

From: Peter and Sheila Dure-Smith <psdure@hawaiiantel.net>
To: <charter.commission@co.maui.hi.us>
Date: 5/19/2011 10:07 AM
Subject: Presentations to the Maui Charter Commission

We are preparing some presentations for consideration by the Maui Charter Commission. These include: 1) Enhancing the people's input; 2) Electronic Direct Democracy; 3) Reducing health care costs.

In developing each presentation we would like to seek help from members of the Commission so that the presentation is in a format most useful to the Commission and more likely to succeed in being approved by the Maui voters.

We would appreciate advice on the best way to communicate with the members of the Commission - we would prefer to use email.

Mahalo,

Peter Dure-Smith MD and Sheila Dure-Smith

052311-Req - Item No. I.C. - Public Testimony
Rec'd via email



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The Maui News / AMANDA COWAN photo
Danny Lauer (left) and Aaron Baines, of Buddy L. & Sons Construction Inc., help install the front door of a home under construction in Waikapu on Friday afternoon.

Permits

Continued from Page A1

Candidates often promise to change permitting, but Arakawa's people said they are well on their way to making substantial changes as a team.

And private-sector folks, such as Maui Contractors Association Vice President Thomas Cook, said he is confident that the mayor has the goods to actually deliver on his promises.

Cook said that in the past, the county — or certain individuals within it — had taken on the role of a regulatory body. Rather than focusing on health and safety, he said, they sometimes created bottlenecks to serve their beliefs.

"It cost us in jobs and commerce," he said, adding that a lot of people lost their faith in the system. He believes that with Arakawa, those days are over, and that the new mayor has already removed those employees from positions of power.

Arakawa said Goode has been a wealth of information, because he knows the challenges firsthand and what needs fixing.

Regan said that by June they hope to have a program in place that basically assigns a management office employee to walk someone who wants permits through the process.

ing zoning ordinances.

He said he doesn't want Maui to become overdeveloped. But people do need to work, Goode said. There must be a "fair and decent" approach to development.

"If you submit good plans, they should be built in a timely manner," Goode said. "That's if you have a right to build. That's not pro- or anti-development. That's doing your job."

So, he said, one of his goals — particularly with this unpredictable economy — is to make sure those who've done their homework will get their permits to build before their financing dries up.

He said his department actually already has a number of building permits waiting to be picked up. The developers,

though, don't have the funds or buyers lined up.

"Our economic driver is subdivisions," Goode said. "It could change one thing right away (with a County Council ordinance), is that more often than not, there's no timeline for them."

He said he'd like to see an ordinance that would require perhaps a 45-day deadline from permit to groundbreaking. What timelines there are, aren't being enforced very well, he said.

He said on top of that, often developers and home contractors are hiring out their architects and others to the Mainland to save money, which makes understanding the codes even more difficult.

See PERMITS
on the next page

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Rec'd
5/23/11
Jim Smith
Public
Testimony

flexible and adaptable, to leave the safe harbor of the status quo to seek more effective methods.

If we are to consider an entrepreneurial approach to governing, then we must understand that the work of our government is driven by the needs of the marketplace--the public. Such an approach requires that we see our residents, visitors, labor unions, non-profit organizations, and businesses as our customers. As any good business would, this approach requires that we offer our customers both workable choices and quality service. It compels us to meet the needs of the marketplace, instead of the needs of the bureaucracy.

Let me be clear on this point. I am not criticizing the hard working, dedicated people who staff our County departments, but rather the stiff, unresponsive structure of bureaucracy. And rather than simply berating bureaucracies, I think it makes sense for us to try to breathe some life into them.

The new kind of government I am reaching for urges us to step beyond the old idea of government as a provider of all services to a passive community. Instead we are striving to turn our citizens into our partners. Working together in public, private, and voluntary partnerships, we can solve our problems, prevent future ones from occurring, and fully utilize our community's tremendous and untapped resources.

Rec'd
5/23/11
Jim Smith
Public Testimony

To: Josh Stone, Chair, Maui County Charter Commission, and Members

From: Sally Raisbeck

427 Liholiho St Wailuku Hi 96793 808-244-9604,
sallyraisbeck@earthlink.net

Date: May 19, 2011

Subject: **TESTIMONY FOR COMMISSION MEETING OF MAY 23, 2011**

I cannot be present on May 23 as I have to be in Honolulu.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS AND PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

Again, I urge you to avoid executive sessions at all costs.

I want to thank Lisa Kahuhu for preparing a public access notebook with the backup material for each commission meeting. This will make it possible for the public to see what is on the upcoming agenda and comment at your meetings.

ANALYST FOR THE COMMISSION.

Your task can be pleasant and easy, or inefficient, difficult, and confused, depending on the quality of the person you hire as analyst. I strongly recommend you hire an attorney, qualified in constitutional law. The previous commission had Jon VanDyke, professor from UH. It would be less expensive to hire an attorney resident on Maui.

IMPORTANT RESOURCE

You might want to make the public aware of the excellent resource available at the website <http://www.mauicharterarchive.org/>.

The Maui Charter Project was a project of the North Beach West Maui Benefit Fund. This was prepared as a public service. It contains a wealth of information about county history and proposals by past Commissions.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETINGS

I congratulate Chair Stone for proposing earlier outreach meetings. The sooner the better, I say. I received a call from a South Maui citizen who was outraged that there is no South Maui member on the Commission. Perhaps you should be very careful to listen to the concerns of South Maui.

ARTICLE ABOUT GIS REDISTRICTING PROGRAM BY ESRI (Mr. DeRego)

*Rec'd via email
given to members at 5/23 mtg
Public Testimony*