

From: [Sterling Higa](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for A11-792
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 6:25:12 AM
Attachments: [HHF Testimony_037 Lanai County Project.pdf](#)



Please find testimony attached.

Thank you,
Sterling

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Sterling Higa
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June 5, 2024

TO: Members of the State Land Use Commission
RE: A11-792

My name is Sterling Higa, and I serve as executive director of Housing Hawai'i's Future, a nonprofit creating opportunities for Hawai'i's next generation by ending the workforce housing shortage.

We support the planned County of Maui development in Lāna'i City.

The County of Maui has had this land for more than 30 years.

It is adjacent to the urban core, offering live / work / play opportunities.

In addition to housing, this is an ideal location for essential services and government offices.

There have been too many false starts at building housing on this parcel, in part because of a lack of infrastructure.

However, the County of Maui may receive federal funding to build infrastructure (or can step up and fund itself), enabling homebuilding on this parcel.

As an essential public good, the state and county are obligated to provide the public infrastructure which is fundamental to good housing development.

We support fee development models, where land provision, entitlements, infrastructure, and financing are the responsibility of state, county, or land trusts.

This defrays costs, minimizes risk, and shortens timelines to incentivize developers to build more housing.

In this case, the housing is essential for the next generation of Lāna'i.

Please support this development.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sterling Higa".

Sterling Higa
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