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Land Use Commission
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Re: Testimony IN FAVOR of Final Environmental Impact Statement
Olowalu Town Master Plan (DKT. NO. A10-786)

Dear Land Use Commissioners,

I am writing to provide my support for the approval of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Olowalu Town Master Plan; DKT. NO. A10-786.

I would like to provide a quick story to explain why I support this project.

My daughter came to me the other night with a question about an online petition against the project. She is a junior in high school. She asked is this true that the developers plans will ruin the reef along with all the other negative claims on the petition.

I explained to her that the project has been planned for over 10 years to address all the concerns in the petition and that before you ever sign something, do your own homework and don't just jump on the social media bandwagon. Then we discussed change on Maui, development and growth. I asked who should be in charge of growth and where should it be done. We both agreed that Maui needs new communities designed by local people who are vested in the community they intend to raise their families in. We also discussed the negative impacts of the continued expansion of the already developed areas, such as Kahului and what is urban sprawl. She thought about it and realized that planned growth is important for our community in order to support our local families and maintain the island lifestyle we all love. Its unfortunate that today's social media can be used to create a scare within the community by providing false information that in turn feeds the anti development population into a negative vocal force.

I am in support of the the project and I feel it will create a wonderful place for Maui's families to live, work, and play.

Please approve the Olowalu Town Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Sincerely,
Ben Walin