

Clyde and Gloria Chun Trust
TMK 410250180000
41-640 Mahailua Street
Waimanalo, Hawaii 96795
(808) 479-2479

May 26, 2021

SENT VIA E-MAIL: dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov
Land Use Commission
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
P.O. Box 2359
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2359

**RE: May 26-27, 2021 LUC Meeting
Opposition to Proposed IAL Designation Based on Non-Conformance of C&C of Honolulu
IAL Recommendation to Applicable Statutory and Procedural Requirements**

Aloha Members of the Land Use Commission,

My name is Matthew Chun and I am the trustee for the Clyde and Gloria Chun Trust. I recently received a letter from the Land Use Commission (LUC) informing me that my property has been proposed by the City and County of Honolulu for designation as Important Agricultural Land (IAL). I was informed that the LUC will be taking up the County proposal to accept the City and County of Honolulu's IAL designations which includes my property.

My dad, Clyde Chun, purchased this property many years ago. He was able to farm the land and work for the State of Hawaii as a 5th grade teacher. He was able to raise his 9 children on this farm and put them all through private schools and pay for their higher-level education. He eventually retired from the State of Hawaii and went to work for the United State Department of Agriculture as an inspection officer and he continued to farm his land.

I followed his footsteps and decided to get an education in agriculture while continuing to work on the family farm with him. In 1990 I obtained a degree from the University of Hawaii in Horticulture and immediately applied and was hired by the USDA. I am currently still with the USDA and have continued to farm this land. I now have 3 children and want them to experience the great life that I had on this farm.

This farm has allowed me to earn some extra income to pay for my children's education and life's necessities. It has also allowed me to help others in our community. MCA Tropicals has donated products and services to churches, schools, not for profit organizations, and community events for many years.

I object to the process by which my property may be designated as IAL for the following reasons:

- The process for the IAL designation was flawed because among other things, it did not fully inform me of the potential impact of the IAL designation. In fact, I heard that there would be no impact whatsoever regarding the use of my land and its valuation. I don't know if this is true but it seems unlikely.
- I am not aware of what criteria was used to determine that my property should be designated IAL.
- The process did not provide adequate information as to how the LUC acceptance of these maps would impact my property.
- There was no guidance on how I could remove my property from being considered for IAL designation.

I respectfully request you to consider my concerns and reject the City and County of Honolulu's representation that it has followed all procedures required by State law. The IAL designation process needs to be more transparent so that landowners are better informed about how such a designation will impact their lands and their rights, what benefits and detriments are associated with this designation, and whether they have the ability to decline an IAL designation.

Thank you for taking my concerns into consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew Kit M.H. Chun, Trustee

Matthew Kit M.H. Chun
Dba MCA Tropicals
41-640 Mahailua Street
Waimanalo, Hawaii 96795
(808) 479-2479

May 26, 2021

SENT VIA E-MAIL: dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov
Land Use Commission
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
P.O. Box 2359
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2359

**RE: May 26-27, 2021 LUC Meeting
Opposition to Proposed IAL Designation Based on Non-Conformance of C&C of Honolulu
IAL Recommendation to Applicable Statutory and Procedural Requirements**

Aloha Members of the Land Use Commission,

My name is Matthew Chun and I am a landowner and farmer on Oahu. I recently received a letter from the Land Use Commission (LUC) informing me that my property has been proposed by the City and County of Honolulu for designation as Important Agricultural Land (IAL). I was informed that the LUC will be taking up the County proposal to accept the City and County of Honolulu's IAL designations which includes my property.

My dad, Clyde Chun, purchased this property many years ago. He was able to farm the land and work for the State of Hawaii as a 5th grade teacher. He was able to raise his 9 children on this farm and put them all through private schools and pay for their higher-level education. He eventually retired from the State of Hawaii and went to work for the United State Department of Agriculture as an inspection officer and he continued to farm his land.

I followed his footsteps and decided to get an education in agriculture while continuing to work on the family farm with him. In 1990 I obtained a degree from the University of Hawaii in Horticulture and immediately applied and was hired by the USDA. I am currently still with the USDA and have continued to farm this land. I now have 3 children and want them to experience the great life that I had on this farm.

This farm has allowed me to earn some extra income to pay for my children's education and life's necessities. It has also allowed me to help others in our community. MCA Tropicals has donated products and services to churches, schools, not for profit organizations, and community events for many years.

I object to the process by which my property may be designated as IAL for the following reasons:

- The process for the IAL designation was flawed because among other things, it did not fully inform me of the potential impact of the IAL designation. In fact, I heard that there would be no impact whatsoever regarding the use of my land and its valuation. I don't know if this is true but it seems unlikely.
- I am not aware of what criteria was used to determine that my property should be designated IAL.
- The process did not provide adequate information as to how the LUC acceptance of these maps would impact my property.
- There was no guidance on how I could remove my property from being considered for IAL designation.

I respectfully request you to consider my concerns and reject the City and County of Honolulu's representation that it has followed all procedures required by State law. The IAL designation process needs to be more transparent so that landowners are better informed about how such a designation will impact their lands and their rights, what benefits and detriments are associated with this designation, and whether they have the ability to decline an IAL designation.

Thank you for taking my concerns into consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew Kit M.H. Chun

Martha Stefanowicz
57 Pilipu Pl
Kailua, HI 96734

SENT VIA E-MAIL: dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov

Honorable Jonathon Scheuer
Chair
Land Use Commission
P.O. Box 2359
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2359

SUBJECT: Opposition to Proposed Important Agricultural Lands Designation

Dear Chair Scheuer and Members of the Commission,

My name is Martha Stefanowicz and my husband, Robert Stefanowicz and I are landowners in Waimanalo and own 3.4 acres. I recently received a letter from the Land Use Commission informing me that my property has been designated by the City and County of Honolulu as Important Agricultural Lands (IAL). Further, I was informed that the Land Use Commission may be taking action to accept the City and County of Honolulu's Important Agricultural Lands designation which includes my property in Waimanalo.

We purchased the property in July 2020 and thoroughly researched and communicated with the DPP to ensure that we knew what we could potentially do and could not do with the land prior to our purchase.

I object to the designation of my property as IAL for the following reasons: the process for the IAL designation was flawed and did not fully inform landowners of the designation's impact; the LUC process did not provide adequate information as to how the acceptance of these maps would impact our property; there was not clear guidance on how I could opt out of the IAL designation; and lastly the process was rushed and has left my family and I confused and perplexed.

I called the number provided on the letter and could not get clear answers on what the designation meant. I was directed to the April Zoom meeting and to a 700 page document on the website. I listened in on the April meeting as much as possible and referenced the website but it is still completely unclear whether this is something potentially beneficial to us or whether it would place additional restriction on what we can do with our property.

Please consider my concerns and reject the City and County of Honolulu's representation that it has followed all procedures with respect to state statute. The IAL designation process needs more vetting and landowners must be better informed about their options, how such designation will impact their lands, and whether or not they have the ability to "opt out" of such designation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Martha Stefanowicz