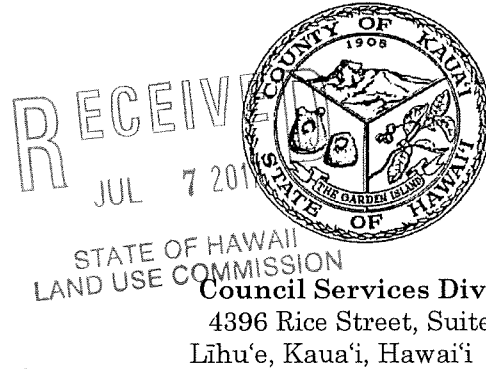


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ORIGINAL

July 7, 2017

SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF JOANN A. YUKIMURA
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
Land Use Commission Docket A17-802
County of Kaua'i Housing Agency
Lima Ola-201H

Chair Aczon and Members of the Land Use Commission:

Thank you, once again, for the opportunity to submit testimony as an individual Councilmember on the Kaua'i County Council.

Like you, I have had a chance over the past week to think more deeply about the proposed Lima Ola reclassification as well as examine the evidence provided last week. I have three observations to share.

"Incorrect" Exhibit re the Projected Growth of Hanapēpē-'Ele'ele

I understand that Marie Williams has testified that the diagram I used from the Updated General Plan (see Exhibit A attached to my Oral Testimony delivered on June 28, 2017) was incorrect. However, it is a page from the official document that was developed by the County of Kaua'i Planning Department and its consultants, recommended for approval by the Planning Department and approved by the Planning Commission. If we, the public, and you the public decision-maker cannot rely on such a document, what can we rely on?

Furthermore, no corrected version has been produced – perhaps because the plan cannot be amended without official action of the Planning Commission – which makes it impossible for the LUC or the public or anyone to be able to judge whether a proposed development is consistent with a plan that is supposed to guide the growth of Kaua'i for the next 20 years. In other words, I cannot contest the specific claim because I have not seen the new Planning Department numbers along with basis for their new projections. It would seem that the Planning Department should be bound by its own document and should be effectively estopped from disowning and disclaiming its own plan in this hearing.

It is not Clear that Applicant Housing Agency has the Capacity or Experience to Develop the Project

As it should, the 201H process puts emphasis on the capacity and expertise of the applicant to deliver the affordable housing. During the County Council meeting on this project, I raised the issue of capacity, but at that time Gary Mackler, who was hired when I was Mayor and who has a long history of excellent and dedicated service in providing affordable housing, was working for the Housing Agency and in charge of Development. Gary has since retired, and there is no one with Gary's level of knowledge or experience in the Housing Agency at this time.

The 201H Process is Inappropriate for a 20-30 Year Project

The 201H process is inappropriate for the phases of Lima Ola that are to occur over 20-30 years.

The whole purpose of Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) Section 201H is to make housing happen more quickly due to the urgent need for affordable housing. Both procedural and substantive protections are waived under the 201H process in order to accelerate the provision of affordable housing; this includes the requirement for a public hearing (there was no public hearing at the County level on Lima Ola)

Arguably, the intention of 201H was to apply to projects that would produce affordable housing quickly, not to projects that would occur in a 20-30 year time span. This makes sense because, as we have found, it is difficult to assess impacts when the time frame is 20-30 years. Thus, I recommend only approving Phase 1 at this time; there should be plenty of time for further phases to be handled through the normal process during Phase 1 build out.

Conclusion

All of the above are compelling reasons, in addition to points raised in previous testimony, to only reclassify enough land for the first phase of Lima Ola. The first phase is scheduled within the timeframe of a 201H process, and the impacts of subsequent phases, which is where the brunt of impact can be expected, will be forestalled until the County can prove its capacity, and decision-makers and the public can better assess the appropriateness and the impacts of developing those subsequent phases.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 241-4188.

Sincerely,



JOANN A. YUKIMURA
Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council



JoAnn Yukimura <jyukimura@gmail.com>

Fwd: LUC Docket A17-802, Lima Ola-201H

1 message

Sabra L Kauka <sabrakauka@icloud.com>
To: JoAnn Yukimura <jyukimura@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 7, 2017 at 2:46 PM

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

RECEIVED
JUL 7 2017STATE OF HAWAII
LAND USE COMMISSION

ORIGINAL

From: Sabra L Kauka <sabrakauka@icloud.com>
Date: July 7, 2017 at 8:25:24 AM HST
To: dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov
Subject: LUC Docket A17-802, Lima Ola-201H

Chair Aczon and Members of the Land Use Commission:

Mahalo for this opportunity to clarify my testimony presented to you last Friday. My name is Sabra Kauka and I teach Hawaiian Studies and Hula on Kaua'i.

When I testified last Friday, I was not clear on the potential impacts of such a large project in the context of larger planning issues for the island. It is very important to me to retain the essence of my island home even as we grow and change.

While I strongly support the provision of affordable housing, I now understand the importance of where it is located--to the homebuyer and to the larger community.

I support the first phase of Lima Ola, but I do not support the subsequent phases. Affordable housing should be located closer to employment opportunities to decrease transportation costs and traffic congestion.

Mahalo for the opportunity to clarify my position.

Sabra Kauka
PO Box 3870
Lihue HI 96766

Sent from my iPhone