

Derrickson, Scott A

From: Tyson Okamura <okamurat20@knights.k12.hi.us>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 9:30 AM
To: DBEDT LUC

Aloha, Land Use Commission

My name is Tyson Okamura. I am currently a senior at James B. castle highschool who was recently educated on this controversial plan that has many people talking. I am here to state my support to the rezoning of conservation land into urban land regarding the expansion of Hawaiian Memorial Cemetery. Personally I support this plan due to the fact that my family already have a few late family members already buried there and plan to be buried along with them. Also, the graveyard has been here for decades and expansion was inevitable. The idea of moving graves that currently occupied the cemetery would most likely upset the families and would also be unfair to the future families as well. This issue is currently a popular topic in my community and it would not go unspoken about. My view on this may be biased due to the recent passing of my great grandma that will be buried there soon, but many locals and their families see the use of land unfair and oppressive. I am asking that the Land Use Commission to possibly reconsider the amount of land that will be used for the expansion. The use of land upsets many locals who want to keep this land because it has a history to it and that they can not describe what it means to them in words, but by what it means to them as a culture. In short, the expansion is not the end of the world but the amount of land being feels like it is shameful on the people who discovered these islands first or the people who believe their culture will shape the future generations to come.

Mahalo, Tyson OKamura

Derrickson, Scott A

From: Jaron Hookano Ward <hookanoj20@knights.k12.hi.us>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 10:51 AM
To: DBEDT LUC
Cc: Lauren Pokipala
Subject: Land Use Commision

Aloha, Land Use Commission,

I am a student at Castle Highschool and I am a resident of Kaneohe, and I oppose the expansion of the cemetery. I am here to state my opposition to the rezoning of conservation land into urban land regarding the expansion of Hawaiian Memorial Cemetery. There is a Hawaiian ancestry and ancient artifacts that are on these lands, also expanding the cemetery is rezoning conservation land to urbanization land and it was made that for a reason due to the ancient Mana that is on their land. I am a resident of Kaneohe and I am fed up with the increase of development in my hometown. This project would be another project of desecration of not just my community but also my culture because every ancient resemblance of my culture would be desecrated by urbanization.

I am asking that the Land Use Commission stops and thinks about the people and our fight to protect our culture. How can we prosper if we keep on taking but not giving back in return. I am a resident of this community and I oppose the expansion of the cemetery due to the desecration of my culture.

Mahalo.

Derrickson, Scott A

From: Destiny Clemente <clemented20@knights.k12.hi.us>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 10:58 AM
To: DBEDT LUC
Subject: hawaiian develop

Aloha Land Use Commission,

My name is Destiny Clemente and I attend Castle High School. I live in the Pu`ohala area and very familiar with the issue of rezoning preservation or conservation lands. Not too long ago, my community has been fighting Bill 27, which is the rezoning of preservation lands into residential land. I am here to state my opposition to the rezoning of conservation land into urban land regarding the expansion of Hawaiian Memorial Cemetery. I do not agree with this because the land holds significance to my Hawaiian culture. Without these ancestral sites, we will not be able to learn about our culture if we keep allowing "corporations" to develop the land. I would like to be able to preserve these spaces, so I can show my children what their ancestors had practiced and be able to have them experience first hand instead of looking it up in a book or online. I am asking that the Land Use Commission takes into consideration the history of this space and think about how it will affect the community and our resources, specifically our watershed. With cemeteries, there are toxic chemicals that seep into the groundwater from the caskets and the embalming process, and there is the chemical runoff from fertilization. We often don't see the chemicals that are going into the water source, and as a result don't care until we see the effects, which maybe 20 years down the road or longer. The more land we develop, the less spaces we will have to practice our culture, as well as less trees means less oxygen. We don't want Hawai'i to look like New York City with buildings and developed areas, it would defeat the purpose of why people come to Hawai'i.

Derrickson, Scott A

From: Braven Brown <brownb20@knights.k12.hi.us>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 11:00 AM
To: DBEDT LUC
Subject: Hawaiian Memorial Expansion

Aloha Land Use Commission,

My name is Braven Brown. I am a senior student at James B. Castle High School. I am here to state my opposition to the rezoning of conservation land into urban land regarding the expansion of Hawaiian Memorial. I am against this issue because I think that Hawaiian Memorial is fine the way it is right now. The reason why I care about this issue is because Hawaiian Memorial is a part of our Hawaiian community and I wouldn't want to change that. I ask that you guys leave Hawaiian Memorial the way it is because I think that it's fine the way it is. I have no other comments about this issue.