



KIMURA INTERNATIONAL INC.

Monday, March 25, 2013

The Honorable Dee Morikawa
House District 16
Hawaii State Capitol, Rm 310
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Morikawa:

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HOUSE RESOLUTION 98**

Urging the Mayor of the County of Kauai,
the Kauai County Council, Kauai Planning and Action Alliance,
West Side Kauai Communities, and the
Waimea Sports Complex Steering Committee
to collaborate to expedite the construction of the Waimea Sports Complex

As the planner for the Waimea Sports Complex Master Plan, I would like to express my strong support of House Resolution 98. There are many other overriding and compelling reasons why I believe a sports complex at Waimea makes sense:

1. **Physical Attributes:** An outdoor sports venue requires adequate land with level terrain and sunny and dry weather. The proposed complex would expand from the existing Waimea Canyon Park into adjoining land owned by Kikiaola Land Company. The major landowner has participated throughout the planning process and supports the proposed plan. For outdoor sports, especially baseball and softball, inclement weather can cause major delays and costly disruptions to tournaments and other events. Waimea averages 21 inches of rainfall per year, less than half the rainfall of Lihue or Kapaa. Waimea's location is 45 minutes from the Lihue Airport, a travel distance and time which compares favorably to traffic congestion on Oahu and much greater distances participants must travel to sports venues on the mainland.
2. **Economic Attributes:** An economic study of the proposed Waimea sports complex at full build out found that the sports complex could generate \$1.1 million annually in direct visitor spending. And, for every \$1 in direct visitor spending, another \$0.60 is spent on the island by local firms and workers. Outdoor sports and recreation is viewed as a major economic industry for many states on the mainland and is actively promoted by the Hawaii Tourism Authority. For Kauai, it would be a clean industry that helps to spread the Aloha of Hawaii.

- 3. Community and Business Attributes:** Most importantly, working with the Waimea Sports Complex Steering Committee and the residents of the west side has been one of my most rewarding projects in my 38 year career as a planner. The people are down to earth and pull together for the benefit of everyone. In this community, the sports complex is seen as an asset that would keep keiki and kupuna active and healthy, promote education and sportsmanship, and help to revitalize the small businesses of Waimea Town and the west side. The Waimea community has a history of hosting invitational baseball and softball tournaments. Many of my friends and colleagues who have had the pleasure of participating in tournaments at Waimea have consistently expressed their pleasure and appreciation of the hospitality provided by the community. This close knit group of long time residents, landowners, small businesses and students has “stepped up to the plate” and want to make the sports complex a reality.

For these reasons, I reiterate my strong support of this resolution and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn T. Kimura", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Glenn T. Kimura
President
Kimura International Inc.