

LATE

SCR-95

Submitted on: 3/23/2018 6:25:40 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/23/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bill Hicks	Testifying for Kailua Neighborhood Board	Comments	No

Comments:

Maunawili motion passed by Kailua Neighborhood Board at the Board's 6/1/17 meeting with a unanimous vote of 17 members:

The Kailua Neighborhood Board opposes the subdivision of agricultural zoned lower Maunawili wetland identified as TMK: 4-2-007:001 lots 1-A, 1-B, 1-C, 1-D (52.00 acres) and TMK: 4-2-006:008 lots 2-A, 2-B, 2-C, 2-D (50.101 acres) proposed by landowner HRT Ltd.

Rational supporting this motion:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife National Wetlands Inventory identifies the area as wetland
- The area floods
- The area is rich in archaeological sites including hidden lo`i walls.
- Land has been identified as Important Agricultural Land (IAL) by the City
- Land is identified as IAL under the Agricultural Lands of Importance to the State of Hawaii (ALISH) system
- The state land use designation is *agriculture*. The city *zoning is Ag-2*. The intent of the Ag-2 district is to conserve and protect agricultural activities on smaller parcels of land.
- The area consists of Hanalei soil, which is the most important wetland taro soil in the state.
- *Most of the land is in the SMA (Special Management Area). One of the objectives of the SMA is to Protect, preserve, and, where desirable, restore those natural and manmade historic and prehistoric resources in the coastal zone management area that are significant in Hawaiian and American history and culture.*

Board discussion:

1. Purpose: Hinsvark noted the goal of the necessity of protecting both the wetlands, as well as historical and cultural sites. He stated that the subdivision is an inappropriate place for development, including a parking lot, as it is on very sacred land.

2. Clarification: Dowsett requested a map of the site for clarification. Chair Prentiss provided a map of the area.

3. Details: Chair Prentiss noted there were discussions at the Planning and Zoning Committee meeting with various community associations. One of the reasons for concern was why HRT Ltd. is taking one parcel of land and subdividing it into eight different plots and the lack of transparency. He noted that the subdivision process is not like a zoning permit or conditional use permit (CUP) process where there are public hearings, therefore the community is in the dark about what is happening. A status report from the City was requested to receive answers about the situation. Without more information, the community cannot support the subdivision.

4. Issues: Parsons stated that one of her biggest concerns with the subdivision of the area is that one of the reasons why the land floods is because it feeds into Kawai Nui Marsh. Any changes to the area will effectively strangle Kawai Nui and it is already struggling enough. Anything that can be done to prevent changes to the flow of water is important. She stated she supports this motion.

5. Agriculture: Weller stated that he always sees land that is supposed to be agricultural land not being used for agricultural purposes whenever subdivisions are involved. He noted that Hawaii used to provide produce and vegetables to California but now the state is struggling to provide produce for its own communities. He stated his opposition to any subdivision of agricultural land.

6. Community Concern: A resident of Maunawili stated that there is a very important need to focus on sustainability of agricultural lands. He noted that communities have largely formed around food production, including Kailua. He voiced his concerns regarding the continued development of land and the impact it will have on future generations.



LATE

March 21, 2018

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Senate Committee on Water and Land, and
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,
and Military Affairs

Dear Chair and Members,

**Re: Testimony Supporting SCR95 and SR55, Relating to Conserving
the Maunawili forest and loʻi.**

**SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND
RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS
IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, OʻAHU, AND URGING VARIOUS
FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND
PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND
TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.**

Established in 1993, the Pacific American Foundation (PAF) is a national 501c (3) nonprofit, tax-exempt organization with the mission to “improve the lives of Pacific Americans through service with dignity, courage, humility, and competence.” PAF’s goal is to influence systemic change in the educational system that preserve and perpetuate traditional indigenous ways of knowing for emerging Pacific Century leaders, college career readiness, culturally responsive research, evaluation and assessment, economic and community partnership development.

For over 25 years PAF has been involved with the Hawaii Department of Education, and Federal, State and County Agencies and over 200 community based partners in developing culture-based education practices, professional development, curriculum and instructional design, culture and project-based education, and culturally responsive evaluation and assessment. Our curricula have included many sites on the Windward side including the Kawainui Nui Marsh (formerly Hawaii’s largest fishpond).

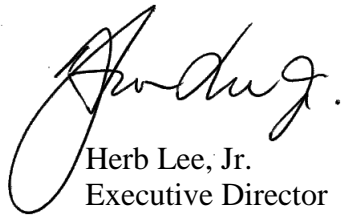
Over the last 23 years, we have carefully nurtured the restoration and preservation process at Waikalua Loko in ways that has helped us to establish long lasting relationships that have been forged with children, their parents and the broader community. We have been enriched by their passion and ability to give back while gaining a higher appreciation for what is important to preserving our history in Hawaii.

This opportunity to purchase these important historic lands in Maunawili does not occur often. It is an important opportunity to continue to learn and inspire future generations not only of its rich history but also its contribution to further learning and exploring pono 'āina-based practices which is so vital to our goal of long-term sustainability and food production for all of Hawaii's people.

Finally, 2016 and 2017 were turning point years in the history of the world. Ocean temperatures rose and rising tides were experienced that were unmatched in the history of the islands. Our ability to learn, inform and take positive action in places that mean something to people is more critical than ever. Inspiring the next generation will be paramount to the impacts that these changes will create to our way of life in Hawaii.

I will be happy to answer any further questions. For more information, please do not hesitate to call me at 927-5646 or email me at herblee@thepaf.org.

Me Ke Aloha,



Herb Lee, Jr.
Executive Director

LATE

SCR-95

Submitted on: 3/22/2018 9:54:49 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/23/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
paul brennan	Testifying for kailua historical society	Support	Yes

Comments:

On behalf of the Kailua Historical Society and on behalf of my family, residents of Maunawili for 37 years, I strongly support the bill, SCR 95 whose purpose is to purchase over 1000 acres in Maunawili Valley (6 TMKs).

I am intimately familiar with this land and have conducted archaeological research extensively throughout, and believe the area to possess significant historical and cultural resources valuable to the entire ahupua'a of Kailua. It is vital that these resources be placed out of the hands of private ownership and into the collective stewardship of the community. Knowledge of the area has grown considerably over the past several decades, due in part to the tours I have led, the publication of the book, KAILUA, the hiking trail leading up to Maunawili Falls, and the increased public involvement in restoration projects around Kawainui Marsh. The land must be restored to its vital traditional role in the Kailua ahupua'a, as a place of free-flowing water, abundant agriculture with its rich Hanalei soils, and protected cultural sites, to be cared for by the community. Opportunity to engage in these critical tasks will enable our youth especially to recognize the extent of their unique inheritance, and to envision and plan for a future of responsible shared stewardship.

Paul Brennan, President, Kailua Historical Society

LATE

SCR-95

Submitted on: 3/22/2018 8:55:28 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/23/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

Testimony Supporting SCR95 and SR55
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i
Senate Committee on Water and Land, and
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Friday, March 23, 2018, 2:45PM, Conference Room 224

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU,
AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE
AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND
WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Committee Members,

I strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMKs: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

As a Windward Oahu resident for nearly three decades, most of those years in Kailua, I often enjoy the beauty and serenity of Maunawili Valley and appreciate the gifts it offers our community. Maunawili agricultural and conservation lands, still relatively pristine, should be protected from development and preserved for future generations now, before it is too late. These rich lands hold the key to a bright future for the community, providing precious open space that is a vital part of Kailua. Moreover, these lands would provide fertile ground for agriculture, preserving the rural character of Maunawili Valley and offering opportunities for area youth to connect with their roots through farming.

Please support this community effort to preserve Maunawili Valley's precious cultural and natural resources.

Mahalo,
Teresa Vast
47-158 Mapele Way
Kaneohe, HI 96744