From: webmaster@hawaii.gov

To: DBEDT LUC

Subject: New Public Testimony

Date: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 7:04:09 AM



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Representing

Self

Agenda Item

A83-549 Kona Vistas LLC (f.k.a. Gamrex Inc.)

Position

Oppose

Testimony

I live in the Kona Seaview Subdivision for the past 24 years. I am highly opposed to the proposed Kona Vista project. I agree we do need to provide more housing, but having 450 units concentrated in this area will increase the number of vehicles on the road and worsen traffic gridlock (many people travel to work from as as far as Ka'u and continue up North) Our roads in this area are sub-standard (single-laned) and doesn't safely accommodate the increasing number of vehicles on our highways. We have little to no alternate roads in case of emergencies. Let's not wait for a catastrophic event to occur and then figure out how to prevent that from happening again in the future. We can learn a lot from the tragic Lahaina event.

In addition, we only have one hospital, the Kona Hospital located in Kealakekua that serves our community. Increased traffic will make it very difficult for us to have timely access to emergency care.

We continue to see an increase in the number of visitors and people who make Kona their home, causing more traffic nightmares in this area 7 days a week (going North and South). It doesn't matter what time of the day, traffic is a mess and will continue to worsen.

The county should focus on improving our current roads and creating alternate roads before approving more projects that will negatively impact the lives of our residents. (affecting: roads, water, electricity, sewer, real property taxes etc.)

Housing should be built within close proximity of services and job opportunities but not in the central area where traffic is high.

Mahalo