

**From:** [Diana Kaaihue](#)  
**To:** [DBEDT LUC](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Waiehu 201H Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 5, 2022 8:49:53 PM

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On your way to the site on Thursday, please notice the majesty of the area that they want to turn into a hillside of houses. There is history here, the two Ahupua'a, Waihee/Waiehu were home to thousands of Hawaiians for centuries. Descendants of them still live here. This is not a "culturally sterile" area.

I am writing to express my disappointment that this subdivision has already passed several hurdles on its way to fruition, based on what we think are erroneous conclusions in the EAS. I oppose this development because major issues are not being addressed, and the studies performed are severely inadequate for many reasons.

I have lived in this area since 1989, and I have talked to neighbors and many others, no one, NOT ONE, person thinks this is the right thing to do for this area. Sadly, most don't even know about it, or they just think nothing can be done to stop it. Residents feel they cannot win against the "powers that be", like the governing body of Maui seeming to make concessions with developers, especially mainland developers.

How can this be called "workforce" housing, when in fact most folks are employed in the resort areas like Wailea, Kihei and West Maui. The trip out of here from 7:30 am is a nightmare, and it starts again around 3:00 when school is out and folks are returning home.

This developer has attached "affordable" to the housing, but no one knows what affordable actually is. And only a small percentage will actually be that.

We all know that once the few local people who can afford them are exhausted, they will be sold at market. Also, current thought is that 70% of new builds are being purchased for investment or 2<sup>nd</sup> homes, 1100 last year alone

The affordable tag means that the county, the taxpayers, will have to pay for the necessary infrastructure, most particularly schools and ways of moving folks in and out of this area.

The addition, these two developments (Hale Mahaolu and Wailuku Residential

Community) will increase the population in this area by almost 50%, that means as many as 1600 additional cars in and out, as many as 1600 new students in already overcrowded schools, Waihee, Iao, and Baldwin. I've been through the morning mess when my kids and now my grandkids went to all three schools from 1989 to the present.

Taking this land out of agriculture is the wrong thing to do as well. We need the trees back here, not just for the "country" feel, but to create the cool air needed to stimulate rain. We are in the worst drought ever, and it will not get better. What about climate change? Is anyone paying attention to the impact of taking out a huge area of green? This is also the last green area in Wailuku, except for Iao Valley; let "country stay country. Sad to think that Hawaiian families have lived in Waihee for hundreds of years, yet feel powerless to stop these developments which will so greatly affect their lives.

Sincerely, Diana Kaaihue  
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