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### **Testimony for CPAC August 6, 2019**

Plan Draft pages 1.1-1.14

“Each Community Plan is law because it is adopted by the County Council by ordinance.” (We are West Maui)

Vision and goals of the West Maui Community Plan: RESTORE

#### 1) “SHALL RESTORE AGRICULTURE”

In the past, the land provided food to feed the inhabitants with enough to share. Make the region food secure again. Reforestation and agriculture will help prevent fires and reduce storm-water runoff as well.

Language in the community plan can require higher levels of protection of agriculture designated land and its uses. It could also specify consequences for neglect of the land.

Recharge the aquifer, the community plan can stipulate treated wastewater be recycled for agriculture irrigation. This will also help filter impurities from the water to protect the ocean.

Resolve the pending lawsuit at the U.S. Supreme Court. Require the county to use existing infrastructure at the Lahaina Wastewater Reclamation Facility along with restoring ditches and reservoirs for agriculture irrigation.

#### 2) “SHALL RESTORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN PERPETUITY”

Pre-contact traditional Hawaiian communities provided shelter for everyone in the ahupua’a. Plantation era practices continued that legacy with housing developments for their employees. Some plantation homes exist to this day.

Language in the community plan can require a percentage of future housing shall remain affordable forever. Include objectives in the community plan to achieve an inventory of truly affordable housing in perpetuity.

Available water supply will determine the size of the developments. Include language in the community plan that infrastructure shall proceed development.

Encourage the county of Maui to help fund infrastructure for affordable housing in perpetuity with both rental and homeownership options. Monthly affordable fees to occupants would help replenish the coffers for future projects.

Appropriate government funding from federal, state, and county could be allocated for the infrastructure costs of water, sewage, electrical meters, and roadways for truly affordable housing projects that remain affordable forever.

### 3) "SHALL RESTORE HIGHWAYS"

Access to and from Lahaina has been ongoing since the islands were inhabited. Allowing connectivity, trails became roads and roads became highways.

The community plan projects the community's needs for the next twenty years. Considering the coastal highway is the community's life-line, every effort must be made to relocate the road due to sea level rise and eroding shoreline.

The community plan should have provisions that the highway realignment shall be a priority to ensure the safety and well-being of the community.

Every land division also expressed interest in a non-motorized roadway for bikes and pedestrians. Utilizing former cane roads was suggested to serve this purpose.

### 4) "SHALL RESTORE PEOPLE TO THE LAND"

Updating the West Maui Community Plan will establish precedents for other communities to emulate. Remember, the West Maui Community Plan is an ordinance.

Rather than mere guidance and suggestions, what you are working on is the law of the land! The CPAC could be instrumental in righting the wrongs that have proven to be "the source of an unhappy and much to be regretted legacy."

(Lili'uokalani)

Capable individuals working together can achieve the desired goals. The committee members represent the various interests of the community. As the foundation to build on, start every conversation of updating the plan with the

premise of “love one another”. That sentiment was unanimously expressed as the vision of the West Maui Community.

Currently, the community is pulled in different directions with various factions fighting. Preserving community unity requires reconciliation, forgiveness, and love. Until the land issues are addressed and resolved, there is not much hope to achieve the community we desire.

Work with legal counsel to put language in the community plan to prohibit quiet-title and quit-claim for the next twenty years. On questionable titled lands, allow for allodial heirs to reclaim family parcels without expensive appeals to the courts. If the parcels remain unclaimed or the heirs choose to relinquish rights, then put that land into a public trust.

Public trust land shall be used for roads, parks, open space, forests, nature preserves, agriculture, schools, hospitals, municipal facilities, and affordable housing in perpetuity.

Make provisions to enable landholders to develop agriculture industries and affordable housing in perpetuity by working with kuleana heirs, former plantation employees and their heirs, and the current work force.

Apply the benefits of conservation and agriculture easements for land-trust housing to help compensate for the land’s fair accessed value. The community plan can initiate protocol for the government, private sector, and the public working together to establish viable agriculture and affordable housing in perpetuity.

Lili’uokalani wrote about her faith in the “Living God” and how “He will keep His promise, and will listen to the voices of His Hawaiian children lamenting for their homes.”

She forewarned a reckoning day would come, for “God is not mocked.” While that is true, God allows this contingency plan “If they change, then I will change My plan about bringing disaster on them.” (Jeremiah 26:3)

Those changes can be reflected in the revised West Maui Community Plan.