

Name: Benjamin E Trevino
Agenda Item: 3. Roadways and Complete Streets
Received: August 20, 2019

Testimony for CPAC August 22, 2019

Aloha,

I'm writing to express my support for the West Maui Greenway project and urge the County of Maui to work quickly to implement it.

I fell in love on Maui. For 6 months in 2016 I visited my soon-to-be wife almost weekly to be with her as much as possible. And as much as I fell in love with my partner, I also fell in love with an aspect of Hawaii that I had not known in the 13 years that I have lived on Oahu, primarily in Honolulu: The serenity and sacredness of an island less "urbanized" than my home on Oahu.

When I would land in Honolulu after a visit to Lahaina and Kaanapali, where my fiancée lived and worked, I would be bombarded by noises, buildings, structures that covered up everything that is special about Hawaii. When I would land in Kapalua, I could hear the wind, the birds, and my own thoughts. I cherish this time and those memories, as I cherish every time I get to visit West Maui.

For the last 6 months, my fiancée and I have been working on project exploring traffic solutions in West Maui. I believe we are at a fork in the road. To the left, we continue on the current trajectory of the Maui transportation system -- towards something like what we experience in Honolulu.

To the right, The West Maui Greenway is a chance to take an alternate path. It's only one project, but it's a special one. It is readily implementable, and connects virtually the entirety of West Maui. It is perfectly situated to begin transitioning today's reality to a new reality that is safer, healthier, honors our families, honors our history, reveres our sacred island homes. I encourage the great County of Maui to take a deep look at the thoughtfulness and long history of engagement that has been used to develop this project. I believe, the longer you look at it, the more you will see pathways to the livable, affordable, beautiful, and sacred West Maui that was once the capital of the Kingdom of Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to speak in support of this incredible and important project. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me for additional questions

-Ben Trevino