

PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

July 31, 2002

Site Inspection

CONVENE: 8:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Chair
Councilmember Dain P. Kane, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Alan M. Arakawa, Member
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Member
Councilmember G. Riki Hokama, Member
Councilmember Danny A. Mateo, Member
Councilmember Jo Anne Johnson, Non-Member (ARR. 9:00 a.m.)

EXCUSED: Councilmember Charmaine Tavares, Member

STAFF: Gary Saldana, Legislative Analyst
Wayne A. Boteilho, Legislative Analyst
Jo-Ann Sato, Committee Secretary

Adele Rugg, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Alan M. Arakawa

ADMIN.: David Goode, Director, Department of Public Works and Waste
Management (PWT-59 and PWT-27)
Traci Fujita-Villarosa, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the
Corporation Counsel (PWT-59 and PWT-27)
Lawrence Hudson, Captain, Department of Police (PWT-59)
Wendell Loo, Sergeant, Department of Police (PWT-59)
David Puu, Maintenance Supervisor, Department of Parks and
Recreation, West Maui District (PWT-59)

OTHERS: **PWT- 59:** Ezekiel I. Kalua, Executive Director, West Maui Taxpayers
Association

PWT- 27: Neal Fujiwara, Natural Resources Conservation Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Buddy Nobriga, Chair, West Maui Soil & Conservation
District, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Kimo Falconer, AMFAC Hawaii, LLC

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Wes Nohara, Maui Land & Pineapple Company; West Maui
Soil & Conservation District, U.S. Department of
Agriculture
Jeff Melrose, Land Manager, Kamehameha Schools
J.J. Elkin, 505 Front Street
Isaac Harp, Kaahea: The Hawaii Environmental Alliance,
and Ilio`ula`okalani
Mich Hirano, Planner, Munekiyo & Hiraga, Inc.
Ke`eaumoku Kapu, Kuleana Kui Kakahi, LLC
Dudley Kubo, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S.
Department of Agriculture
Jordon Lanini, Natural Resources Conservation Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Ian Swezey, West Maui Soil & Conservation District, U.S.
Department of Agriculture
Vicky Takamine, Ilio Ula O Kulani
Waiohu Williams, Na Kapuna O Maui & Burial Council

PRESS: Ilima Loomis, The Maui News

**PWT-59 CONDOMINIUM OVERFLOW PARKING IN RESIDENTIAL
AREAS**

The Committee assembled at Honokowai Beach Park in West Maui. Chair Molina convened the inspection by introducing the Council Members and Administration representatives who were present. Chair Molina then asked Mr. Kalua to provide an overview of the parking situation.

Mr. Kalua stated that an individual residing near the Kuleana Resort requested more parking in the area. Parking is limited during the peak visitor season, therefore tourists and other persons that park in front of the said resident's house, cause family and friends to park far away. However, Mr. Kalua said he was not aware of any community associations that had requested more parking in the area.

Chair Molina asked Committee Analyst Saldana to provide an overview. Mr. Saldana provided a survey of the area's parking restrictions. He noted that some areas were "no parking zones".

Councilmember Arakawa asked for an estimate of how many additional stalls were needed. Captain Hudson opined that "a lot more" stalls are needed. Mr. Kalua estimated that approximately 15 additional stalls were needed, although that figure was

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not based upon a traffic study. Councilmember Arakawa noted that the parking requirements should be determined before pursuing the creation of additional parking.

Councilmember Arakawa asked Mr. Kalua to point out potential areas for additional parking. Mr. Kalua pointed out several areas, some in the proximity of fire hydrants. Mr. Kalua also noted that parking in the area did not seem to be consistent with parking in other portions of the road where more on-street parking was provided.

Councilmember Kane questioned whether any future road work was being planned for the area. Mr. Goode replied in the negative, stating that future work would occur further west, from Hoohui Street to Napilihau.

Mr. Kalua mentioned that further up the road there were many areas where on-street parking may be provided. Some of the areas, though, may not be wide enough.

Chair Molina recessed the inspection at 8:20 a.m. so the Committee could travel to the next site.

PWT-27 FLOODING IN THE LAHAINA AREA

Chair Molina reconvened the inspection at 9:00 a.m. at the Lahaina Aquatic Center parking lot. Chair Molina introduced the Council Members, Administration representatives, and other resource persons who were present. Chair Molina then asked Mr. Fujiwara to provide an overview of the matter.

Mr. Fujiwara explained that the Committee would be viewing a "temporary Lahaina flood control diversion ditch" (hereinafter referred to as "temporary flood control"), which was a part of the Lahaina Watershed Flood Control Project. Basically, the West Maui Soil & Conservation District was requesting County funding in order to keep the sediment basins at the temporary flood control clean.

Chair Molina recessed the inspection at 9:05 a.m. so the Committee could travel to a sediment basin.

Chair Molina reconvened the inspection at 9:13 a.m., at the sediment basin, and requested that resource persons for the Lahaina Watershed Flood Control Project provide background information on the matter.

Mr. Nobriga said that the Lahaina Watershed Flood Control Project had been 18 years in the making. The next step is to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS). Because of the length of time an EIS would take, construction funds for the Lahaina Watershed Flood Control Project had been transferred to the "Big Island." Federal officials, however, have provided assurances that the Lahaina Watershed Flood

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Control Project is still on the priority list, and that funding will be available when the project is ready to move forward.

Mr. Falconer utilized a map to explain the history of the Lahaina Watershed Flood Control Project, and its proposed improvements.

Mr. Falconer further explained that construction of the temporary flood control was due to a major rainfall that occurred in 1997, and caused flooding in Lahaina. Then, in 2001, another major rainfall occurred but the temporary flood control successfully prevented flooding. Soon after, in 2002, a third major rainfall occurred and Lahaina was flooded. The temporary flood control had not yet been cleaned from the previous rainfall.

Mr. Nohara stated that improving the temporary flood control is a priority. Besides cleaning, other necessary improvements involve terracing and the planting of vegetation, possibly further towards the mountains. The estimated cost is \$50,000. As such, Mr. Nohara noted the need for public, private, and governmental cooperation.

Mr. Nobriga pointed out that the board members of the West Maui Soil & Conservation District are volunteers. Moreover, the organization only receives \$24,000 for operating expenses.

Mr. Fujiwara stressed the need for public, private, and governmental cooperation. The area's topography mandates regular maintenance to prevent further flooding. Additionally, plantations in the area no longer have the heavy equipment necessary to perform the maintenance. Mr. Fujiwara observed that the County already maintains flood controls from Honokowai to Napili.


Mr. Melrose said that the Kamehameha Schools was the manager of 11,000 acres directly above the temporary flood control. He opined that since Lahaina is in a natural flood area, the construction of the temporary flood control had been a proactive measure to address the problem. As such, the Kamehameha Schools has made a long-term commitment to participate in reducing flooding in the area. At the forefront, the Kamehameha Schools is considering establishing agriculture on its lands, even though liability is a concern.

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There being no further questions or discussion, Chair Molina adjourned the inspection at 9:37 a.m.

APPROVED:



MICHAEL J. MOLINA, Chair
Public Works and Transportation Committee

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