Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Re: Hokuao 201H Housing Project – Letter of Support

To: Whom it may concern,

Please accept this letter as my support for the Hokuao 201H Housing Project. I am a resident of Lanai and I also work here. The island is in need of more housing. I love our community and I am aware of multiple families that share their homes because there just isn’t anywhere else to go.

We are a growing community with exciting things taking place. We will need to have more housing to accommodate the growing need to add employment and to help reduce the current overcrowding. Please vote to approve and support this housing project.

Thank you for your time,

EDUARDO NAPOLII Jr.
451 LAMA ST. PO BOX 630411
LANAI CITY HI. 96763
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[Signature]

Conchita Depor
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Matt Giwandal

Peter Pablo
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Thank you for your time,

[Signature]
Aloha,

To whom it may concern. I’m writing this letter in support of the Hōkūao 201H Housing Development. We are in desperate need of housing to be added to the available inventory on Lāna‘i. I live and work here and know of families that are crammed into 1-bedroom homes with as many as 8 members of the household. This is not an uncommon issue.

Our island and community are growing for the good of our economy; however our housing shortage prevents us from expanding the workforce needed to supply these operations. The local independent businesses are short-handed, as well as the Four Seasons Hotels, Sensei Operations, and Pulama Lāna‘i.

Please vote to support and approve this much needed housing project.

Mahalo,

Katy Deshotels-Moore
514 Nininiwai Circle
Lāna‘i City, HI, 96763
July 27, 2021

RE: Hōkūao 201H Residential Project – Letter of Support

To Councilmember Gabe Johnson and Committee Members:

I write in support of the development of the Hōkūao 201H Residential Project.

With the challenges of finding workers to achieve acceptable staffing numbers within businesses on Lāna‘i to include Pūlama Lāna‘i, both Four Seasons properties, Sensei Farms, as well the privately operated businesses, I believe housing opportunity will significantly benefit the workforce and increase staff where businesses are short.

Housing has been a long-time concern since I moved back to Lāna‘i in late 2013. There used to be a “waitlist” you could be added to when housing opened up, but, due to the increased need, a “waitlist” no longer exists because we’re told, “there is no housing to wait for”. This housing project will help the existing residence on island that have growing families that require a larger space and those that are in need of a unit for their families due to over-crowding already occurring in homes. I can’t imagine this alone will be sufficient to take care of the present need for those that already live on Lāna‘i, yet alone, those that we want to welcome to help fill job listings for positions that have been posted for an extended length of time.

Please understand the need and highly consider supporting the move to approve the development for additional housing on Lāna‘i with the Hōkūao 201H Housing Project.

Thank you all for your time.

Mahalo,

Levina Inaba
Resident of Lāna‘i
July 28, 2021

RE: Supporting Hōkūao 201H Housing Project

To Councilmember Gabe Johnson and Committee Members:

We are Lāna‘i residents. We live and work on island, and, write in support of the Hōkūao 201H Housing Project. We see the growing need for additional housing. As the island continues to grow so will the workforce that is needed to maintain behind development. We need to find a solution to help with the housing shortage on our precious island.

We maintain the gardens at Sensei Lāna‘i, A Four Seasons Resort property, and we’ve never been fully staffed since the opening of the hotel. It’s been difficult to find workers. And, we need the help! Here on island, people move from job to job between businesses. And, with the labor pool being so limited here, we see a circle of hiring, transferring which keeps positions open and never getting filled. Additional housing will allow people the opportunity to consider making Lāna‘i their residence and help to fill positions, like the positions we’ve been struggling to fill on our own landscape team.

We ask for your support of this much needed housing project and request that you approve to move forward with development.

We thank you for your time and hope you will consider our request.

Mahalo,
Koʻele Retreat Landscaping

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Aloha,

I write to support the Hōkuao affordable housing project. There are many positive benefits from this project that will help the people of Lāna‘i and the County of Maui as a whole.

This is the first affordable housing project on Lāna‘i in decades and it would give residents the space to grow as individuals, and the opportunity to gain independence in daily living. Multi-generation households are the norm because there is little housing available on island. For a population of approximately 3,000, a housing unit increase of 150 is huge. This project will give Lāna‘i residents crammed into small homes more housing options, and provide affordable housing for its residents in the 80 – 140% area median income (AMI) group in perpetuity. Further, the 39 affordable units at Iwiole for the less than 50-80% AMI group will remain affordable units in perpetuity even though the 30 year deed restriction recently expired.

Hōkuao’s design fits in well with the current rural setting of Lāna‘i City and has extras never seen in an affordable housing project. All units have sustainability in mind with solar power and batteries.

The County of Maui’s affordable housing project next door to Hōkuao, which has been on the books for decades, will get a much needed boost because infrastructure stub-outs will be brought closer to the County’s property by this project’s infrastructure upgrades. The County will reduce its own costs to build a complimentary project, with more housing options that fill other needs for the island.

Hōkuao alone is not going to satisfy all Lāna‘i housing needs, but it is a step in the right direction. As the island of Maui residents have seen, too few affordable housing projects were approved and built in recent years and we are now paying the price. I am one of the rare born and raised Maui residents who returned after college and it’s a fight to survive here.

Although I am a current employee of Pūlama Lāna‘i, I am not a resident of Lāna‘i and I believe their testimony should hold more weight. However, because the affordable housing crisis is critically important to all residents in the County of Maui, I want to clearly state my support.

Mahalo,

/s/ Sarah Simmons
Sarah Simmons
July 29, 2021

RE: Affordable Housing Need on Lāna‘i

Aloha Chair Johnson and Council Members,

My name is Alberto Gonzalez, and I serve as the Residential Manager at Iwi‘ole and Kānepu‘u, Multi-Family housing managed by Pūlama Lāna‘i.

I reach out to you on my behalf, and on behalf of many Lāna‘i residents, to express the need for housing and affordable housing on Lāna‘i. The depleted housing inventory levels is resulting in families being forced to live in over-crowded housing units. In one case, a family of over 10 members reside in a one bedroom unit. This is common in many housing situations. The consequence of multiple families living in smaller units can be detrimental to the well-being of its residents. It is both unsafe and unsanitary. Additionally, the lack of housing impacts growing families seeking more space. In other cases, new residents are unable to secure housing and are left with no choice but to live in one of the Four Seasons’ Hotels, without a kitchen or space for family, causing some families to separate and find alternate housing for their families, pets and assistance animals.

Lāna‘i has the lowest unemployment rate in Maui County. The main concern for most residents is not financial stability, but the lack of housing inventory. In the past two years, I have been consistently asked by Lāna‘i residents, and our tenants when housing will be available.

A viable solution to the housing crisis is your support on the Hōkūao 201H Residential Project, which will create 150 new homes, 51% of which will be affordable housing. That’s 76 affordable homes. The Hōkūao Rental Project is a tax payer benefit, since it will be 100% financed by Pūlama Lāna‘i, and no public or grant funding will be required. Affordable units will also remain in perpetuity.

Maui County could take advantage of the infrastructure that Pūlama Lāna‘i will install should Hōkūao be built. The County’s Lāna‘i affordable homes for purchase project and Hōkūao Project lands are adjacent to one-another, stubbing out the infrastructure from Hōkūao, could reduce the infrastructure expenses for the County’s project. Land was given to the County at no cost and Lāna‘i community has been patiently waiting for the County’s promise of affordable housing for nearly 30 years.

Affordable housing units will address families with average medium incomes that fall between Below Moderate to Above Moderate thresholds, and rental rates will include utilities. Hōkūao could meet this unsettled need. Please consider adding Lāna‘i housing a top priority. We humbly ask that you support our Lāna‘i community by providing opportunities to rent at Hōkūao on Lāna‘i.

Mahalo for your consideration,

The undersigned residents of Lāna‘i
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July 26, 2021

RE: Affordable Housing Need on Lāna‘i

Aloha Chair Johnson and Council Members,

As a member of the Lāna‘i community and an employee of Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts here in Lāna‘i, I would strongly support the Hōkūao Rental Project.

The limited amount of housing opportunities on island creates undue strain on its residents and the success of the businesses here in Lāna‘i. Due to limited housing, we suffer from lack of staff to assist us in doing our jobs. Additionally, we are having to have multiple family members residing in the current housing we have on island, thus creating uncomfortable living conditions.

Lack of housing is one of the most concerning challenges that we have here in Lāna‘i and feel that a viable solution to the housing crisis is your support on the Hōkūao 201H Residential Project, which will create 150 new homes, 51% of which will be affordable housing. That’s 76 affordable homes. The Hōkūao Rental Project is a taxpayer benefit, since it will be 100% financed by Pūlama Lāna‘i, and no public or grant funding will be required. Affordable units will also remain in perpetuity.

Mahalo for your consideration,

The undersigned employees of Four Seasons Resort Lāna‘i

\[Signature\]

\[Signature\]

\[Signature\]

\[Signature\]

\[Signature\]
NIDA M. CALDERON

Juliet L. Guillermo

Adela Olbina

OFELIA QUIOCHO

Melanie Maltese

Roschelle Kip-Diestra

Betty Aground

MAYRA CHAVES

GENEVI AGABATYI

Rosanna Richardson

William R. Duke

Ermn Cigian Ken Kamo
Jordan Scott R. Nano Scott

Dimple May Estrada

Lara Hoffman

Megan James

Clare Walcott

Sheila Del Rosario

Adela Jimenez

Venice Jackson

Kishia Sigraht

Kayci Kauahi Agaña

Chuda K. Campbell

Joseph A. Brante

Lester Honolulu

Reynante Floyd
YOLANDA BURGOS
RICHARD C. NABILIO
Geo Pillevar
Mitos Stephenson
REINARDO ELAN
NICHOLAS MAGGIOY
RUSTICO LEANO
Ryan Fanutea
JENNIFER AMOR
TARSHA R. MEDEIROS
Jose Angelo H. Boltero
CATHERINE TOLENTINO
Ric BELA
Ric-Shark Solis
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Mahalo for your consideration,

The undersigned employees of Four Seasons Resort Lāna‘i

[Signatures]

Maile Etche

Tanja Smith

Wendy Kei

Alastair McAlpine

Bradley Russell

Mashe Nelson
To whom it may concern,

We write in strong support and encouragement of the Affordable Housing Projects that are being proposed in Maui County, in particular the Hōkūao project on Lana’i. As people of deep faith and conviction our roots are in hospitality, welcoming the stranger, and providing shelter for the vulnerable. We believe that shelter and affordable housing are more than simple commodities. A secure home is the foundation for people to build their lives and thrive.

Our small, rural community of Lana’i has not seen new and affordable housing for working families in 30 years. This leaves many households doubling up with extended family as they wait for rental units to become available. This is especially noticeable for workers who come to Lana’i for employment, to strengthen their family, and be a part of our ‘ohana. While these arrangements are manageable for times of transition, they are not sustainable for households who intend to stay and be a part of creating community in this place.

For well over a century Lana’i has been a unique place that has drawn people from around the globe to work, to live, and to create community. The Hōkūao project continues in this tradition by creating beautiful and affordable homes to working families and public spaces for gathering for the whole island. The investment in this neighborhood by Pulama Lana’i along with the families who will live there will help all of Lana’i thrive.

We encourage the council to act to approve this plan and expedite the projects for affordable housing on Lana’i especially at Hōkūao.

Grace and Peace,

The Members and Friends of Lana’i Union Church

(signed on following page)
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Kathleen Aroncio
Sophie Aroncio
David Trefoil
Eliana Tolwoman
Yoni's P. Jack
Pauline J. Jack
Christa M. Nuna
Mary George
Bryan Tohoro
Minnie Lamille
Morgan Jonas
Shrew Jonas
Queenie Manuel
Adyleen Pabio
Varisa Lynn Waguk
William Waguk
Ansin Tiffas
Osmond Thompson
Kiyos Jackson
Affordable Housing Committee (2021) on 2021-08-16 1:30 PM
Meeting Time: 08-16-21 13:30

eComments Report

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<th>Agenda Items</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<th>Oppose</th>
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Sentiments for All Meetings
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment

- Support(75%)
- Oppose(0%)
- Neutral(25%)
- No Response(0%)
Affordable Housing Committee (2021) on 2021-08-16 1:30 PM
08-16-21 13:30

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<th>Agenda Name</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<th>Oppose</th>
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Sentiments for All Agenda Items
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment

Guest User
Location:
Submitted At: 2:03pm 08-14-21

We need more housing on Lanai even just for rent. Pulama is doing a good thing until the County can get it's project through for Lanai residents to purchase a home. Please also support this project for our community.

Guest User
Location:
Submitted At: 12:38pm 08-13-21

From: Pat Reilly Lana‘i (not sure if this went through)
To: Affordable Housing Committee
Maui County Council
Re: HOKUAU 201 H AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT LANA‘I
1) While my disappointment with HOKUAU remains that no units are for sale at affordable rates, if I were an elected official responsible for spending taxpayer monies I would approve the project with modifications as permitted by law.

2) Taxpayers will be provided 150 rental units, 76 at affordable rates with no cost to the taxpayer other than some fee losses and some County obligations through County-provided services. Seventy-six affordable units at no cost to the County will assist the County in reaching the suggestions of the recent housing study.

3) However, the County will now bear the burden through the Lana’i County Affordable Housing Project to support residents needing to purchase homes at affordable rates.

a) At least one of the testifiers on August 2, 2021 were County employees living with their parents who are also County employees. The County has been planning a project for many years. I recognize funding is an issue, however, younger County employees have been waiting for years.

b) In addition, other State, Federal, County, non-profit, private business and healthcare employees who serve our community daily are seeking to make Lana’i their home and need affordable housing for purchase.

4) Comments regarding requested exemptions:
   a) P.126, #2: Trees and landscaping:
      i) Cook Pines: Over time the roots encroach on roads and sidewalks requiring constant repair or no repair.
      ii) The trees drop large branches and pine cones. Over time they become a danger to structures. I suggest keeping them far from structures if selected at all.
      iii) “False” Kamani Tree is along Fifth Street. This variety drops large seeds on the sidewalk and street, sheds leaves in the Autumn and the roots uplift sidewalks.
      iv) Axis Deer: The deer will invade the project leaving scat and voraciously eating plants and shrubbery. Particularly during the current drought, deer are throughout Lanai City nightly.
   b) P129, #4b&e: Right of Way and Pavement Widths; Sidewalks:
      i) Americans With Disabilities Act:
         (1) Persons with disabilities needing mobility transportation on streets and in units need to be considered.
         (a) In the past students attending Lanai School have used motorized wheelchairs or even non-motorized transportation.
         (b) Elderly and other adults have these needs. For example, some seniors will use a Maui Economic Opportunity bus with lift transportation. Loading and unloading from the unit should be considered.
         (c) Sidewalks should provide an adequate width to accommodate their needs.
         (d) A pathway from Hokuau to the County parking near the cafeteria is appropriate for pre-school through high school students and adults for safety.

   e) The County should consider the need for crosswalks across Fraser Avenue with reflective crossing signs as foot traffic to the rest of the commercial and residential areas will increase.
   c) Workforce Housing:
      i) Rental Rates: On August 12, 2021 the U. S. Census produced very limited data related to Lana’i. Most data available are those from 2019, before the COVID downturn.
      ii) I believe the Housing and Urban Development data currently do not reflect the incomes after June 2020 when 425 Four Seasons and Pulama employees were furloughed or laid-off as described in the WARN letter to the State DLIR in August 2020.
      iii) The Area Median Income does not reflect the 29.3% unemployment rate of November 2020 for Lana’i reported by DLIR.
      iv) The rates should be reviewed.
      v) Provide an independent agent to assist potential applicants to fully understand the legal requirements of all lease agreements, including restrictions, deposits, avenues to resolve disputes, definitions of terms and requirements before approving the project to ensure full transparency.

Mahalo for your attention.
Aloha - I'm Carol Desha Truman (phone #7496) and wasn't able to add my support by testifying during today's meeting. Born and raised on Lana'i and living here over the past 2 years, I've seen the chronic need for affordable housing for Lana'i residents. As a retired educator, I know Hokuao's safe, affordable, consistent housing is crucial to student's and families success in school and in life. I sincerely hope that families will soon be able to move from renting to owning their own homes. Please add your support for this much needed visionary project. Mahalo and aloha.

Good afternoon, Chair and Members of the Affordable Housing Committee:

The Hokua_u housing project is just one step toward creating real choices. I don’t feel it's a perfect solution, but can we wait for perfection? Not just young individuals like my son, but people of my generation who want to return to the island but who happen to not have a home to which they can return, and potential newcomers with the passion to help us advance the welfare our of community cannot wait. We’ve lost them to opportunities elsewhere. We’ll continue to lose bright, creative minds and industrious individuals who know that housing is a struggle on L_na_i.

One step toward real choices.

We have to start somewhere.

Create an opportunity for people to rent on L_na_i, to have time to experience L_na_i, to want to stay on L_na_i. Then go further and form feasible housing purchase options for people who truly want to stake their future and the future of their families on L_na_i.

I am in general support of the Hokua_u rental housing project as a first step toward real choices. I have not read all of the documentation so cannot give specific support to the application as written.

I fervently hope that our Council will take additional steps toward creating other affordable rental options and realistic, owner-occupied housing choices for our island’s hard-working families and individuals – young and old - who are thinking not only of themselves but also about shaping the future generations of L_na_i; people who want to contribute to our island's sustainable growth and to the happiness of our community.

Thank you for your time,
Tess Morimoto
Statement of the ILWU Local 142 on the Proposed H_k_ao Housing Project in L_na'i City, L_na'i

The ILWU Local 142 strongly supports the proposed H_k_ao housing project in L_na'i City, L_na'i.

The biggest cost for most working families in Hawaii is housing. Many working families in Hawaii have a hard time finding homes they can afford to buy or rent and if they do, it often jumps their debt-to-income ratio well above 50 percent. This means many are house poor and unable to afford other important expenses and as a result struggle to make ends meet.

And just two months ago, the median home price for Maui County exceeded $1.1 million – a price no working family can afford let alone most working professionals. Affordable housing is clearly a concern for the County of Maui and that is why we strongly support H_k_ao.

H_k_ao will provide residents of L_na'i over 70 affordable single family rental homes allowing families that live on L_na'i the option of having their own single family home. Many of our members that live and work on L_na'i at the Four Seasons Resort strongly support this project and look forward to having more affordable housing options. It is important for them, and it is important to us.

In addition, H_k_ao is a workforce housing project and will help add inventory to a small supply of homes that currently exist on the market. With such a limited supply and high demand, home prices have been skyrocketing. H_k_ao will add to the inventory, giving potential new homeowners more options.

As a state and a county, we need to support as many affordable housing projects as possible to help keep Hawaii working families afloat. Local families born and raised in Hawaii shouldn’t have to move to the mainland because they can’t afford Hawaii. But unfortunately, today, that is what many are doing. Fortunately, this project will help many working families make ends meet and stay in Hawaii. We strongly support and recommend H_k_ao move forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Roberto Andrion, Jr.
Maui Division Director

Roger Alconcel
Location:
Submitted At: 7:09pm 08-15-21

I am in support of the Hokoau housing project on Lana'i. I know a lot friends and families who need place to rent. With limited rentals available, the rental price is astronomical in private homes. We need more housing so the price for rent can be reduce for everyone looking. Families and friends wanting to come back home to Lana'i but none available. This will only continue to get worst unless you approve this project. Please support this housing project.

Guest User
Location:
Submitted At: 12:34pm 08-13-21

To: Affordable Housing Committee
Maui County Council
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      iv) The rates should be reviewed.

      v) Provide an independent agent to assist potential applicants to fully understand the legal requirements of all lease agreements, including restrictions, deposits, avenues to resolve disputes, definitions of terms and requirements before approving the project to ensure full transparency.

Mahalo for your attention.
We support this project as it will provide rental housing opportunities in our community.