

From: [Hakoda, Riley K](#)
To: [Quinones, Natasha A](#)
Cc: [Orodenker, Daniel E](#); [Derrickson, Scott A](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] IAL laws
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:33:34 AM

IAL testimony

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathleen Shimizu <kathylshimizu@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:34 AM
To: Hakoda, Riley K <riley.k.hakoda@hawaii.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] IAL laws

I just received a letter from a law firm informing me of the IAL laws and the concerns related to them for owners of the parcels affected by these laws.

First off, I want my parcel taken off the list for the following reasons:

1. Farming is an unpredictable venture. We are subject to the whims of Mother Nature, the market and neighbors.
2. We are aging and plan to slow down or stop production and/or harvesting.
3. How do we meet sales requirements when our farm is soooo small and again subject to so many variables.
4. It seems we have zoning laws already, and ag dedication opportunities(which we have).

Perhaps those should be enforced instead of creating more laws that would require many layers of bureaucracy and cost to the taxpayers.

5. If people are grandfathered and omitted from the IAL laws I'm okay with that, but to make new laws after people have purchased their properties and have invested in other uses seems unjust. These governmental decisions are what cause people to have to sell their lands and move.

Some questions:

1. If our land is currently ag dedicated, how does it change?
2. is this only for the part of our property that's ag or the whole lot?
3. Who sat on the panel to write these laws? Couldn't be the small farmers, they know better.
4. Will everything be finalized before owners of impacted lands can petition?
5. What are the dates for IALs to be complete and lands put into this category?
6. What happens to lands on the market that fit the criteria for IAL but are being sold for development?
7. How did other people get their land off the list without lawyering up?

I have tried contacting my councilwoman but she has not returned my calls or emails.

Here's my info.:

Paul and Kathleen Shimizu
59-388 Alapio Rd.
Haleiwa, HI
Oh. (808)497-2995
TMK RP 1-5-9-017-062-0000-000

Sent from my iPhone

From: [DBEDT LUC](#)
To: [Quinones, Natasha A](#); [Orodenker, Daniel E](#); [Derrickson, Scott A](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] LUC April 28 - 29 Meeting Testimony
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:22:42 AM
Attachments: [Testimony April 28th 2021.pdf](#)

IAL testimony

From: Samantha Grossi <sgrossio10@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 25, 2021 12:10 PM
To: DBEDT LUC <dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] LUC April 28 - 29 Meeting Testimony

April 24, 2021 (see attachment for PDF version)

Land Use Commission Members,

Many of my concerns may apply to other land recommendations for IAL designation however, my testimony speaks specifically to the Waianae area.

It is important to first point out that while this meeting intends to discuss “*whether the proper procedural, legal, statutory and public notice requirements were met in developing the recommendations*” the requirements in question are only proper in the eyes of those who were at the table when they were established. Largely the landowners, the real stakeholders in this conversation directly impacted by the decisions you will make, were not at that table. Deeming what you have determined “proper requirements” irrelevant to most impacted.

To the issue of procedural requirements, the adequacy of data points collected and data collection methods used to inform these recommendations need to be questioned. It appears that soil quality was used as a large indicator of land viability. How were soil samples obtained from individual properties to determine soil viability? Also, why were individual landowners not consulted in the data collection process? Why were interviews not conducted with individual landowners to understand the land in question, its history, how it is currently being used, the benefit it has to the community, and individual landowners, in its current state?

Furthermore, data collection solely on the most viable pieces of land stops short of considering potential economic social damage this designation may have to the Waianae community and families impacted. Why was data not specifically collected on the adverse effects of the IAL designation? This type of limited, one-sided data collection and analysis is misleading, irresponsible, and blind to the real-world consequences of its implications.

There also appears to have been a process to petition for land to be exempt from recommendation. Individual landowner requests for exemption, because they do not wish for their land to be designated in this manner, was evidently not enough to overturn a decision. I understand this issue itself is a discussion for another day

however, the process by which landowners were able to submit a petition was not sufficiently communicated to all landowners impacted. This directly relates to the issue of public notice requirements.

The City and County go to great lengths in its April 21, 2021 report to outline how landowners were notified. However, if you go into the communities impacted and ask the residents if they are aware of and understand this initiative it will be evident that the City and County's efforts were insufficient. The methodology used for community involvement shows a misunderstanding of the community itself. Within the community of landowners are older generations, those whose first language may not be English, and those of low socioeconomic status. It has been repeatedly shown that the use of mail, websites, and newspaper articles are not the most effective means by which to communicate significant change within this community. These methods bring into question issues such as equal access to information including internet access and newspapers which require a paid subscription, and language barriers. A proven method of communication within the Waianae community is canvassing to speak directly to landowners and stakeholders. This was not done and appears to not have been taken into consideration under the public notice requirements.

The quality of the methods that were used should also be critically looked at. Two mailouts are insufficient. The two that went out provided little to no information to landowners about the issue at hand or how to speak with someone to gather more information. Key community meetings were not always easily accessible. For example, the 2017 meeting that presented a draft to the community took place in Kapolei while a substantial amount of the land in question is located in Waianae. This venue choice was not an act of good faith nor did it appear to have the landowners' interest at heart. At other key meetings, this specific issue was often second on the agenda, much like today. For such an important issue special meetings should have been designated. This process was plagued with other issues such as only one landowner participating in the focus group as well as a documented record of community members who attended meetings expressing that the information provided by the City and County was not easy to understand, was not presented in accessible layman terms, and most importantly was incomplete.

The City and County did not act in good faith nor do its due diligence in its unacceptable attempts to inform landowners that their property will be, or has been, recommended for IAL when it was not able to provide full explanations of, but not limited to: Potentially harmful ramifications and consequences for individual landowners, how agricultural land currently used for livestock will be impacted, and if there will be an opportunity to opt-out of the IAL designation.

It is impossible to discuss the matter of meeting public notification requirements without acknowledging that the bare minimum of informing landowners of what has been proposed in an attempt to meet compliance is not enough. It appears that the City and County have taken advantage of landowners by intentionally lacking transparency on key pieces of information landowners need to fully understand these recommendations and how they may impact their land and way of life. What is taking place is insulting to landowners and a disappointment on the part of State and City

and County officials who are to serve all Hawai'i residents, not special interest groups, international business, or those looking to make a profit under the guise of sustainability efforts.

As this process continues I urge you to get to know the landowners your decisions will directly impact. These people are not large corporations. They are longtime, if not lifetime, members of the community. They are small family business owners. They are hard-working people who deserve better than this mistreatment. The majority of people you encounter will have the same goals of keeping agricultural land agricultural, of seeing our land thrive and prosper in diverse ways, keeping local business local, and preventing urbanization of agricultural lands. We have common ground. We have common goals. But this is not the way to achieve them.

Sam Nakamoto
Waianae Community Member

From: [DBEDT LUC](#)
To: [Quinones, Natasha A](#); [Orodenker, Daniel E](#); [Derrickson, Scott A](#); [Chow, Linda L](#)
Subject: FW: To Land use Commission
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:21:04 AM

IAL pubic testimony-w/ Japanese language interpreter request

Linda- this is the first request for language interpreter w/ ZOOM for me- logistically, an interpreter might be able to assist using the recorded meeting afterwards, but can't think of a way to provide it during the meeting- any suggestions?

-----Original Message-----

From: Yamamoto Mieko <ponoilio@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 25, 2021 12:59 PM
To: DBEDT LUC <dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] To Land use Commission

To Land use Commission
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism State of Hawaii

Dear Executive Officer/ Daniel Orodenker

Aloha!

My name is Mieko Yamamoto.

I received a letter about My Land redesignation proposal to agricultural land And was very upset and disappointed to hear of such a proposal.

I came here (Hawaii) 1999 from Tokyo Japan. I studied at Interior Design school in Tokyo Meguro.

Now I am 59 years old . I Moved to Waianae because I have to take care for my health from high-blood pressure. sense my background is Interior Design I don't want to become a farmer.

About 2 years ago I tried to grow a few vegetables for myself, Tomato, Eggplant, Japanese cucumber, Shiso ,Tokyo negi ,green onion, Hayato Uli also Avocado, Cacao, etc.

After Gardening I had Injured my Hip and shoulder. Also I got a tetanus shot To protect me from parasite and insect on the property.

Every morning and evening, I watered with a High water cost, But To no avail There's so much full sun Everything dry out completely before harvest.

Also so many stone. can't Even dig 5 cm.

This property need soil to be productive in agricultural Also Flooded occurs when we experience heavy rains.

Please do more research and rethink this proposed land map. As it includes residential lots churches graveyards etc.

I want to volunteer my time to helping people and society my religion with SGI-USA Buddhism organization now . Ours philosophy is human connections to environment ,this earth too.

I agreed agriculture is important but I believe, Here is America. We have freedom and respect for each other's life and culture, work and Property .

We bought this residence in August 2018.

Because this was not agriculture land with a history of the lot being a residential Single family lot for over 80 years with no fees or dues Associated with the purchase.

This is the reason we bought this Property Because it had no fees or dues. We had the opportunity to buy ag land when we were searching for this property. We could have bought 7 acres for \$420000 (1acre=\$60,000) In comparison to what we paid for our Residential lot that is less than an 1acre (0.85) for \$522,500 We bought a dilapidated home in need of remodeling greatly because of the size of the yard and it's-potential. My mortgage on this property is for a single-family home if the property is re-designated to ag land it would diminish my property

value greatly in my particular case I would not even be able to sell to a farmer for the simple fact that my land is too small full of rocks and has flooding problems soil condition problems along with no access to agricultural water. For these reasons we request an exemption from the proposed agricultural map designation.

PS

I resaved at April 28,29th ZOOM MTG.
Can I have Japanese translator?

Mieko Yamamoto
86-124 Kuwale rd Waianae HI 96792

Email: ponoilio@hotmail.com

Sent from my iPhone

From: [DBEDT LUC](#)
To: [Quinones, Natasha A](#)
Cc: [Orodenker, Daniel E](#); [Derrickson, Scott A](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Important Agricultural Lands
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 8:10:59 AM

IAL testimony

From: Linda Baptiste <baptiste.linda@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 25, 2021 3:00 PM
To: DBEDT LUC <dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov>; Rblangiardi@honolulu.gov
Cc: Malahoff, Andrew <amalahoff@honolulu.gov>; mformby@honolulu.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Important Agricultural Lands

Linda Baptiste
41-849 Kakaina Street
Waimanalo, Hawaii 96795

April 25, 2021

Mr. Daniel E. Orodenker
Executive Officer
Land Use Commission
P. O. Box 2359
Honolulu, Hawaii 97804-2359

Email: dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov

Subject: C&C of Honolulu - Important Agricultural Lands (IAL) Designation

RE: 4-1-025-006 & 4-1-025- 007 (My Property)

Dear Mr. Orodenker:

Please make sure that the following is submitted as public testimony for C&C HNL IAL.

I am opposed to the planned IAL program which will adversely affect my property and respectfully request that my property be excused and excluded from any IAL designation.

I am a widow. My property has been in our family for generations, it has been our family home where my husband and I are raised our children, grand-children and great grand-children, and will stay in our family for generations to come. My husband was born and raised in Hawaii and was a Veteran who worked hard to provide for his family and leave us with our home, security and a legacy.

Agricultural activity has been conducted on our property for decades and continues to be conducted. This IAL is a flawed and defective designation that will severely adversely affect us.

1. **I was NEVER informed of this IAL Designation affecting my property.** Had I been informed, my husband and I would have immediately and formally objected to this change and taken all legal measures to protect our property from this.
2. My neighbor received a letter from the LUC dated April 12, 2021, regarding her agriculture property and

asked me if I received a letter. **I did not receive a letter from the LUC.** My initial impression was that this was affecting her property and not mine.

3. I received an awareness letter from a Law Firm dated 4/12/2021, informing me that my property was indeed affected by this IAL. This is the first time that I had any knowledge that my property was involved with this IAL. **LET ME REPEAT: This is the first time that I had any knowledge that my property was involved with the IAL.**

4. As such, because I have not been informed properly and in a timely manner from any governmental entity, **I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT MY DUE PROCESS UNDER THE LAW HAS BEEN DENIED.**

5. I do not feel that government statutory requirements have been met regarding the IAL and my property.

6. The City NEVER consulted me or informed me of any options, rights, criteria or negative impacts on my property. It is completely unacceptable that notification from a Law Firm was how I found out about IAL.

7. I am completely opposed to this IAL moving forward.

I am officially requesting that my property indicated above be excluded and exempt from the IAL.

In my opinion, this IAL designation is poorly planned and regarding owner notification poorly executed. It appears to encompass a broad sweep of ambiguity, which is poorly and incompletely thought out. IAL adversely affects many law abiding land owners on multiple levels. There is a serious problem in that there are so many land owners indicating that they also were not or have not been informed of this.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of these issues.

Sincerely,

Linda Baptiste

Linda Baptiste
Phone 808 259-9648

Linda Baptiste
baptiste.linda@gmail.com

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From: [DBEDT LUC](#)
To: [Quinones, Natasha A](#); [Orodenker, Daniel E](#); [Derrickson, Scott A](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Designation of Important Agricultural Lands (My Testimony)
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:34:13 AM

From: Yvonne Watarai <yywatarai@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2021 1:55 PM
To: DBEDT LUC <dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Designation of Important Agricultural Lands (My Testimony)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Yvonne Watarai <yywatarai@yahoo.com>
Subject: Designation of Important Agricultural Lands (My Testimony)
Date: April 24, 2021 at 6:36:50 PM CDT
To: dbed.luc.web@hawaii.gov

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to state my reason against this designation:

First of all, many of us are not educated enough to understand what has been going on even though you have sent out notices. We read them, but don't understand them and don't realize the seriousness of them.

I feel that small land owners have not had proper notification, the knowledge, the wherewithal to know the seriousness of this process nor the resources to navigate this process. The City and County of Honolulu did not contact landowners adequately to conduct an agricultural economic feasibility analysis on EACH property proposed on the map. I would have appreciated if I got a notice to set up a time for an official to actually visit my property and inform me of the proposal for my property. We should have been "educated"!

IAL is trying to limit occupancy in dwellings to "actively" farming" tenants only. This could affect the cost of leases and land and will limit kupuna and other retired farmers from living on their land. In my case, the farmer leasing my land retired and I have not been able to find another farmer. I have two homes that are being rented. The tenants have been there for over 40 years. If my property becomes IAL...then what? I have to kick out my tenants? What will happen to my property? Will you take it away?

Is there a way to exempt my property? Watarai, Yvonne Y Trust

Property Address: 87-969 Paakea Rd.

Waianae, Hi. 96792

Parcel ID/TMK 1-8-7-018-023-

0000-000

I will be in Chicago for a few months. Please call me at (808) 371-2261

Thank you,

Yvonne Y Watarai

April 24, 2021

Dear Land Use Commissioners and Board Members,

My name is Derek Arakaki and I am the owner of 87-1660 Kapiki Road (TMK: 870210440000).

I received a notice from the City and County of Honolulu dated 11/08/17 informing me that my property was included in the Department of Planning and Permitting's proposed IAL map. This was the first time I was informed of the proposed IAL designation.

I attended the "final community meeting to view the final draft IAL Map and the IAL process" at Aiea Intermediate School cafeteria on 11/20/17.

On 11/24/17 I sent a letter to Mr. Ray Young of the City and County of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting requesting that my property be excluded from IAL designation.

To date, I have not received any response to my request.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns.

Sincerely,
Derek Arakaki

From: [DBEDT LUC](#)
To: [Orodenker, Daniel E](#); [Derrickson, Scott A](#); [Quinones, Natasha A](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Important Agricultural Lands / Contested Designation Request
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 7:27:56 AM

From: Bonnie Grossi <grossib001@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 25, 2021 11:06 AM
To: DBEDT LUC <dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Important Agricultural Lands / Contested Designation Request

TRIPLE G STABLES, LLC
87-1161 Iliili Road
Waianae, Hawaii 96792
TMK: 1-8-7-019-023-0000-000

RE: Conformance of C&C of Honolulu Important Agricultural Lands (IAL) Recommendations

Land Use Commission Meeting April 28-29, 2021

TO: The Land Use Commission Members
dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov

Triple G Stables LLC (Stables) at the above referenced TMK is hereby registering a formal objection to being included in the IAL designation for the following reasons:

1. The C&C of Honolulu did not fully discuss the details and consequences of how an IAL designation could impact the property.
2. The narrow criteria the C&C of Honolulu used for recommending an IAL should not be adopted by the Land Use Commission. A more comprehensive process should be utilized.
3. In accordance with HRS§ 205-47(d)(5) the C&C of Honolulu did not provide a format for the Stables to articulate its position on being designated as an IAL.

At this time a Contested IAL Designation is also being requested.

Respectfully,
Bonnie Costa Grossi, president
(808) 260-8830
grossib001@gmail.com

From: [Hakoda, Riley K](mailto:chiappets001@hawaii.rr.com)
To: chiappets001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Designation of Important Agricultural Lands Waianae
Date: Monday, April 26, 2021 11:07:00 AM

Aloha and Mahalo for your email/public testimony.
Please contact the Department of Planning and Permitting City and County of Honolulu Raymond Young 808 398 6933 to discuss your property exemption request.

From: chiappets001@hawaii.rr.com <chiappets001@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:59 AM
To: Hakoda, Riley K <riley.k.hakoda@hawaii.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Designation of Important Agricultural Lands Waianae
Importance: High

Aloha Riley:

I just signed up for the April 28, 2021 meeting for the Designation Of Important Agricultural Lands

I wanted to leave a written statement, but could not locate the site to do so, is it too late?

My address is 85-1512 Waianae Valley Road, Waianae, Hawaii. 96792

The size of my property is only 1.020 acre, too small to make a living farming and there is no way to farm. There is a house and garage on the property, so that makes even more unreasonable to designate this property for farming.

I am writing to say that my property should be exempt.

My TMK #850040870000

Mahalo,

Albert J Chiappetta
Sylvia B Chiappetta

