

May 19, 2021

State of Hawaii Land Use Commission
P.O. Box 2359
Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Email: dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov

To the Land Use Commission,

This letter comes to you in regards to our 2-acre farm in Waimanalo that is being recommended for IAL designation.

TMK: 141026031

Address: 41-244 Hihimanu Street
Waimanalo, HI 96795

Owners: Gordon & Jennifer Ah Nee (Kahua Pohaku Farms, LLC)

We are **OPPOSED** to this IAL designation and ask to **NOT** be considered. Here are a few crucial reasons:

- 1) Our farm has roughly 1.5 acres out of the total 2 acres available for actual farming. We have a flag lot with a long 800" x 16" driveway and we're in the process of obtaining our building permit for a 40x60 barn (with an attached 2 bedroom apartment). This leaves enough land for a very small farm operation or homestead. One could sell occasionally at a farmer markets but there is no way a property this size could economically and physically produce high yield crops. Let alone provide a livable full-time income.
- 2) Our farm grows sod/turf grass. This landscape crop is suitable considering the soil on our farm is heavy clay under just a few inches of soil. Also, the sod can withstand the Windward side's climate of heavy rains and wind. It would be cost prohibitive and just impractical to try and grow food products in these soil and climate conditions.
- 3) We are like the majority of farms in Waimanalo in that we grow and sell landscape &/or nursery plants. We proudly provide a local product to retailers, homeowners, landscapers and contractors on our island.
- 4) Farming on our miniature farm is not our full-time employment. It is part-time income and hopefully a place for our children to live and help care for our land. An inheritance and legacy to pass down. It may also be an option for

retirement. We could downsize to the 2-bedroom apartment and continue working the land for part-time income. Then leave the land to our children and their children.

- 5) With more restrictions and regulations, there is great concern for the real estate value of our property to decrease. We have worked hard, physically and financially, to invest in our property, follow the existing laws and regulations and pay our taxes. The existing framework has been fine. Especially for smaller farms.

So with all due respect, please consider removing our names and farm from the IAL map. We appreciate this opportunity.

Thank you,

Gordon & Jennifer Ah Nee
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