

PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

September 3, 2008

Site Inspection

CONVENE: 1:30 p.m.

PRESENT: VOTING MEMBERS:
Councilmember Bill Kauakea Medeiros, Co-Chair
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Co-Chair
Councilmember Danny A. Mateo
Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla

EXCUSED: Councilmember G. Riki Hokama

STAFF: Scott Jensen, Legislative Analyst
Kirstin Hamman, Legislative Attorney
Pauline Martins, Committee Secretary

Jennifer Medeiros, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Medeiros

ADMIN.: David Galazin, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation
Counsel
Milton Arakawa, Director, Department of Public Works

OTHERS: Gilbert Coloma-Agaran
Ramon Cardona
Austin Dodd
Jake Nakashima

PWF-91 DISPOSITION OF LUNALILO-MAIN PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY EASEMENTS (WAILUKU) (C.C. No. 08-196)

The Committee assembled at the northern terminus of Lunalilo Street, adjacent to 112 Lunalilo Street in Wailuku, identified as TMK: (2) 3-4-39:028.

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Co-Chair Medeiros convened the site inspection. He explained that the purpose of the inspection is to view two current County easements proposed for cancellation. The easements were intended for use as public pedestrian walkways, beginning at Lunalilo Street and ending at Lower Main Street in Wailuku, identified as TMK: (2) 3-4-39:portion of 028 and 051.

The Director of Public Works provided a brief historical overview of the matter and distributed a copy of a map depicting the easement areas for reference purposes. He described the easement across property owned by the Mounts family as a condition of the County accepting the dedication of the extension of Lunalilo Street. He stated that the easement had originally been used as a pedestrian pathway, and the County had constructed a stairway for that purpose. He further stated that the County had subsequently removed the stairway when it had fallen into disrepair, and the Department had no plans to improve or restore the walkway, which is now hazardous and overgrown with brush.

The Director of Public Works described the challenges that would be encountered should the County decide to improve the walkway, including compliance with the Americans with Disability Act and burials presumed to be in the sand dune area. He also stated that the area was prone to vandalism, graffiti, and safety issues related to vagrancy.

Co-Chair Medeiros questioned when the stairway had been built by the County, and whether there had been a concern regarding burials in the area at the time.

The Director of Public Works stated that the stairway was built in 1965. He stated that burials had been found below the subject easement area at the time the traffic signal and an additional traffic lane had been installed at the intersection of Mill Street and Lower Main Street.

Gilbert Coloma-Agaran, the attorney representing the Mounts family, stated that the Mounts family had concerns related to loitering and drinking in the area. He stated that the family believes that the easements encourage access to the subject area, and he had been asked to represent the family in seeing that the easements were cancelled.

Public testimony was provided by three Baldwin High School students. The students stated that they use the easement as a pedestrian walkway daily to walk home from school. They stated that although steep, the easement area is not dangerous to traverse. They further stated that the subject easement provides the only pedestrian access in the area, and eliminates the need for a much longer commute.

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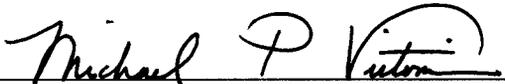
There being no further questions or discussion, Co-Chair Medeiros adjourned the inspection at 1:45 p.m.

APPROVED:



BILL KAUAKEA MEDEIROS, Co-Chair
Public Works and Facilities Committee

APPROVED:



MICHAEL P. VICTORINO, Co-Chair
Public Works and Facilities Committee

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