

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

December 6, 2002

Committee  
Report No. 02-188

Honorable Chair and Members  
of the County Council  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Parks and Recreation Committee, having met on February 13, 2002, March 13, 2002, September 4, 2002 and November 13, 2002, makes reference to County Communication No. 01-204, from the Mayor, requesting Council consideration of a matter relating to the creation of additional campsites within the County.

Your Committee notes that it previously reported on this matter through Committee Report No. 01-144, which recommended that a proposed resolution entitled "ACCEPTING DEDICATION OF LAND PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.44.015, MAUI COUNTY CODE" be adopted. At its meeting of August 21, 2002, the Council adopted Committee Report No. 01-144 (Resolution No. 01-134).

Your Committee further notes that it previously reported on this matter through Committee Report No. 01-252, which recommended that:

1. A proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13.04, MAUI COUNTY CODE, PERTAINING TO PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES CUSTODIAL DEPOSITS AND CAMPING AREAS", be passed on first reading and be ordered to print; and
2. A proposed resolution entitled "URGING THE MAYOR TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS OF OPERATION FOR CAMPING AT PAPALUA WAYSIDE PARK AND REQUESTING ENHANCEMENTS TO CERTAIN COUNTY PARKS AND CAMPSITES", be adopted.

At its meeting of December 17, 2002, the Council adopted Committee Report No. 01-252 (Bill No. 116 (2002) and Resolution No. 01-218).

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

December 6, 2002  
Page 2

Committee  
Report No. 02-188

By correspondence dated December 10, 2001, your Committee Chair requested that the Department of Parks and Recreation respond to a series of questions from Councilmember Alan Arakawa, relating to administrative rules and regulations for County campsites.

By correspondence dated December 10, 2001, your Committee Chair requested that the Department of Parks and Recreation recommend locations to be considered as potential campsites within the County.

By correspondence dated February 6, 2002, the Director of Parks and Recreation provided tentative dates for a meeting to discuss matters relating to camping at Papalaua Wayside Park.

By correspondence dated February 13, 2002, your Committee Chair transmitted a memorandum requesting consideration to acquire certain lands for the purpose of establishing a campsite near Waihali Stream, Kahakuloa, TMK No. 03-01-02-16.

At its meeting of February 13, 2002, your Committee met with the Director of Parks and Recreation and a Deputy Corporation Counsel.

The Director provided your Committee with an overview of the matter and identified certain County parks and State properties, which may be considered for designation as potential campsites. He indicated that the County currently has four campsites: Papalaua Wayside Park, Kanaha Beach Park, One Alii Beach Park, and Papohaku Beach Park. The Director concurred with your Committee's request to develop more campsites throughout the County. He further recommended the following locations as potential campsites:

1. Rainbow Park;
2. Fourth Marine Division Park (Giggle Hill);
3. Old Maui High School;
4. Poolenalena Beach Park; and
5. Nakalele Point (Lighthouse).

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

December 6, 2002  
Page 3

Committee  
Report No. 02-188

The Director indicated that the above-referenced locations are preliminary recommendations and the Department will submit, in writing, additional locations for further consideration by your Committee at a later date.

Your Committee noted that an area near Kahakuloa Bay, adjacent to Waihali Stream, should also be considered for inclusion on the list of proposed campsite locations. This property is currently owned by the State Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife and Forestry. Your Committee also expressed an interest in establishing camping at Hale O Lono, Molokai, and two State parks known as Kaumahina Wayside Park and Puaa Kaa Wayside Park near Keanae.

Your Committee requested that the Department of Parks and Recreation continue planning for and researching the creation of additional campsites. However, your Committee noted that the County should not pursue the acquisition of State-owned parks until a determination is made on whether the State will be transferring ownership of its parks to the counties.

Your Committee deferred the matter pending further discussion.

By correspondence dated February 19, 2002, the Director of Parks and Recreation provided a list of proposed locations for consideration as potential campsites.

At its meeting of March 13, 2002, your Committee met with the Director of Parks and Recreation, the Assistant Chief of Police, and a Deputy Corporation Counsel.

The Director provided your Committee with a status report on the creation of a campsite at Papalaua Wayside Park (Papalaua). He stated that conversion of Papalaua to a campsite will be completed in three phases: (1) maintenance and repair of the existing area; (2) campground facility development; and (3) operation. He stated that the maintenance and repair phase has already commenced and is proceeding on schedule. He further stated that the development phase will include the installation of signs, parking areas, barbeque pits and tables, which should commence on March 20, 2002. He further stated

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI  
**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

December 6, 2002  
Page 4

Committee  
Report No. 02-188

that the operation phase will include the permitting of camping at Papalaua, which should commence on March 24, 2002.

The Assistant Chief of Police stated that the Department of Police has received no complaints relative to the Department of Parks and Recreation's maintenance and repair phase at Papalaua. He stated that his Department has been advised of the plan for implementation at Papalaua and will be available as needed.

Your Committee reviewed the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of recommended campsite locations, which include the following:

- a. Central Maui
  - 1. Old Waihee Dairy site                      Waihee
  - 2. Waihali Stream                                Kahakuloa
  
- b. East Maui
  - 1. Old Maui High School                      Paia/Haiku
  - 2. Hookipa Beach Park                        Paia
  - 3. Kaumahina Wayside Park                Keanae
  - 4. Puaa Kaa Wayside Park                Keanae
  - 5. Fourth Marine Park                        Haliimaile
  - 6. Rainbow Park                                Paia
  
- c. South Maui
  - 1. Kihei Beach Reserve                      Kihei
  - 2. Poolenalena Beach Park                Makena
  
- d. West District
  - 1. Kapoli Beach Park                        Maalaea
  - 2. Fleming's Beach Park                    Kapalua
  
- e. Molokai
  - 1. Halawa Valley Park                      Molokai
  - 2. Hale O Lono                                Molokai

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

December 6, 2002  
Page 5

Committee  
Report No. 02-188

Your Committee reemphasized the need to create additional campsites throughout the County and indicated that the proposed list of potential camping areas is a great start to commence receiving input from the public. As a result, your Committee authorized your Committee Chair to conduct a series of informal community meetings to receive comments on the above-referenced proposed campsites.

Your Committee deferred the matter pending further discussion.

By correspondence dated May 13, 2002, your Committee Chair requested that the Managing Director provide a Geographic Imaging Systems (GIS) map identifying 14 proposed campsites within the County.

By correspondence dated May 30, 2002, the Managing Director transmitted a GIS map of the proposed campsites.

At its meeting of September 4, 2002, your Committee met with the Director of Parks and Recreation and a Deputy Corporation Counsel.

Your Committee received testimony from three individuals.

One testifier indicated that Hale O Lono Harbor and the surrounding area are in disrepair and needs a significant amount of maintenance prior to its designation as a park or use as a campsite. She also stated that Hale O Lono has no facilities and running water that can be utilized by the public. She also noted that families living in Halawa Valley are attempting to restore agriculture to the area. Therefore, any consideration for land acquisition should respect the efforts of the families in the area. She further stated that there is no public water service in Halawa Valley, and as a result, individuals camping and visiting the area typically utilize private water sources. The testifier indicated that there are no existing public facilities at Halawa Valley Park. Currently, residents and visitors camp along the beach during the summer months. Starting in September, individuals accessing the ocean to dive for lobster create a considerable amount of traffic in the area.

Another testifier stated that the County should acquire property commonly known as either Murphy's Beach or Moonui. She stated that previous attempts

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

December 6, 2002  
Page 6

Committee  
Report No. 02-188

to secure the property were unsuccessful; however, she believes the owners are willing to sell the property to the County. The testifier also noted that the Waialua Church pavilion should be considered for acquisition and use as a campsite. She stated that the designated campsite at One Alii Beach Park is not utilized by Molokai residents for camping, but is mostly used as a day park. She further noted that the United States Department of the Interior, National Parks Service, recently conducted a survey to determine if Halawa Valley should be considered for designation as a National Park.

The final testifier agreed that Murphy's Beach/Moonui are great locations for camping. She also noted that Halawa Valley must have certain facilities, such as comfort stations, running water and a pavilion. She also concurred that Halawa Valley is already extensively utilized by visitors and residents for fishing diving and camping. She noted that both Papohaku Beach Park and One Alii Beach Park are not good locations for camping because the ocean conditions can sometimes be very dangerous.

Your Committee noted that the County should consider acquiring properties located along the beach at Halawa Valley, the area known as Murphy's Beach/Moonui, and the Waialua Church pavilion. As a result, your Committee requested that correspondence be transmitted to the property owners to determine their interest in selling the subject locations.

Your Committee deferred the matter pending further discussion.

By correspondence dated October 29, 2002, your Committee Chair requested that the Department of Parks and Recreation provide preliminary funding estimates for the creation of additional campsites throughout the County.

At its meeting of November 13, 2002, your Committee met with the Director of Parks and Recreation and a Deputy Corporation Counsel.

Your Committee received correspondence dated November 13, 2002, from the Director of Parks and Recreation, providing appropriation requests for potential capital improvement projects to be considered during the Fiscal Year 2004 Budget deliberations.

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

December 6, 2002  
Page 7

Committee  
Report No. 02-188

Your Committee received an overview of the matter from the Director. He stated that \$50,000 was appropriated in the Fiscal Year 2003 Budget for the purpose of developing a master plan for Kanaha Beach Park. The purpose of the master plan is to analyze the park facilities, its current condition, and carrying capacity. The goal of the master plan is to provide a guideline for park improvements. He further noted that prior to opening new campsites, the Department would like to conduct a similar study for the other three existing campsites within the County. These include Papalaua Wayside Park, One Alii Beach Park and Papohaku Beach Park. He noted that the estimated cost for the study would be \$125,000.

As a result, your Committee voted to recommend that: (1) the Budget and Finance Committee consider appropriating \$125,000 for a master plan to conduct an analysis for the above-referenced County campsites; and (2) a copy of this committee report be transmitted to the Budget and Finance Committee.

Your Parks and Recreation Committee RECOMMENDS the following:

1. That the matter of appropriating \$125,000 for a park master plan for Papalaua Wayside Park, One Alii Beach Park and Papohaku Beach Park be REFERRED to the Council Chair for the term beginning January 2, 2003 for consideration in the Fiscal Year 2004 Budget Session; and
2. That County Communication No. 01-204 be REFERRED to the Council Chair for the term beginning January 2, 2003.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI  
**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

December 6, 2002  
Page 8

Committee  
Report No. 02-188

---

**JO ANNE JOHNSON** Chair

---

**MICHAEL J. MOLINA** Member

---

**ROBERT CARROLL** Vice-Chair

---

**CHARMAINE TAVARES** Member

---

**DANNY A. MATEO** Member