meeting of the WCA the previous night.

Since that time, the WCA has received no formal communication from this administration to indicate that these concerns have been or are being addressed. The community of Waikapū remains very concerned about the impact that the plans for this property may have on the quality of life for its residents.

Therefore, the Waikapū Community Association does not support the purchase of the land at this time.

The WCA's concerns continue to be the impact on traffic and noise, resulting from multiple base yard operations and other County facilities planned for this parcel, situated near the intersection of Waiko Road and Waiale Road, which is slated to be extended to Honoapiilani Highway. These plans will make that intersection a very busy traffic

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corridor, even without these proposed County facilities located there.

The WCA at its testimony in March, also asked that this proposed purchase be considered and presented in the context of the planned acquisition of 220 acres of adjacent land from A&B, for the purpose of a regional sports complex. Such a sports complex should be expected to add to the impact of the proposed use of the 100 acres under consideration today. For that reason, a master plan was requested for the entire 320 acres of land the County intends to purchase.

The community of Waikapū expects that the impact of a regional sports complex, with its traffic, noise, and field lighting, added to the traffic and visual impact of a base yard and County facility complex, will have a very detrimental impact on this last traditional small town in Central Maui.

The WCA repeats its request that an initial master plan be developed for the entire 320 acre area, with clear description of the impacts on the community and any proposed mitigation measures, before the purchase of this property, and the eventual purchase of the adjacent 220 acre property from A&B be considered for approval by this Committee. The development of such an initial master plan should also address why alternative locations that could more appropriately accommodate a County base yard complex, such as the State's Executive Order lands along Mokulele Highway, are no longer considered for this purpose.

The Waikapū Community Association, as representatives of the Waikapū Community is grateful for this opportunity to present this testimony to the Budget and Finance Committee.

Mahalo.

Jacob Verkerke,
President.

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