

From: [DBEDT LUC](#)
To: [Quinones, Natasha A](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] testimony for LUC April 28-29 on Important Ag Lands
Date: Monday, May 03, 2021 8:18:56 AM

From: Marcia Peterson <alohamarcia808@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 11:46 PM
To: DBEDT LUC <dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] testimony for LUC April 28-29 on Important Ag Lands

TO: Land Use Commission
From: Marcia Peterson and family
RE: Pueo Land Trust (Kipapa Farm)
94-424 Kamehameha Hwy.
TMK 94005010

Dear LUC Board Members;

The City & County of Honolulu has fallen grossly short in ensuring that small farmers are fully informed and understand the implications of an IAL designation of their farm land. We were not fully aware and have not received notifications of meetings and forums regarding IAL. Our family has been farming on Oahu for over 120 years.

There has NOT been full transparency from the City & County in how this IAL designation would affect a small farming operation like ourselves. We question their IAL designation procedures and how their criteria was applied to certain ag lands. We don't know who the consultant was or the committee members. If these persons had any farming experience, they would know that the criteria they set would only be detrimental to certain small farmers like us.

Why is it that the committee set only 3 criteria for IAL designation when they were supposed to set 8 criteria according to the law? Why did the C&C not make sure they consulted with all landowners as the IAL law mandates? This provision in the law MUST be followed. Just sending out meeting notices does not assure that all landowners and farmers have been contacted and are aware of the ramifications of this designations on their family farm.

If the state and city wants to support Hawaiian agriculture for current and future farmers of our state, then we need to take several steps back on the implementation of the IAL and review how this can be better implemented with full transparency and complete communication with all farmers and landowners.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.
Marcia Peterson

