

PARTIAL WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF  
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2013 MAY 17 P 2:21

I am Christine Ruotola, AICP, a Principal at Group 70 International. I submit the following partial written testimony to summarize the work of my subconsultants, compliance with the Hawai'i State and Maui County Plans, the State Functional Plans and Coastal Zone Management Objectives and Policies:

Flora and Fauna

Rana Biological Consultants, Inc. conducted flora, fauna and avian surveys on the Petition Area. Rana recorded six species of flora on the Petition Area and the *'uhaloa* (*Waltheria indicia*) was the only native species observed. There is also the endemic Hawaiian cotton or *ma'o* (*Gossypium tomentosum*), which is not an endangered or threatened species, between the Petition Area and Pi'ilani Highway. There are no species of flora classified as an endangered or threatened species by the US Fish and Wildlife Service or the State of Hawai'i on or in the vicinity of the Petition Area, nor any plant species proposed as a candidate for listing as an endangered or threatened species on the Petition Area.

Rana also recorded 11 avian species, with one species being the native Pacific Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis fulva*).

Rana detected no species of fauna classified as an endangered or threatened species by the US Fish and Wildlife Service or the State of Hawai'i on the Petition Area, nor any species proposed as a candidate for listing as an endangered or threatened species on the Petition Area. Development of Kihei High School is not expected to have an adverse impact on the botanical resources or biological resources of the Petition Area.

Archeological, Historical and Cultural Resources

In 2009, Scientific Consultant Services, Inc. ("SCS") conducted a 100% pedestrian archeological inventory survey ("AIS") and limited subsurface testing on the Petition Area. There are eight features in the Petition Area. SCS re-documented one site located in the northeastern portion of the Petition Area, State Inventory of Historic Properties ("SIHP") No. 50-50-10-6393. SHPD concurred with SCS's finding that further mitigation for the site is unnecessary. The features have been adequately documented and additional research focused on the site would not contribute to the interpretation of the area or Hawaiian prehistory or history.

SCS completed a Cultural Impact Assessment ("CIA") in April 2010. No kama'aina was aware of use of the Petition Area for gathering or other cultural purposes or for access to other areas for cultural purposes. Haleakala Ranch and Kaonoulu Ranch had owned the Petition Area for almost a hundred years prior to selling the Petition Area to BLNR. Henry Rice, owner of Kaonoulu Ranch, did not know of any old trails, traditional properties, or cultural activities occurring on the Petition Area. The CIA concludes that no notable cultural activities took place on the Petition Area. There will be no adverse impact to any exercise of native Hawaiian rights or cultural resources on the Petition Area.

### Noise

Y. Ebisu and Associates conducted an Acoustic Study for the proposed Kihei High School in September 2011. The existing background noise levels at the Petition Area are estimated to range from approximately 63 DNL near the makai boundary of the Petition Area closest to Pi'ilani Highway to approximately 45 DNL at the mauka boundary of the Petition Area. The Kihei High School campus is planned so that the noise sensitive buildings and classrooms are set back at least 650 feet from Pi'ilani Highway, where future traffic noise levels are predicted to be "acceptable" at less than 55 DNL.

The potential noise from playground, practice field, pool, and athletic stadium activities could possibly disturb neighboring residences. The neighboring properties to the south and across Pi'ilani Highway to the west are the most likely areas to experience an increase in intermittent noise levels from outdoor activities.

### Air Quality

B.D. Neal and Associates prepared an Air Quality Study for the Petition Area in September 2011. Following completion of construction, motor vehicle emissions from vehicles entering and leaving the Kihei High School campus, during worst-case scenario conditions, will be well within both state and national ambient air quality standards. With or without the Project, carbon monoxide concentrations in the vicinity of the Petition Area during the next 15 years will likely decrease (improve) somewhat compared to existing concentrations. It will not be necessary to implement mitigation measures for traffic-related air quality impacts.

### Power, Telecommunications and Cable Services

Electrical power on Maui is provided by Maui Electric Company. Telephone and cable services in the project vicinity are provided by Hawaiian Tel and Oceanic Time Warner Cable, respectively. These service providers are anticipated to be able to provide the necessary services and no adverse impacts are expected.

### Solid Waste Infrastructure

Petitioner anticipates that the Kihei High School will be served by County of Maui solid waste collection and disposal services. Petitioner will emphasize waste diversion and recycling. During construction, waste will be hauled to the DeCoite Landfill for disposal.

### Hawai'i State Plan

Reclassification of the Petition Area generally conforms to the following applicable goals, objectives, policies and guidelines of the Hawai'i State Plan:

Chapter 226-4, HRS, State Goals.

226-4, HRS: (1) A strong, viable economy, characterized by stability, diversity, and growth, that enables the fulfillment of the needs and expectations of Hawaii's present and future generations.

(3) Physical, social and economic well-being, for individuals and families in Hawaii, that nourishes a sense of community responsibility, of caring, and of participation in community life.

#### Chapter 226-5, HRS, Objective and Policies for Population

226-5(b)(2), HRS: Encourage an increase in economic activities and employment opportunities on the neighbor islands consistent with community needs and desires.

#### Chapter 226-6, HRS, Objectives and Policies for the Economy – In General

226-6(b)(6), HRS: Strive to achieve a level of construction activity responsive to, and consistent with, State growth objectives.

#### Chapter 226-11, HRS: Objectives and Policies for the Physical Environment – Land Based, Shoreline, and Marine Resources.

226-11, HRS: (B) To achieve the land-based, shoreline and marine resources objectives, it shall be the policy of this State to:

(3) Take into account the physical attributes of areas when planning and designing activities and facilities.

(4) Manage natural resources and environs to encourage their beneficial and multiple uses without generating costly or irreparable environmental damage.

(8) Pursue compatible relationships among activities, facilities and natural resources.

(9) Promote increased accessibility and prudent use of inland and shoreline areas for public recreational, educational and scientific purposes.

#### Chapter 226-13, HRS, Objectives and Policies for the Physical Environment – Land, Air, and Water Quality.

226-13, HRS: (B) To achieve the land, air and water quality objectives, it shall be the policy of this State to:

(6) Encourage design and construction practices that enhance the physical qualities of Hawaii's communities.

(7) Encourage urban developments in close proximity to existing services and facilities.

#### Chapter 226-14, HRS, Objectives and Policies for Facility Systems – In General.

226-14 HRS: (A) Planning for the State's facility systems in general shall be directed towards achievement of the objectives of water, transportation, waste disposal and

energy and telecommunications systems that support statewide social, economic and physical objectives.

(B) To achieve the general facility systems objective, it shall be the policy of this State to:

- (1) Accommodate the needs of Hawaii's people through coordination of facility systems and capital improvement priorities in consonance with State and county plans.
- (2) Encourage flexibility in the design and development of facility systems to promote prudent use of resources and accommodate changing public demands and priorities.
- (3) Ensure the required facility systems can be supported within resources capacities and at reasonable cost to the *user*.

#### Chapter 226-16 HRS, Objective and Policies for Facility Systems – Water.

226-16 HRS: (A) Planning for the State's facility systems with regard to water shall be directed towards achievement of the objective of the provision of water to adequately accommodate domestic, agricultural, commercial, industrial, recreational and other needs within resource capacities.

(B) To achieve the facility systems water objective, it shall be the policy of this State to:

- (1) Coordinate development of land use activities with existing and potential water supply.
- (6) Promote water conservation programs and practices in government, private industry, and the general public to help ensure adequate water to meet long-term needs.

#### Chapter 226-21 HRS, Objective and Policies for Socio-Cultural Advancement – Education.

226-21 HRS: (A) Planning for the State's socio-cultural advancement with regard to education shall be directed towards achievement of the objective of the provision of a variety of educational opportunities to enable individuals to fulfill their needs, responsibilities and aspirations.

(B) To achieve the education objective, it shall be the policy of this State to:

- (1) Support educational programs and activities that enhance personal development, physical fitness, recreation and cultural pursuits of all groups.
- (2) Ensure the provision of adequate and accessible educational services and facilities that are designed to meet individual and community needs.
- (3) Provide appropriate educational opportunities for groups with special needs.
- (4) Promote educational programs which enhance understanding of Hawaii's cultural heritage.
- (7) Promote programs and activities that facilitate the acquisition of basic skills, such as reading, writing, computing, listening, speaking and reasoning.
- (8) Emphasize quality educational programs in Hawaii's institutions to promote academic excellence.
- (9) Support research programs and activities that enhance the education programs of the State.

Chapter 226-104, HRS, Population Growth and Land Resources Priority Guidelines

226-104 HRS: (A)(1) Encourage planning and resource management to insure that population growth rates throughout the State are consistent with available planned resource capacities and reflect the needs and desires of Hawaii's people.

(3) Ensure that adequate support services and facilities are provided to accommodate the desired distribution of future growth throughout the State.

(B)(1) Encourage urban growth primarily to existing urban areas where adequate public facilities are already available or can be provided with reasonable public expenditures and away from areas where other important benefits are present, such as protection of important agricultural land or preservation of lifestyles.

(2) Make available marginal or non-essential agricultural lands for appropriate urban uses while maintaining agricultural lands of importance in the agricultural district.

(9) Direct future urban development away from critical environmental areas or impose mitigating measures so that negative impacts on the environment would be minimized.

(12) Utilize Hawaii's limited land resources wisely, providing adequate land to accommodate projected population and economic growth needs while ensuring the protection of the environment and the availability of the shoreline conservation lands, and other limited resources for future generations.

Chapter 226-107, HRS, Quality Education Priority Guidelines

226-197 HRS: (A) Priority guidelines to promote quality education:

(1) Pursue effective programs which reflect the varied district, school and student needs to strengthen basic skills achievement.

(2) Continue emphasis on general education "core" requirements to provide common background to students and essential support to other university programs.

(5) Increase and improve the use of information technology in education by the availability of telecommunications equipment for:

(a) The electronic exchange of information.

(b) Statewide electronic mail.

(c) Access to the Internet.

Functional Plans

Reclassification of the Petition Area generally conforms to the functional plans in the following program areas: education, employment, energy and recreation.

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Conformance with Coastal Zone Management Objectives and Policies

The Kihei High School Property is approximately one mile inland from the shoreline and its development will not impact coastal recreational opportunities or affect existing public access to the shoreline.

Kihei High School is not expected to impact cultural resources as no archaeological or cultural resources have been identified on the Property; there is no evidence of past or present use for Hawaiian cultural practices, resources, or beliefs.

The Petition Area is designated Zone X, outside the 100-year flood plain and is not in the tsunami inundation zone.

Maui General Plan

Development of Kihei High School is consistent with the following objectives and policies of the Maui County General Plan. The Maui County Planning Department supports the boundary amendment for Kihei High School. The following General Plan objectives and policies are applicable to Kihei High School:

Improve Education

Objective 1: Encourage the State to attract and retain school administrators and educators of the highest quality.

Objective 2: Provide nurturing learning environments that build skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Objective 3: Provide all residents with educational opportunities that can help them better understand themselves and their surroundings and allow them to realize their ambitions.

Objective 4: Maximize community-based educational opportunities.

Strengthen the Local Economy

Objective 1: Maui County's economy will be diverse, sustainable and supportive of community values.

Improve Parks and Public Facilities

Objective 1: A full range of island-appropriate public facilities and recreational opportunities will be provided to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors.

Objective 2: Improve the quality and adequacy of community facilities.

Objective 3: Enhance the funding, management and planning of public facilities and park lands.

#### Diversify Transportation Options

Objective 2: Reduce the reliance on the automobile and fossil fuels by encouraging walking, bicycling and other energy-efficient and save alternative modes of transportation.

#### Improve Physical Infrastructure

Objective 4: Direct growth in a way that makes efficient use of existing infrastructure and to areas where there is available infrastructure capacity.

### Kihei-Makena Community Plan

Kihei High School supports the following goals, objectives, policies, and implementing actions set forth in the Kihei-Makena Community Plan:

#### Land Use

Goal: A well-planned community with land use and development patterns designed to achieve the efficient and timely provision of infrastructural and community needs while preserving and enhancing the unique character of Ma`alaea, Kihei, Wailea and Mākena as well as the region's natural environment, marine resources and traditional shoreline uses.

Objective (b): Identify priority growth areas to focus public and private efforts on the provision of infrastructure and amenities to serve existing residents and to accommodate new growth.

Objective (f): Establish a distribution of land uses which provides housing, jobs, shopping, open space, and recreation areas in close proximity to each other in order to enhance Kihei's neighborhoods and to minimize dependence on automobiles.

Implementing Action (f): Establish and enforce building height limits and densities mauka of Pi`ilani Highway which preserve significant mauka views and vistas.

#### Economic Activity

Goal: A diversified and stable economic base which serves resident and visitor needs while providing long-term resident employment.

Objective (b): Expand educational opportunities and encourage research and technological activities.

#### Physical and Social Infrastructure

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Goal: Provision of facility systems, public services and capital improvement projects in an efficient, reliable, cost effective, and environmentally sensitive manner which accommodates the needs of the Kihei-Makena community, and fully support present and planned land uses, especially in the case of project district implementation.

Objective (c): Strengthen the coordination of land use planning and transportation planning to promote sustainable development and to reduce dependence on automobiles. New residential communities should provide convenient pedestrian and bicycle access between residences and neighborhood commercial areas, parks and public facilities.

Objective (d): Support ridesharing, bicycle and pedestrian use, alternative work schedules, traffic signal synchronization, and/or other transportation demand management strategies.

Implementing Action (g): Provide left turn storage lanes and acceleration/ deceleration lanes on Pi'ilani Highway, and traffic signals at important intersections along South Kihei Road.

#### Water Distribution

Objective (c): Develop water conservation, reuse and educational programs.

Objective (d): Encourage the use of non-potable water for irrigation purposes and water features. Prohibit the use of potable water in large water features or require substantial mitigation fees.

Objective (e): Encourage the use of plants which have a relatively low need for water.

#### Energy and Public Utilities

Objective (a): Promote energy efficiency as the energy resource of first choice, and increase energy efficiency in all sectors of the community.

Objective (b): Locate goods, services, and employment in close proximity to residential centers to minimize energy expenditures for transportation.

#### Recreation

Objective (a): Provide high-quality recreational facilities to meet the present and future needs of residents of all ages and physical ability.

Implementing Action (d): Provide adequate maintenance programs and enforce existing regulations regarding littering and defacement of public property at all public facilities.

#### Education



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Objective (c): Require the delivery of quality educational facilities at the time such facilities are needed. Emphasize advanced planning so that school facilities such as classrooms, playgrounds, libraries, cafeterias and other appurtenant structures are delivered in a timely manner so as to eliminate the use of portable facilities.

Objective (d): Enhance the classroom learning environment through measures which would reduce excessive temperature and background noise problems.

Objective (f): Build a high school to serve the Kihei region when required to accommodate growth.

Implementing Action (a): Enhance the classroom learning environment through such measures as the installation of air-conditioning and ceiling fans.

Implementing Action (d): Plan and locate a site for a high school to serve the Kihei region.