

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 7:12:43 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Shaw	AOAO of Hololani	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

To: Chair Hashem, Chair; Vice Chair Lamasoa, and the honorable members of the House Committee on Water and Land

Thank you for the opportunity to submit and speak in strong support of SCR76.

My name is Robert Shaw, and I am an owner and Board Member of the Association of Apartment Owners of Hololani.

Hololani is a founding and funding member of the Kahana Bay Steering Committee, a group of nine property associations and one Kuleana Parcel owner. In cooperation with the County of Maui Dept. of Planning, our goal is to find and progress a long term regional erosion mitigation, stabilization, beach nourishment and restoration solution for the entirety of the Kahana Bay.

SCR76 is intended to foster, improve, and expand cooperation and collaboration with the help of the HI State Office Of Planning, County of Maui, DLNR, the community, and the Army Corps of Engineers to identify a feasible real world solution to the challenges of Ocean Erosion on this wonderful coastline. There are many talented scientists, engineers, and department members that are genuinely interested and passionate about protecting and restoring beaches for public enjoyment for current and future generations. We are confident that with a bit of encouragement and support, with clear communication and collaboration that a viable regional solution can be found.

We ask this committee to pass this SCR, as amended, to help foster support and engagement for this important community effort that will have a long lasting public benefit.

Thank you for your careful consideration and support !

Robert Shaw

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Submitted on: 4/8/2025 12:47:54 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenn Stockton	Association of Apartment Owners of Sands of Kahana	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am the President of the Association of Apartment Owners of Sands of Kahana Vacation Club ("SOK"). I fully support SCR 76 because all landowners along the Kahana Bay are in desperate need of an erosion mitigation solution.

SOK contains a total of 196 units, consisting of 1,2, and 3 bedroom condominiums. SOK is a founding member of the Kahana Bay Steering Committee ("KBSC"). SOK represents 25% of the residential units in the KBSC. Other condominiums inside Kahana Bay have been forced to utilize emergency sand bags to prevent damage to their residential buildings. As a consequence of other resorts adding sandbags over the years, SOK was eventually forced to do the same in front of one of its four (4) residential towers. Erosion currently jeopardized a second residential tower such that sand bags will be needed to protect it.

Sand bags are not a permanent solution!!! The eight (8) member associations in KBSC have paid in excess of \$800,000 dollars for a well-researched draft Environmental Impact Study ("EIS"). The draft EIS was completed more than a few years ago. During and after completion of the draft EIS, the KBSC has worked tirelessly with relevant local, state and federal agencies to forge relationships focused on defining and implementing a workable long-term solution. And just as KBSC was starting to see some movement from Maui County (including attendance at several committee meetings on the subject of the draft EIS), the tragic wildfires in Lahaina town occurred. In fact, if memory serves me the last committee meeting KBSC attended occurred the day before the wildfires broke out. It should also be noted at this point that SOK housed close to 100 families for several months after their homes were destroyed.

Needless to say, residential recovery from the wildfires must take priority. And yet, if DLNR combines its expertise with that of Maui County (and even the Army Corps of Engineers), the resorts on Kahana Bay can receive much needed attention [and solution(s)] to the ever-increasing erosion occurring next and under their residential buildings.

I cannot overstate the urgency of this situation. This situation is so serious that one powerful set of King Tides could take out one (or more) buildings at each resort on Kahana Bay.

PLEASE HELP!

Glenn Stockton - President of Associatoin of Apartment Owners of Sands of Kahana

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Submitted on: 4/8/2025 1:20:13 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph D Pluta	West Maui Taxpayers Association Inc	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha.

My name is Joseph pluta. I am President of the West Maui taxpayers association and the Maui resident for 47 years

I urge strong support of SC. R76 and the restoration of kahana Bay. As a vital resource to West Maui and the state of Hawaii in preserving the beach and properties situated at kahana Bay. Please adopt this resolution as a prudent and necessary step forward. Malama Pono!



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: April 9, 2025

TO: Representative Mark Hashem
Chair, Committee on Water & Land

Representative Rachele Lamosao
Vice Chair, Committee on Water & Land

FROM: Mihoko Ito

RE: **SCR76 SD1 – URGING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO CONSULT WITH THE KAHANA BAY STEERING COMMITTEE, COUNTY OF MAUI, DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AND UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGARDING A PATH FORWARD FOR THE PROPOSED KAHANA BAY EROSION MITIGATION PROJECT.**

**Hearing Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room: 411**

Dear Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Lamosao and Members of the Committee on Water and Land:

We submit this testimony on behalf of the Association of Apartment Owners of Hololani (“Hololani”) in **strong support of SCR76 SD1**.

Hololani is in support of SCR 76 SD1, which urges the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to consult with the Kahana Bay Steering Committee, County of Maui, Department of Land and Natural Resources, and United States Army Corps of Engineers regarding a path forward for the proposed Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project.

Kahana Bay, where Hololani is situated, has experienced catastrophic erosion issues which began in 2007 and continue to threaten the shoreline due to sea level rise and climate change impacts.

In 2017, at the urging of the Maui County Department of Planning, Hololani and eight other neighboring condominium projects and the owner of the remaining kuleana parcel along the Kahana Bay shoreline, formed the Kahana Bay Steering Committee (“KBSC”). KBSC has worked since then to develop, plan, implement and fund a regional erosion mitigation project, and in 2018, retained Oceanit to assist.

KBSC has invested significant time, effort and money in this project. However, after Oceanit published the Second Draft Environmental Impact Statement in 2021, the project stalled, in part because the County of Maui indicated that it was unwilling to

assume the liability risks of owning the proposed groins that would be required to keep the restored sand in place. Currently, many of the condominium properties along this shoreline are relying on emergency sandbags as their only protection against further erosion of the shoreline, and remain precariously exposed to further, and potentially catastrophic, erosion.

We respectfully request that the Committee adopt this resolution in its current form. We appreciate your consideration and thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of this measure.

Testimony for SCR 76 – Kahana shoreline erosion mitigation

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee,

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of **SCR 76** because we desperately need a real, long-term solution to the severe erosion along the Kahana Bay shoreline. If we continue to wait, this will become a catastrophic problem.

My name is Virginia Keen. I am NOT a millionaire investor. The Hololani has been my only home for the past 26 years. I am 82 years old and STILL substitute teach at Lahainaluna high school on a daily basis. I've been part of this school district for 24 years. I have devoted 19 years to the afterschool tutoring program in Lahaina. I am a year-round resident whose children and grandchildren visit often, but I also cherish being part of this island family. My condominium is now less than 20 feet from the retaining wall and failing sandbags that separate my building from the ocean and this has me worried. When I first arrived, there were 50 feet of property next to my unit, as well as a substantial beach. I have seen first hand how strong the ocean's impact is.

I strongly support **this bill** because it will make the shoreline in our area safer for everyone. Our sandbags were never meant to be a long-term solution; yet they have been our first line of defense for 18 years. At the beginning of their use, there was still a small strip of beach. Now the bottom bags are submerged and deteriorating. They are overgrown with seaweed. The sea turtles are foraging on the bags, ripping holes and adding to problem. A permanent fix – replacing the sandbags with a rock revetment and stairs – will protect our community, our visitors, and our turtles.

The condominiums in this region have not been idle. The **Kahana Bay Steering Committee properties** have invested time, effort, and significant funds to complete a Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and they are willing to fund a viable solution. What we need now is for DLNR to step in and help us bring this project to completion. This project aligns with regional alternatives and will also help address the severe flooding along Honoapiilani Road. Every heavy rain and extreme high tide event threatens our community, and doing nothing is not an option.

As someone who has spent my life teaching and caring for others, I now ask you to help care for us. Please support the completion of this project for the safety of our community, our visitors, and the future of our shoreline.

Please, support SCR 76 and help us secure that future. Mahalo for your time.

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Submitted on: 4/7/2025 4:38:00 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teresa Smith-Glaser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Kahana Bay shoreline, and the dwellings along that stretch, are in danger. With housing at a premium near Lahaina, the importance of condos like the Hololani, which have many year-round owner-residents, as well as several displaced fire survivors, cannot be understated. Building B of the Hololani is less than 20 feet from the ocean. If shoreline erosion is not addressed now, the future catastrophe, and its cost, will be a serious loss to West Maui, in terms of destroyed housing, clean-up expenses, and damage to the environment as debris collapses into the ocean. Buildings like the Hololani have been there for 50 years, when there was 50 feet of property and 30 feet of beach. Now, less than 20 feet of land stand between it and the ocean. Please support bill SCR 76. Mahalo

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2025 4:47:59 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Will Glaser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Kahana Bay shoreline, and the dwellings along that stretch, are in danger. With housing at a premium near Lahaina, the importance of condos like the Hololani, which have many year-round owner-residents, as well as several displaced fire survivors, cannot be understated. Building B of the Hololani is less than 20 feet from the ocean. If shoreline erosion is not addressed now, the future catastrophe, and its cost, will be a serious loss to West Maui, in terms of destroyed housing, clean-up expenses, and damage to the environment as debris collapses into the ocean. Buildings like the Hololani have been there for 50 years, when there was 50 feet of property and 30 feet of beach. Now, less than 20 feet of land stand between it and the ocean. Please support bill SCR 76. Maholo

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 3:48:29 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janice Kapchinsky	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony. We sincerely request your support of this urgent initiative and your much needed vote for the resolution. It means so much to so many people. Time is of the essence!

Please approve Mike Foley from Oceanit and the Kahana Bay Steering Committee's plan as they continue their struggle to restore Kahana Bay. They would like the opportunity to update you and assure you of their continued leadership and dedication to restoring the beach. Mike says the bottom line is there is no option for Kahana besides this project. We cannot give up. This detailed plan is the only hope of saving Maui's coastline, economy and numerous residences, businesses and livelihoods of residences of Maui.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee has invested over one million dollars engineering plans and are ready to proceed before another disaster befalls our island.

Thank you again for your time.

Respectfully,

Janice and Larry Kapchinsky

Valley Isle Resort #510

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 4:54:02 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Marn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a 15 year owner at the Sands of Kahana, and my family and I have enjoyed our many visits and the Aloha spirit of this beautiful island. The erosion of the beach area threatens the SOK facility with significant damage and personal safety. I urge the comittee to move forward with developing a valid mitigation plan and execute asap. Thanks

Tim Marn

SOK owner

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 10:01:57 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven Cawley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in enthusiastic support of SCR76.

We have owned a home on Maui since 2011, and been owners of a home in Kahana since 2021. We believe that beach erosion is significant, and fear the future of our neighbourhood as the ocean continues to rise. The Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation project will use a proven, successful strategy that would protect the waters around Maui from dramatic environmental disasters. Not only would this plan stop roads and homes from eroding into the ocean, but would restore beautiful beaches for all the people of Maui.

I respectfully request support from the Committee to protect Maui and it's West Maui neighbourhoods, while restoring the beaches Kahana once had.

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Submitted on: 4/8/2025 10:36:09 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherri Morgan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR76.

My husband and I have been visiting Maui since 1993 and we originally owned at Sands of Kahana on Kahana Bay. In 2004, we moved from the timeshare to our home at Kahana Outrigger also on the bay. We have seen the beach erode away over the years putting buildings in jeopardy and all but eliminating some of the beautiful sandy beaches. The Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project is a well thought out and professionally researched solution to the erosion problem. Not only will it repair and replenish the beaches for our beautiful west Maui neighborhood, but it will protect existing structures from destruction. It is a win-win for our entire community and a great example to the rest of the island residents who are experiencing similar devastation of their coastlines.

Please help us save our beautiful bay coastline by supporting this project.

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Submitted on: 4/8/2025 10:57:57 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim and Mitzi Fant	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kahana Bay is at a crisis point. Erosion is no longer a distant threat—it is a daily reality displacing full-time residents and undermining homes. Families who have lived here for decades are watching their properties crumble as storm flooding now reaches public roads. Without swift action, these losses will accelerate, and more people will be forced out.

Without groins and managed beach replenishment, there will be **no beach left to save**. Sand is disappearing, shoreline access is eroding, and protection is dwindling. The community’s proposed regional plan is the only viable path forward—one that benefits the public, wildlife, and every resident who relies on this coastline.

Kahana Bay residents have already done the hard work. Through the Kahana Bay Steering Committee (KBSC), every AOA on the bay has spent years collaborating with engineers, agencies, and the public to craft a comprehensive solution. Yet, despite this effort, progress has stalled—not due to lack of commitment, but due to a lack of coordination among state agencies. It is time for DLNR and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to bring all parties together and push this solution forward.

Every day of delay puts more at risk:

- **Honoapi‘ilani Road**, a critical artery for residents, was closed for years due to flooding. Without intervention, history will repeat itself.
- **Public infrastructure**, including drainage and wastewater systems, is already compromised. County workers must navigate dangerous conditions just to keep roads open.
- **Emergency access and public safety** remain threatened as conditions worsen.

The County has made its position clear: it will not take ownership of the infrastructure necessary to support this project. Only the State can provide the leadership needed to resolve these roadblocks and deliver solutions for residents.

This is **not** about protecting one building. This is a regional solution designed by and for the entire community. Hundreds of local residents—including seniors, families, and full-time residents—are watching their homes and shoreline disappear. The plan in place will restore the beach, maintain public access, ensure environmental sustainability, and protect the entire Kahana shoreline.

Most importantly, this project **is already funded**. KBSC has committed to fully financing the solution through a Community Facilities District (CFD), meaning it will not burden taxpayers but will directly benefit the people who need it most.

Now is the time for leadership. Now is the time for action. Kahana Bay cannot afford further delay.

Best regards,

Tim & Mitzi Fant

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 11:14:13 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jesus Gonzales	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing to you as an owner of property at Kahana Bay for the past three years and someone who has been closely associated with this area for over a decade. The situation we face is urgent. Our community requires your support and immediate action to address the severe erosion that is displacing residents and threatening entire properties.

Full-time residents and families are losing their homes to erosion at Kahana Bay. Shoreline structures are being undermined, lanais are fenced off, and storm flooding now reaches public roads. Without intervention, the damage will accelerate, leading to more displacement.

The opposition claims they are “saving the beach” by blocking action, but this is misleading. Without groins and managed beach replenishment, there is no sand to hold. The beach is disappearing. The community’s regional plan is the only viable method to restore and retain the beach for the public, wildlife, and all residents. Delays will ensure continued loss of shoreline, beach access, and protection.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee (KBSC), composed of every AOA on the bay, has collaborated for years with engineers, agencies, and the public to develop this plan. However, progress has stalled due to lack of coordination between agencies. We now need DLNR and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to facilitate and bring all parties together.

Every day of delay risks homes, infrastructure, and public safety. This erosion threatens Honoapi‘ilani Road, public drainage systems, wastewater infrastructure, emergency access, and public safety. Honoapi‘ilani Road was previously closed for years due to flooding, and a public drainage easement at the north end of the bay regularly floods, forcing County workers to operate under hazardous conditions to keep the road open. This project will protect the lower road from erosion and being cut off. The County has stated it will not assume ownership of the infrastructure needed to support this project. Only the State can lead in resolving these issues.

This is a regional solution created by and for the community. It is not about one building or a single project. It concerns hundreds of local residents—seniors, families, full-time residents—who live here and are witnessing their homes and shoreline disappear. The mitigation plan includes restored beach and public access, environmentally responsible protection, and designs

that serve the entire Kahana shoreline. KBSC has offered to fully fund this project through a Community Facilities District (CFD).

I urge you to take immediate action to support our community and protect our homes, infrastructure, and public safety.

Sincerely,

Jesus J. Gonzales

4401 Lower Honoapi'ilani Road, Unit A703

Lahaina, Maui County, HI 96761

805-415-3869 / chuygonzales@gmail.com

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 11:26:14 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ed Jones	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: Rep. Mark J. Hashem, Chair
Rep. Rachele F. Lamosao, Vice Chair
Committee on Water and Land

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Lamosao, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Ed Jones and I am a resident and owner in the Kahana Bay area. I'm writing with deep urgency and hope that you will support S.C.R. No. 76, S.D. 1 — the Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project.

I've seen firsthand what erosion has done to our coastline. Families are losing their homes. The ocean has crept closer and closer, and now flooding regularly reaches the road. I know neighbors who've had to leave. Their homes — once places of joy and gathering — are now unsafe and unlivable. Without this project, more will follow. The longer we wait, the more we lose.

People might say, "Save the beach," but there is no beach left to save. The sand has disappeared. What we need is a plan to bring it back — groins, replenishment, real mitigation. We're not asking for a handout; we're asking for help to restore something that erosion has taken from all of us — residents, locals, and visitors alike.

This is a bay-wide solution that will benefit everyone — the community, the public, and the environment. Years of work, studies, and engineering have brought us to this point. But we can't do it alone. We need the state to step in now — before the next big swell, the next flood, the next family is forced to leave.

Please pass this resolution. Let's protect our shoreline, our people, and our future.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 11:40:49 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lori Colwell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Lamosao, and members of the committee,

I am writing to express my **urgent and wholehearted support** for S.C.R. No. 76, S.D. 1 regarding the Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project. I am a resident and home owner at Kahana Bay, and what we are facing is no longer a future threat — it is a crisis unfolding in real time.

Residents are already being displaced. This is not theoretical. Full-time families have been forced out of their homes. Shoreline structures have collapsed collapsing, lanais are closed off, and floodwaters from storms are now reaching the roadway. County workers are facing hazards to clear the road when flooding occurs. Without immediate action, more people will be driven out, more damage will occur, and critical infrastructure will continue to deteriorate.

Despite what opponents claim, **there is no beach left to “save” without this project.** The sand is gone. The only viable path forward is groins and managed replenishment. The regional plan our community developed is based on years of coastal science and planning. Delaying any longer guarantees the continued loss of beach, public access, and property.

The community has done everything it can. Every condo along the bay — through the Kahana Bay Steering Committee — has invested in coastal engineers, environmental studies, and multi-agency engagement. We are ready. But we need the State — DLNR and OPSD — to step in and help move this forward.

Every day of delay increases the danger. Honoapiʻilani Road has already been shut down for months due to storm-related flooding. Drainage infrastructure floods regularly, and workers must enter dangerous conditions to keep the road passable. The County has stated it cannot take ownership of the needed improvements. **Only the State has the authority to coordinate and resolve this.**

Finally, this plan is not for one building or one landowner — **this is a bay-wide solution** that benefits hundreds of residents and restores permanent public access. The alternative is continued damage, disconnection, and displacement.

I respectfully urge you to support this resolution and help bring urgent attention and coordination to Kahana Bay before it is too late.

Mahalo for your time and leadership,

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 11:41:35 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Schulhof	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I've been coming to Kahana Bay since 1993. In 2012, I deepened that connection by purchasing a home here. Since then, I've had a front-row seat to the alarming and relentless erosion of this shoreline. In front of Hololani, we have not only lost the beach — we've lost **at least 14 feet of actual land** to the ocean. And yet, we are still paying property taxes on land that no longer exists.

But this isn't just about property values. This is about public safety, regional infrastructure, and protecting the long-term viability of an entire shoreline community as well as the environment.

Our Hololani community responded responsibly. We went through an extensive, years-long permitting process and took on **\$7 million in debt** to implement emergency shoreline protections. Despite those efforts, we still have to place **hundreds of sandbags every few years**, each costing **\$1,100**, just to hold the line and keep our building — and more importantly, the **Lower Honoapi'ilani Road** — from being overtaken by the sea.

Every day of delay increases the threat to homes, lives, and vital infrastructure.

The situation now extends well beyond private property:

- **Honoapi'ilani Road**, a lifeline for West Maui, has already been closed for years in the past due to flooding.
- **Public drainage and wastewater systems** are increasingly at risk of failure.
- **Emergency access and public safety** are directly compromised.

At the **north end of the bay**, a public drainage easement **regularly floods**, requiring **County workers to enter hazardous conditions** to keep the road open. This is not an abstract risk — it's an active crisis. **Full-time residents are being displaced**. Homes are being lost. Shoreline structures are crumbling, lanais are fenced off, and flooding now reaches public roads.

Without action, the damage will only accelerate. **There is no beach left to save without this project.**

Opponents argue they are “saving the beach” by blocking action. That claim is dangerously misleading. **Without groins and managed beach replenishment, there is no sand to hold**. The beach is disappearing — and it will not return on its own.

We have proven examples of success: the **Stable Road Groins Replacement Project on Maui** and similar efforts on **O‘ahu** clearly demonstrate that **rock groins paired with managed sand replenishment** work. In those cases, sand wasn’t just retained — it was *restored*. These are proven, environmentally responsible tools.

The community’s **regional mitigation plan** is the only viable path to restoring and retaining a beach — for residents, for wildlife, and for the public. This is not about one property or a single structure. It’s about **hundreds of local residents**, including seniors and families, who are watching their shoreline and homes vanish.

The **Kahana Bay Steering Committee (KBSC)** — made up of every AOA along the bay — has worked for years with engineers, state and county agencies, and the public to create a thoughtful, science-backed, and community-driven plan. Importantly, the AOAs have **offered to fully fund the project** through a **Community Facilities District (CFD)**. This isn’t a request for taxpayer dollars — this is a community willing to pay to protect what matters.

But the effort has stalled. Not due to lack of initiative, funding, or commitment — but because of **gaps in coordination between agencies**.

We now need **DLNR** and the **Office of Planning and Sustainable Development** to step in and **bring all stakeholders to the table** so we can move forward.

S.C.R. No. 76, S.D. 1 is essential. It acknowledges the urgency of the situation and supports a coordinated, responsible response to a very real and growing threat.

We cannot afford more delay. Let’s act now — to protect homes, infrastructure, public access, and the future of Kahana Bay.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 12:02:17 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jesse Olpindo	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Mahalo.

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Lamosao, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jesse Olpindo. I'm a full-time resident and homeowner at Hololani, and I've raised my family in Kahana for the past 25 years. I've watched the beach where my kids once played wash away. Now, that shoreline is sandbags and fencing. Storms flood the road. Homes are at risk.

What hurts most is that we've done everything we were asked to do — years of planning, hiring experts, working with the County. And still, nothing has been done, while the erosion gets worse.

I know my grandchildren will never experience the beach the way we did unless we do this project.

Please support this resolution. We can't lose any more time. We're not just losing sand — we're losing our home, our memories, and our future.

Mahalo,
Hololani Owner and Kahana Resident

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 12:03:16 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melissa Gonzales	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing as a property owner of a condominium unit in the Hololani, urging immediate action to address the severe erosion displacing residents and threatening homes.

Our situation is dire. Erosion is damaging shoreline structures, flooding public roads, and risking further displacement. Please support the regional plan developed by the Kahana Bay Steering Committee (KBSC) to restore and retain the beach.

Opponents claim to be “saving the beach” by blocking action, yet offer frivolous and specious arguments as their solution does not save the beach. Delays jeopardize shoreline, beach access, and protection. The KBSC, including all AOA members, has collaborated with engineers, agencies, and the public on this plan but has stalled. This is due to lack of coordination between the agencies. We beg DLNR and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to unite all parties.

Each day of delay threatens my home and many other homes in our community, as well as infrastructure, and public safety. Erosion not only endangers Honoapiʻilani Road but also Lower Road, public drainage systems, wastewater infrastructure, and emergency access. The County has stated it will not assume ownership of necessary infrastructure for this project; only the State can lead in resolving these issues.

This regional solution is for the entire community, not one building or project. It includes restored beach, public access, environmentally responsible protection, and designs for the whole Kahana shoreline. KBSC has offered to fully fund this project through a Community Facilities District (CFD).

I urge you to act immediately to support our community and protect our homes, infrastructure, and public safety.

Regards,

Melissa A. Gonzales

4401 Lower Honoapiʻilani Road, Unit A703

Lahaina, Maui County, HI 96761

805-890-4895 / princessgonzales@gmail.com

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 12:06:49 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
michael kayem	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

What is Kahana Bay without a beach! the area is visited by thousands of tourist every year, it is a shame to loose our beach. Everyone will benifit from a beach restoration including the locals. Maui is the jewel of Hawaii and we need action to keep it that way. My family supports SCR76 and hopes will be approved. thank you

I am writing you to ask for your support SCR76.

When my Wife and I purchased our wonderful Hololani condo over a decade ago, there was a moderate amount of beautiful sandy beach, and it is so sad that it has been lost to such a degree. We were told at the time of our purchase that an active plan to protect the shoreline was in place and was going to happen in the near future. Unfortunately, that was delayed to the point we are at now when the project has become somewhat urgent.

One of the last times I was able to visit we enjoyed a seasonal re-emergence of the beach, and it was truly wonderful to walk on. In the aftermath of the devastating Lahaina fire, we entered our unit into the FEMA program to provide shelter to a displaced individual/family. It would be further devastating if we didn't protect the shoreline properties which could be utilized in this manner just for this kind of emergency.

I look forward to eventually visiting the Hololani once again in the future when the unit is no longer needed. My understanding is that Hololani means, "Gone to Heaven." I certainly feel that sentiment every time I walk through the front door and walk out to our Lanai. There is no other place on Earth that gives me such peace.

There are significant benefits for allowing us to proceed with the project. I have seen firsthand how the North end of the property has deteriorated, making the beach access point somewhat hazardous. This location is awfully close to the road and a major drainage pipe. These are impacted by the lack of protection from storms and very high tides that can result in flooding and road damage. This project is designed to help with these worsening issues. The old saying, "An

ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”” applies to this situation. If a bad storm washes out the road that would be awful and if the risk of that happening can be decreased, we should attempt to make it happen.

My wife and I are disabled and having steps down to the beach would be extremely welcome. I think many visitors to this location would agree. It also makes me anxious when I see people walking on the existing sandbags that are slippery with an uneven surface, it just looks like an accident waiting to happen. Artists rendering of what the rock revetment will look like is far superior to the ugly sandbags which take away from the natural beauty of the area.

I am not aware of any significant downsides to proceeding with the project. The advantages of proceeding are significant.

Thank You,

Don Colburn

Hololani B304

4401 LOWER HONOAPIILANI RD

LAHAINA, HI, 96761-9297

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 12:33:53 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Frank Schultz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The temporary sandbags are very dangerous to public safety. They are falling apart. When they fall apart they are also a risk to the Marine life; especially turtles.

Replacing these sandbags will make the shoreline much safer.

Many scientists have thoroughly researched safe and sustainable alternatives. The solution is rocks. This will provide owners, visitors, and locals safe access to the beach. Especially if stairs are built in the rock structure.

Rain and high tides continue to be a concern throughout Maui. This is also a key concern regarding the Honoapiilani Road, which is a major street connecting homes and businesses from north to south. This road continually floods during heavy rains, storms, and increasing high tides.

Science research has shown that the rock wall will help abate flooding on this road.

I strongly urge you to support this project for the overall safety of our community.

Sincerely,

Frank Schultz

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 1:09:41 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mitzi Fant	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kahana Bay is at a crisis point. Erosion is no longer a distant threat—it is a daily reality displacing full-time residents and undermining homes. Families who have lived here for decades are watching their properties crumble as storm flooding now reaches public roads. Without swift action, these losses will accelerate, and more people will be forced out.

Opponents claim they are “saving the beach” by preventing action, but that is dangerously misleading. The reality is clear: without groins and managed beach replenishment, there will be **no beach left to save**. Sand is disappearing, shoreline access is eroding, and protection is dwindling. The community’s proposed regional plan is the only viable path forward—one that benefits the public, wildlife, and every resident who relies on this coastline.

Kahana Bay residents have already done the hard work. Through the Kahana Bay Steering Committee (KBSC), every AOA on the bay has spent years collaborating with engineers, agencies, and the public to craft a comprehensive solution. Yet, despite this effort, progress has stalled—not due to lack of commitment, but due to a lack of coordination among state agencies. It is time for DLNR and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to bring all parties together and push this solution forward.

Every day of delay puts more at risk:

- **Honoapi‘ilani Road**, a critical artery for residents, was closed for years due to flooding. Without intervention, history will repeat itself.
- **Public infrastructure**, including drainage and wastewater systems, is already compromised. County workers must navigate dangerous conditions just to keep roads open.
- **Emergency access and public safety** remain threatened as conditions worsen.

The County has made its position clear: it will not take ownership of the infrastructure necessary to support this project. Only the State can provide the leadership needed to resolve these roadblocks and deliver solutions for residents.

This is **not** about protecting one building. This is a regional solution designed by and for the entire community. Hundreds of local residents—including seniors, families, and full-time residents—are watching their homes and shoreline disappear. The plan in place will restore the

beach, maintain public access, ensure environmental sustainability, and protect the entire Kahana shoreline.

Most importantly, this project **is already funded**. KBSC has committed to fully financing the solution through a Community Facilities District (CFD), meaning it will not burden taxpayers but will directly benefit the people who need it most.

Now is the time for leadership. Now is the time for action. Kahana Bay cannot afford further delay.

I am writing to express my strong support for SCR 76, a resolution focused on the crucial issue of shoreline preservation and protection in the Kahana Bay region. As a resident of Hololani, which is adjacent to the Kahana Bay shoreline, I witness firsthand the challenges posed by ongoing erosion and shoreline degradation. The current state of the shoreline is impacting not only the environmental health of the area but also the well-being of the residents and communities who call this place home.

SCR 76 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to collaborate with stakeholders to find practical, sustainable solutions to the shoreline issues facing the Kahana Bay region. I wholeheartedly support this initiative as it promotes a collaborative approach to addressing a problem that has been escalating for years. It is evident that we need a long-term, feasible solution to preserve the beauty and safety of our coastline, and SCR 76 represents a critical step in that direction.

The Kahana Bay region is an iconic and cherished part of our community. I am deeply concerned about the potential loss of shoreline, not only from an environmental perspective but also from cultural and economic standpoints. Many residents, including myself, value the coastal resources and the tranquility that Kahana Bay offers. Protecting the integrity of the shoreline will ensure this area is preserved for generations to come.

I urge you to continue advancing SCR 76 and support the efforts to address the pressing shoreline issues in our community. I appreciate your leadership and commitment to the health of our environment and the safety of our residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Joe Garavaglia

Hololani B804

April 2025

To: Hawai'i State Legislature;

Re: **SCR 76 Regional Erosion Mitigation Project**

As an owner of a condo in Hololani Condominiums for over 20 years, which is located along the Kahana Bay shoreline, I am writing in support of SCR 76 because it requests DLNR and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to help the condominiums in the Kahana Bay area find a real solution to the ongoing shoreline issues. Where we once had a beautiful sandy beach in front of our condominiums, we now have no beach, no access to a beach, and a wall of worn sandbags.

Since Hololani received approval and installed the permitted sheet pile in 2018, the outstanding issue is removing the worn sandbags, which originally was a temporary situation, that have been in place for almost a decade. While our condos are beautifully located and lovely to live in, our family, friends and visitors are disappointed by the absence of a beach and the threat to the safety of the property.

As the shoreline continues to erode dramatically, the problem becomes increasingly urgent.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee, made up of AOA properties, have committed numerous hours and great expense getting a Draft EIS completed and have indicated a willingness to participate in finding a viable solution, but continue to run into roadblocks and opposition.

We urgently and respectfully request the help of the government agencies involved to help the Kahana Bay Steering Committee make this project a reality that is ultimately beneficial to all of us.

We love our beautiful condo at Hololani and urge you to support this resolution so we can continue to enjoy beautiful Maui and its beaches with our family, friends and the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sylvia Hershberger

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 1:42:50 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Spencer Schmerling	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Spencer Schmelring. I am a resident of Maui and I am writing in strong support of the regional beach restoration project proposed for Kahana Bay. This is not a theoretical issue — it is a crisis unfolding in real time. Homes are being lost, families displaced, and essential infrastructure put at risk. I respectfully urge the State to act swiftly in support of this community-led solution.

1. Residents Are Already Being Displaced The impacts of erosion at Kahana Bay are not abstract — they are visible and worsening. Full-time residents and families have already lost their homes. Shoreline structures are being undermined, lanais are closed off, and roadways are regularly flooded. This is a human issue, not just a technical one.

2. There Is No Beach Left to Save Without This Project Opponents claim to be “saving the beach,” but that framing is dangerously misleading. The science is clear: without groins and managed replenishment, there is no sand to hold — and therefore no beach. The community’s regional plan is the only viable path forward to restore and retain beach access for residents, wildlife, and the general public.

3. Every Day of Delay Risks Lives, Homes, and Infrastructure Erosion at Kahana Bay doesn’t just threaten private property — it threatens critical public infrastructure, including Honoapi‘ilani Road, drainage systems, and wastewater facilities. This road was already shut down for months due to flooding, with devastating effects on local residents and workers who must clear hazardous drainage conditions to keep it passable.

4. This Is a Regional Solution, Not a Private Landowner Project This plan represents years of community collaboration through the Kahana Bay Steering Committee, which includes every condominium along the bay. It’s not about individual landowners — it’s about hundreds of residents and a commitment to maintaining public access and a livable coastline for everyone.

5. The Community Has Offered to Fully Fund the Project Most importantly, the Kahana Bay Steering Committee has committed to funding the entire project through a Community Facilities District (CFD). That means **no burden on the State budget and no impact on local taxpayers** — only a clear, actionable path forward.

Conclusion The community has done the work. The studies have been completed. The funding has been secured. What we need now is leadership and coordination from the State — particularly DLNR and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development — to remove remaining roadblocks and allow this plan to proceed before more homes, access, and lives are lost.

Mahalo for your time and attention to this urgent matter.

Respectfully,
Spener Schmerling

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 1:44:09 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Schmerling	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Esteemed Committee Members,

My name is Sarah Schmerling, a resident of West Maui. I am submitting this testimony today to voice my strong support for the Kahana Bay Beach Restoration Project — a solution that is not only overdue but absolutely necessary.

This situation is not sustainable. We are past the point of warnings.

I've seen firsthand the damage along Kahana Bay. We're not just talking about disappearing sand — we're talking about families losing homes, shoreline walkways collapsing, and storm waters reaching right up to the roads. This isn't something we can afford to put off any longer.

The beach is already gone. Without action, it's never coming back.

The opposition's message that they're "saving the beach" might sound nice, but it's just not based in reality. There is no beach left to save unless this regional plan moves forward. Without engineered structures and sand replenishment, erosion will continue to eat away what's left — and that affects *everyone*.

This is a project built by the community, for the community.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee has done everything right. Every condo on the bay is represented. They've hired experts, done the studies, and gone through the proper channels. What's needed now is for State agencies to help clear the final hurdles and help make this vision a reality.

We're talking about critical infrastructure — not just beach views.

If the State doesn't step in, we risk far more than beachfront property. Honoapi'ilani Road is vital for local transportation, and it's already been shut down because of erosion-related flooding. Stormwater systems are under stress. Public safety workers are literally putting their lives on the line trying to keep these systems operational during extreme weather.

And here's the part that should be a no-brainer: the community is offering to pay for it.

The residents along the bay aren't asking for a government handout. The project will be funded through a Community Facilities District — no cost to local taxpayers or the State. All that's needed is coordination and leadership to make it happen.

In conclusion:

Please don't let this opportunity slip away. We can't afford to lose any more homes, infrastructure, or access to the coastline. This project is ready. The community is united. The funding is secured. Now we need the State to step up and help move this forward.

Mahalo for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Sarah Schmerling

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 2:31:34 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr Marion Ceruti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Vote YES on SCR76 SD1.

As an owner and voting resident of a Kahana Bay unit, I want to preserve my home. Attention to this growing erosion problem is needed NOW, before we lose more buildings and trees on West Maui. Inaction is not an option.

As a strong supporter of the Kahana Bay Steering Committe (KBSC), I urge all lawmakers to consider the carefully planned and very successful design of T-groins to prevent beach erosion. This effective solution has been working for 12 years at Iroquois Point on O'ahu. We need T-groins here at Kahana Bay to protect our homes and to restore the public beach for everyone to enjoy.

Don't believe anyone who tells you that the resulting restored beach would be private with no public access. This is simply not true; the KBSC is committed to public access to the restored beach at Kahana Bay.

Don't believe those who would like you to think that T-groins cause more erosion. On the contrary, T-groins form coves that trap the sand and prevent the current and waves from removing the beach. The T-groin solution has stabilized coastlines all over the world. It has worked well in Nassau, Bahamas and also in Barcelona, Spain. Why not apply the best technology at Kahana Bay?

Act decisively and act NOW. Vote YES on SCR76 SD1. Mahalo for your kokua.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 3:01:35 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert DeNike	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR 76. The condominiums along the shore need a CONCRETE REVETMENT to stabilize the erosion threatening these residences. The temporary sandbags currently in place are no longer adequate. Property owners are in danger of having their homes and investments literally washed away.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 3:29:45 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lenore E Houston	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Honorable Senators,

I am writing to support Senate Resolution 76 (SCR-76).

I have lived at Hololani Resort and worked in Kahana since October of 2022 and immediately became aware of the history of West Maui erosion. And that is what it is, plain and simple...erosion!

The sandbags that were meant to be a temporary solution are breaking down and floating into the ocean, causing more problems for marine life and creating a dangerous environment for locals who wish to fish and guests who might venture down onto these bags.

I have seen torrential rains flood the lower Honoapiilani road and remove large areas of sand in the easement. Something that may not have happened had there been a rock revetment.

Regarding the pain and loss of the Lahaina Fire Victims: Many of these victims live and work at Hololani Resort and go to my church. We live with this every day. Hololani collected furniture, food, clothing, and household items for months after the fire and we continuously support all efforts of our community to move forward past this tragedy. To state that we are not helping is an untruth because what is pono or beneficial for one is pono or beneficial for all! The fire is a separate issue altogether and one should look at this issue as a whole.

In Hawaii we live in a world that is a melting pot of cultures, religions, and peoples. We should be fostering inclusion and promoting our famous Hawaiian Hospitality. This is the land of Aloha and we should live it.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee has been working respectfully and tirelessly to provide plans, engineering studies and research to meet the requirements of the County of Maui, DLNR and the Maui Planning Commission. There have been so many delays. It is time to move forward with this mitigation project and preserve what we already have. No one really wants to see destruction of homes and livelihoods.

I urge you to support SCR-76 to protect our shoreline and ensure a sustainable future for our community and future generations. Let us prioritize the preservation of our environment and the well-being of our residents and visitors.

Sincerely,

Lenore Houston

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 3:43:27 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carol McKinney	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Carol Smart McKinney. I have lived, worked and voted in Hawaii since the 1960's. On Oahu I was on the board of Achievement Reward for College Scientists (ARCS) and helped give scholarships to our Hawaii students in the field of science. Mainly oceanography. I moved from Oahu to Maui 40 years ago and have watched significant beach erosion. We should be doing everything possible to protect and restore our beach and hale. It is had for me to believe anyone would oppose this. Mahalo

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 3:49:41 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sandi Gage	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

S.C.R. No. 76, S.D. 1 – Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project

I have been visiting Maui for many years. My husband and I bought a condo a few years ago at Hololani Resort. When we first purchased our condo Hololani Resort had a small beach. There is no beach today. The resort had to install ugly and unsafe sandbags. The sandbags are unsafe for both human and animals. I have watched residents of Maui fish off of the bags, which speeds up the bags breaking down and placement of the bags. As I have talk with other residents of Maui, both visiting and locals, the following concerns come up.

Residents are being displaced — and entire properties are at risk. The erosion at Kahana Bay has been going for decades. Before homes and condos were built. Without action Kahana Bay will be lost forever. Homes will be condemned and lost.

There will be no beach left to save without this project.

The opposition claims they are “saving the beach” by blocking action. That’s dangerously misleading. Claiming the erosion is because of the buildings. This is not true. Look at a picture of Kahana beach in the 40s, 50s, 60s and the 70s and you can see how the beach has eroded before the buildings were built.

Fact: Without groins and managed beach replenishment, there is no sand to hold. Such as what has been done for other beaches in Hawaii.

The beach is disappearing. The community’s regional plan is the only viable path to restoring and retaining a beach — for the public, wildlife, and all residents. Delay ensures continued loss of shoreline, beach access, and protection.

The community has done the work — now the State needs to coordinate.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee (KBSC), made up of every AOA on the bay, has worked for years with engineers, agencies, and the public to develop this plan. But the effort has stalled — not due to lack of effort, but lack of coordination between agencies.

We now need DLNR and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to step in and bring all parties to the table. I have set in on Council meets for years discussing this issue. This is not a new issue.

Every day of delay risks homes, infrastructure, and public safety.
This erosion threatens:

- Honoapiʻilani Road
- Public drainage systems and wastewater infrastructure
- Emergency access and public safety

Fact: Honoapiʻilani Road was previously closed for years due to flooding.

Fact: A public drainage easement at the north end of the bay regularly floods, forcing County workers to risk their safety in hazardous conditions to keep the road open.

The County has said it will not take ownership of the infrastructure needed to support this project. Only the State can lead on resolving these roadblocks. Why is the State of Hawaii willing to let their beaches disappear? KBSC has offered to fully fund this project through a Community Facilities District (CFD).

This is a regional solution — created by and for the community.

This isn't about one building or a single project. This is about **hundreds of local residents** — seniors, families, full-time residents — who live here and are watching their homes and shoreline disappear.

The mitigation plan includes:

- **Restored beach and public access**
- **Environmentally responsible protection**
- **Designs that serve the entire Kahana shoreline**

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 3:53:09 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Norbert Wolszon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support SCR 76 and encourage you to do the same. This isn't just about the beach. It's about the economy too. If nothing is done millions of dollars in property tax revenue will be lost, 100's of good paying jobs will be lost. Maui is about beaches. Help protect our precious resource and the jobs, tax revenue, and businesses that this beach provides. Preserve for all to enjoy for generations to come and help support the true local economy.

Mahalo for your time

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 4:30:13 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rey and Carla Munoz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

House Committee on Water and Land

House Review of SCR76

Please accept our testimony in support of the above referenced resolution. We are in support of the beach restoration of Kahana Bay.

We understand that studies have shown that stabilizing structures will enhance the ocean sealife of Kahana Bay, as well as providing beautiful and safe restored beach areas for recreation, exercise, and property preservation.

We own two units within the Valley Isle Resort. We have vacationed here for over 25 years, but have now owned our units for 7 and 5 years. Our family of nine stayed in the units in October for ten days of family time. We have three small grandchildren. The first afternoon we were able to play in the water along Kahana beach for a lovely time. After a strong wave event, the second day we were there, much of the sand had been drawn off shore and it was not safe to have the children play on the beach and/or in the water. We were all very disappointed. This also causes great concern for the future effect on the building structures, requiring the constant placement of sandbags.

We love Maui and the state of Hawaii. Our Spanish grandparents came to the islands in the early 1910's on contract to cut sugar cane. Hawaii is very precious to us and we are concerned about the land and the people of the islands.

We strongly support the addition of a specific mentioning of the KBSC to be included in the pilot projects.

Thank you very much to all of the members of this committee for your careful consideration and support of this project.

Respectfully,

Rey and Carla Munoz, owners of units 1105 and 1207 at the Valley Isle Resort

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 4:33:52 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bob Alessandrelli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am an owner of a condo on Kahana Bay and improving and maintaining this beautiful coastline is essential for Maui. My condo is part of the 9 properties working to assure this comes about and we're delighted that the Senate Committee agrees with our position. We're working to fund the project via a CFD, but we'd welcome state, federal, FEMA, or Army Corps of Engineers support. In fact, we don't just welcome it, we need this assistance. This isn't just about protecting our homes—it's about restoring Kahana Bay for all, preserving Maui's natural resources, and sustaining tourism revenue. T-Groins, if used, mimic natural features (e.g., lava flows) and aren't banned shoreline hardening under Act 16. Our research has concluded that this is what is needed but it's an expensive endeavor. Mahalo for your consideration and support. And, Mahalo for your public service.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 4:58:28 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James and Diane Maloney	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- There is no beach left to save without this project.
- The opposition claims to be “saving the beach,” but that is dangerously misleading. s regional plan is the only realistic path to restoring and retaining a beach — for the public, for wildlife, and for residents. Delaying action guarantees continued loss of beach and access.
- The community has done the work — now we need State coordination.
- The Kahana Bay Steering Committee, representing every condo on the bay, has spent years preparing for this — hiring engineers, conducting studies, and engaging agencies. But the effort is stalled. We need DLNR and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to bring the parties together and remove the roadblocks.
- Every day of delay risks lives, homes, and public infrastructure.
- This erosion threatens Honoapi‘ilani Road, public drainage systems, wastewater infrastructure, and beach access. Fact: Honoapi‘ilani Road was closed for months to repair flooding, causing hardship for residents. Fact: A drainage easement on Honoapi‘ilani Road regularly floods, causing workers to risk their lives to clear it in hazardous conditions to keep the road open.
- The County cannot and will not own the needed infrastructure. Only the State can convene the agencies, resolve ownership issues, and move this forward. Inaction now is not neutral — it causes further damage.
- This is a regional solution — designed by and for the entire bay.
- This isn’t about one property, or one project, or out-of-town landowners. This is affecting hundreds of residents. The proposed mitigation plan supports the entire shoreline community, including permanent public access and restored recreational beach. It is the culmination of years of planning — and now needs the State’s support to advance.
- And most importantly:
 - KBSC has offered to fully fund this project through a Community Facilities District (CFD).
 - No local tax dollars, no burden on the State budget — just a path forward.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 5:04:25 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tracy Tremble	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha and thank you for reading my testimony. I have been travelling to Maui since 2004, which was my first time on island...for my wedding at Napili Bay. We fell in love with the island and culture and have visited dozens of times since that day. We have owned a property on West Maui since 2016. Our current property is in Kahana. It is evident in the last several years that the beaches in Kahana are diminishing due to environmental factors, and currently the beach front is encroaching on many properties. This is of great concern as it is only a matter of time before Kahana buildings start falling into the ocean. No one who loves and cherishes Maui wants to witness this type of disaster. We know from research that t-groins are a viable solution to coastal erosion. The sand placed in proximity to the groins would remain in that area...creating a beach front for locals and visitors to enjoy, as well as preventing oceanfront buildings from falling into the ocean. How can anyone argue that this project shouldn't be approved...the Kahana Bay oceanfront will be a disaster if we don't intervene soon. I am aware that managed retreat has been proposed as a solution...how is this even possible when Lower Honoapiilani Road lies directly behind the oceanfront buildings that are at risk from coastal erosion. There is no where to go! Please save the Kahana Bay oceanfront by approving this well researched (and executed solution in other parts of the US and the world) t-groin project.

– A Growing Concern

We've seen shocking changes in beach erosion. The situation is far worse than just a few years ago and our building is now in danger. The only thing holding back the ocean is a line of sandbags, which are now deteriorating. Our resort already has replacement sandbags in storage—fully paid for by condo owners—yet Maui County refuses to issue permits for installation. Meanwhile, during storms, waves are already overtopping the failing barriers. The amount of water coming over the sandbags must be in the thousands of gallons, daily, how much more before things starting to collapse? The county won't respond to our requests, leaving us completely in the dark.

The Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project (KBMP) consists of nine different resorts and 862 condos in Kahana Bay, all of which are at risk. The project has already developed a well-researched plan to install T-groins, designed by experts to calm the violent waves. Condo owners are fully prepared to fund this project, yet it has been sitting on government desks for at least eight years, with no movement. Meanwhile, similar projects have been approved elsewhere in Hawaii. Another option—coral reef restoration—was recently approved in Olowalu, securing a \$10 million grant. This method could reduce wave energy by 97% while benefiting marine life. Why isn't this being seriously considered for Kahana?

I call for long-term, preventive thinking and action—before it's too late. We can't wait for another disaster to happen before leaders start taking this seriously. Just like the fires in Lahaina, where lack of preparation led to unimaginable loss, we're watching another preventable crisis unfold in slow motion. Our hope is with you now, to act now before it's too late? Who wants to see another Surfside (Florida) happening right here in beautiful Maui?

Thank you

Helene Kayem

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 5:09:18 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean Steve Bloch	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 76 because it asks DLNR to help the condominiums in the Kahana Bay region find a real solution to the shoreline issues.

It will become a catastrophic problem if something is not done regarding this significantly eroded shoreline.

The only protection these condominiums currently have is temporary sandbags that have been in place in some cases for over a decade.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee properties have invested significant time and expense to get a Draft EIS done, and are willing to fund any viable solution.

We need the help of government agencies to help the Kahana Bay Steering Committee to make this project a reality.

Best,

Sean Bloch

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 5:20:25 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debbie gigliotti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We were able to buy a condo over 25 years ago on Kahana Bay beach. We struggled through the pandemic, put over the years have brought in many repeat tourists as our condo is our second home and kept very well maintained. We are now retired and unsure how we will continue to be able to own it but we love our place and want Maui to have this beautiful beach for generations, long after we are gone but we can't do it without your approval to protect the beach. We will pay the HOA dues which have gone up 600% somehow but we need to save the beach to save our condo. Or all our struggles will have been all for nothing. We have watched the sea take our grass and lapped at our foundation and now live with sand bags. Owners, locals and the sea life need you to take the steps needed to direct the sea away from the shore. Please approve this bill. there are many more reasons to do it than to vote it down. Tax revenue is one big one but to preserve that beautiful area and beach has to be the primary mission of Maui, time is of the essence. If you wait too long it won't be fixable. I pray you see how critical your approval of this bill is to the whole island and generations to come.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 5:30:52 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Busa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for SCR76.

Public Benefit and Beach Access

Opponents claim the project will benefit only condominium owners; however, these beaches are public and open to everyone. Public access is the law, and there is no request to change that. In fact, I would encourage officials to consider expanding public access as part of this project so the entire community can benefit.

Nature of the Proposed Solution

This is not a large-scale seawall hardening project. T-groins, when carefully designed and properly engineered for the specific conditions of a bay, have the potential to stabilize the shoreline with minimal risk of flanking erosion. In the case of Kahana Bay, the existing natural rock walls on either side further reduce that risk. Paired with additional methods—such as vegetative berms—T-groins can be part of a thoughtful, sustainable erosion mitigation strategy.

Protection of Economic and Housing Resources

Although many of these units are vacation rentals, there are also full-time residents. The number of residential occupants has grown since the Lahaina fire, making these properties an increasingly important housing resource. Furthermore, some of these properties are on the “Minatoya list” and are being considered for conversion back to long-term housing to address Maui’s critical housing shortage. Rather than losing this potential solution, we should protect these buildings and keep our options open.

If changes occur with the Minatoya list, the Kahana area may remain one of the last relatively affordable vacation rental zones on Maui compared to higher-priced areas like Kā’anapali and Kapalua. Preserving this mix of housing stock and more accessible accommodations helps maintain balance in our local economy.

Conclusion

SCR76 presents a reasonable path forward by urging collaboration among state, county, and federal agencies. Restoring and protecting the shoreline benefits everyone, and with the right approach, it can be done responsibly and sustainably.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
Justin Busa

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 5:31:12 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Simpson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to support Hawai‘i SCR76.

I have stayed at the Hololani condos at Kahana in Lahaina, and enjoyed the natural beauty of Kahana Bay. Unfortunately, the bay is experiencing significant erosion, threatening local ecosystems and biodiversity. Coordinated mitigation efforts are essential to preserve these natural habitats.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee, representing every condo on the bay, has spent years preparing for this — hiring engineers, conducting studies, and engaging agencies. But the effort is stalled. We need DLNR and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to bring the parties together and remove the roadblocks.

This isn’t about one property, or one project, or out-of-town landowners. This is affecting hundreds of residents. The proposed mitigation plan supports the entire shoreline community, including permanent public access and restored recreational beach. It is the culmination of years of planning — and now needs the State’s support to advance.

And most importantly: KBSC has offered to fully fund this project through a Community Facilities District (CFD). No local tax dollars, no burden on the State budget — just a path forward.

Supporting SCR76 demonstrates a commitment to environmental stewardship, community involvement, and proactive management of Hawai‘i’s coastal resources.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 5:43:10 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danny Cox	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Support of SCR 76*Relating to the Protection and Restoration of Kahana Bay, Maui*

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of SCR 76, a vital resolution that affirms our shared responsibility to protect and restore Kahana Bay on the island of Maui.

SCR 76 is more than just legislation — it's a statement that our community stands together to safeguard the natural beauty, ecological integrity, and cultural heritage of this deeply cherished place. Kahana Bay is not only a stunning stretch of coastline, but also a living reminder of Maui's rich history, a source of sustenance and connection, and a refuge for both residents and native wildlife.

By supporting this resolution, we are taking meaningful steps to address erosion, sea level rise, and the impacts of unmanaged development. We are investing in the long-term health of our shoreline and honoring the values of mālama 'āina — caring for the land — that define our identity as a people.

Future generations deserve the chance to walk along these shores, to fish, to gather, and to learn the stories embedded in the sand and sea. With SCR 76, we commit to that future.

Mahalo for your consideration, and for your continued dedication to preserving Hawai'i's natural and cultural treasures.

Respectfully,

Danny Cox & Cheryl Novak

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 5:52:33 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy Moffett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- **As a renter in Kahana Bay, I am witnessing firsthand the devastating impact of inaction. Entire properties are at risk, and residents, like myself, face potential displacement as erosion undermines our homes. This isn't a distant threat; it's happening now, with lanais being fenced off and storm flooding reaching the roads. Delaying action guarantees more loss and forces more people out of their homes. Displacement of more people further threatens life on Maui.**
- **The claim that opposing this project is 'saving the beach' is dangerously misleading. From our perspective, there is effectively no usable beach left in many areas. The regional plan is presented as the only realistic way to restore and retain a beach that we, as renters, can actually enjoy. Without this project, we face the continued loss of the very amenity that makes living here desirable.**
- **It's incredibly frustrating to know that the community has already done the hard work – the planning, the studies, the financial commitment through the proposed Community Facilities District. The residents, are ready to fund this, requiring no local tax dollars or burden on the state budget. What is desperately needed is the State's coordination to bring the relevant agencies together and remove the roadblocks. Every day of delay puts homes and community at further risk.**

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 6:08:34 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marissa Moffett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

From the perspective of a renter in Kahana Bay, the potential collapse of public infrastructure due to erosion is a major concern. The text highlights the threat to Honoapiʻilani Road, public drainage, and even wastewater infrastructure. The months-long closure of Honoapiʻilani Road due to flooding is a stark reminder of the hardship this issue causes, and further delays only increase the risk to these vital services that we all depend on.

As renters, we understand that this isn't just about individual property owners; it's a regional issue affecting hundreds of residents in Kahana Bay. The proposed mitigation plan is described as a solution designed for the entire shoreline community, promising restored public beach access that we, as renters, would directly benefit from. This isn't about a single project; it's about preserving the quality of life and the very environment that makes this area a place people want to live and rent in

The fact that the Kahana Bay Steering Committee, representing all the condos, has spent years preparing for this and has even offered to fully fund the project through a Community Facilities District is incredibly compelling to us renters. Knowing that there's a ready solution with dedicated funding – requiring no state budget allocation – makes the current delays even more frustrating. We urge the State to recognize this community-driven initiative and provide the necessary coordination to finally move forward with a project that the residents are prepared to pay for themselves.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 6:13:31 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deb Lockett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in favor of SCR76.

My home is located at Hololani on Kahana Bay Maui, and we have been owners for 18 years.

Our home and others on Kahana Bay community are at risk! We need State coordination.

Kahana Bay Steering Committee, representing every condo on the bay, has spent years preparing by hiring engineers, conducting studies, and engaging government agencies. But the effort has stalled. We need DLNR and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to bring all parties together and proceed with action. Please support SCR76.

Mahalo for this opportunity to express my support for this legislation.

Deb Lockett

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 6:28:54 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Juliann Busch	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 76 because it asks DLNR to help the condominiums in the Kahana Bay region find a real solution to the shoreline issues.

It will become a catastrophic problem if something is not done regarding this significantly eroded shoreline.

The only protection these condominiums currently have is temporary sandbags that have been in place in some cases for over a decade.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee properties have invested significant time and expense to get a Draft EIS done, and are willing to fund any viable solution.

We need the help of government agencies to help the Kahana Bay Steering Committee to make this project a reality.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 6:42:39 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel Chadash	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Daniel Chadash, and I'm a homeowner at Kahana Bay. I'm writing because this project can't wait any longer — we're already losing homes to erosion, and more are at risk every day.

The opposition talks about saving the beach, but without this project, there won't *be* a beach. Groins and sand replenishment are the only way to restore what's already been lost. This is about protecting homes, public access, and safety.

Our community has done everything we can — we've paid for planning, engineering, and studies. Now we need the State to step in and help coordinate action.

And just to be clear — we're funding this ourselves. No cost to the State or taxpayers. We just need your support to move it forward.

Mahalo for your time and for supporting S.C.R. 76.

Sincerely,
Daniel Chdash

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 6:44:49 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr Walter Campbell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Very simply, this is a good measure to save the land, buildings, and roadway in the area. I'm in full support of the project and would hope that reason can rise above rhetoric, and that government in this case can fulfill its mission and protect the lives, livelihoods, and homes, of the tax payers they represent.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 6:57:27 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashley Chadash	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I'm Ashley Chadash, a homeowner at Kahana Bay. I'm urging you to support S.C.R. 76 because the situation here is serious — families are being displaced. Homes are collapsing into the ocean. It's devastating to watch neighbors forced out because erosion is literally at their doorstep.

There's no beach left to protect without action. The shoreline has vanished. The only way to bring it back is with sand replenishment and groins — this isn't about development; it's about saving what's already disappearing.

We've done the groundwork. Every condo in the area has already invested in plans, studies, and environmental reviews. We're ready — we just need help from DLNR and OPSD to move this forward.

And we're not asking for money. The community is funding the whole thing through a Community Facilities District — no burden on the State or taxpayers.

Please don't let more time pass. We're at a breaking point, and your support is critical.

Mahalo,
Ashley

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2025 7:00:48 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dan Charo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I'm Dan Charo, and I live at Kahana Bay. I'm speaking up not just for myself, but for all of us who call this place home. We're losing ground — literally. Families have already lost their homes, and others are watching the ocean creep closer by the day.

Some say we should “save the beach,” but the truth is, there's no beach left to save unless this project happens. The groins and sand replenishment aren't optional — they're the only way to bring the shoreline back.

We've done everything we can as a community. We've paid for the studies, worked with engineers, and planned carefully. We need the State to help coordinate and clear the path forward.

The good news? We're not asking for a dollar of State money. The community is ready to fund the entire project through a Community Facilities District. What we need is support to move.

Please don't let more families lose their homes. This resolution gives us a real shot at protecting our shoreline and our community.

Mahalo for considering our voice!

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 2:46:01 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr. Colleen Sutton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee Members,

I have been a member of the Kahana community since I was a child.
I respectfully urge action to restore and preserve the Kahana beach.

In 2013 a hurricane (made more intense by climate change) washed away many yards of beautiful sandy beach in Kahana. My ohana hoped that things would be resolved and the beach returned. More than a decade later, I still hope to see that beach in Kahana again.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee hired capable engineers. These engineers assessed the way water flows around different types of structures. They have prepared appropriate plans and considered the potential impacts to the environment. The proposed plan will provide a balanced approach and restore some of the habitat that was lost when the hurricane washed away the Kahana beach. The Army Corps of Engineers are available to help with this as well.

SCR 76 is an important step to advance this recovery. We must all protect this shoreline. It holds deep cultural and recreational significance for residents and future generations.

I encourage this collaborative effort to restore the Kahana Bay beach.

I am grateful for the opportunity to share my hope that my children and generations to follow will have the chance to experience the same wonderful beach that I knew.

Mahalo,

Dr. Colleen Sutton

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 3:47:04 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph Bolster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I was born in Maui, raised in Lahaina, and still live here today. I am writing in strong support of SCR76. My family has depended on the Kahana area as our home and livelihood for four generations. If nothing is done to protect the shores of Kahana, it is only a matter of time until we are decimated and forced to leave. Without your help to protect our shore and property, my fourth generation of Kahana children will not be able to call Kahana their home.

Mahalo,

Joseph

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 3:56:18 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pantawan Bolster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Pantawan Bolster. I am an immigrant, like many who have come to Hawaii seeking a fresh start. I live in Lahaina, Maui, where I have built a life and family. I am writing in strong support of SCR76. My husband's family has relied on the Kahana area as a foundation of our home and livelihood for generations. Without protection for Kahana's shores, the socioeconomic struggles in Lahaina—already burdened by rising costs, limited opportunities, and recovery challenges—will only worsen, threatening the stability of families like mine who depend on this land to survive. I urge your support to help preserve Kahana as a viable home for our community.

Mahalo,**Pantawan Bolster**

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 4:13:29 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Gage	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support of SCR76 - KAHANA BAY EROSION MITIGATION PROJECT.

Kahana Bay, where Hololani is situated, has experienced catastrophic erosion issues which began in 2007 and continue to threaten the shoreline due to sea level rise and climate change impacts. We have owned at Hololani for the past several years and have gotten to know many of the residents who own properties along Kahana Bay. These residents, your citizens are concerned for the loss of property of their neighbors, who many have already lost their homes as well as being very concerned for their own homes potential loss.

Currently, many of the condominiums along Kahana Bay rely on emergency sandbags as their only protection against further erosion of the shoreline, and currently remain precariously exposed to further, and potentially catastrophic, erosion. We respectfully request the Committee adopt this resolution to help stop the erosion, stop the loss of people's properties/homes and bring back the beach for all residents, citizens and visitors to enjoy. As there currently is no beach left to save without this project. This measure will facilitate the preservation and protection of the Kahana Bay shoreline for future generations to enjoy.

Thanks for your support and consideration

Brian Gage

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 5:04:16 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jodi Nehring	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear members of the office of planning and sustainability. I would like to encourage you to support SCR76. I believe it's important for your members to consult with the members mentioned in order to move forward with protecting our beloved land for years to come and future generations to experience.

Thank you so much for the work you are doing for Maui.
Regards,

Jodi Nehring

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 5:24:07 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Serena Reiss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

I fully support SCR 76. It is crucial that we pass this bill and take action as soon as possible to preserve our rapidly eroding Kahana Bay.

SCR 76 is more than just legislation — it's a statement that our community stands together to protect and restore the natural beauty and cultural significance of Kahana Bay. We're taking action to preserve this place for generations to come.

Let's keep the momentum going. Let's stay engaged. Let's bring this home.

Mahalo for your continued support and aloha for Kahana Bay.

Thank you so much,

Serena Reiss

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 5:26:28 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven S Reiss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to express my strong support for Hawaii Senate Concurrent Resolution 76, which urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources to prioritize the implementation of the Kahana Bay Project.

As a concerned property owner, I believe the Kahana Bay Project is crucial for the long-term health and well-being of our environment and community. Kahana Bay is a vital ecological and cultural resource, and prioritizing its restoration and protection through this project is essential for several key reasons:

- **Environmental Preservation:** The project will contribute significantly to the restoration and preservation of the Kahana Bay watershed, including its unique ecosystems, native species, and water quality. This is vital for maintaining biodiversity and the overall health of our marine environment.
- **Coastal Resilience:** Investing in the Kahana Bay Project will enhance the resilience of this coastal area to the impacts of climate change, such as sea-level rise and increased storm intensity. Protecting natural buffers and restoring ecosystems can help mitigate these threats.
- **Community Benefits:** A healthy Kahana Bay supports a vibrant community. The project can enhance recreational opportunities, preserve cultural practices tied to the area, and potentially contribute to local economic sustainability through ecotourism and responsible resource management.
- **Alignment with Conservation Goals:** Prioritizing the Kahana Bay Project aligns with broader state and national goals for environmental conservation and sustainable development. It demonstrates a commitment to protecting Hawaii's natural heritage for future generations.

I urge you to give your full support to SCR 76 and ensure that the Kahana Bay Project receives the necessary attention and resources for timely implementation. This is a critical opportunity to invest in the health of our environment and the well-being of our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Steven S Reiss

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 5:37:13 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dave Lockett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR76 SD1.

My home of 18 years at Hololani is located along the Kahana Bay shoreline. It is imperative that the Department of Land and Natural Resources work with the local Kahana Bay Steering Committee, Maui County, and the Corp of Engineers to find realistic solutions to the continued shoreline erosion and loss of coastline habitat.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee (KBSC), made up of every AOA on the bay, has worked for years with engineers, agencies, and the public to develop this plan. But this effort has stalled because of a lack of coordination between agencies. Kahana Bay needs DLNR and the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to step in and bring all parties to the table.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee has local community involvement and support. Property owners have invested significant time and expense to develop a draft EIS, and are committed to fund a realistic solution. Working together with the DLNR and other government agencies, we can find viable solutions!

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this important measure.

Dave Lockett

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 5:56:46 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Renee Kantarovich	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of SCR76. This measure allows us, as custodians of the natural world, to protect it. There are so many natural disasters in which we have no control, this is something that we can do. WE MUST DO. The Ocean is our legacy. It requires maintenance and care. Sandbags are an embarrassing solution, they say to the residents of Hawaii and the visitors that love and respect it's natural beauty. That we are ignorant and neglectful. I hope that we, in our short side Ness turn a blind eye to a fixable and proper solution.

Thank you for your consideration and for bringing a much needed solution to fruition.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 6:07:43 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carin Johnson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 76 because it asks DLNR to help the condominiums in the Kahana Bay region find a real solution to the shoreline issues.

It will become a catastrophic problem if something is not done regarding this significantly eroded shoreline.

The only protection these condominiums currently have is temporary sandbags that have been in place in some cases for over a decade.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee properties have invested significant time and expense to get a Draft EIS done, and are willing to fund any viable solution.

We need the help of government agencies to help the Kahana Bay Steering Committee to make this project a reality, help make is safe again.

Kind Regards

Carin D Johnson

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 6:09:05 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mee Lan Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My testimony.

I strongly support SCR 76 because it asks DLNR to help the condominiums in the Kahana Bay region find a real solution to the shoreline issues.

It will become a catastrophic problem if something is not done regarding this significantly eroded shoreline.

The only protection these condominiums currently have is temporary sandbags that have been in place in some cases for over a decade.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee properties have invested significant time and expense to get a Draft EIS done, and are willing to fund any viable solution.

We need the help of government agencies to help the Kahana Bay Steering Committee to make this project a reality.

Kind Regards

Meelan Wong

I appreciate all your help.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 6:15:35 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My testimony.

I strongly support SCR 76 because it asks DLNR to help the condominiums in the Kahana Bay region find a real solution to the shoreline issues.

It will become a catastrophic problem if something is not done regarding this significantly eroded shoreline.

The only protection these condominiums currently have is temporary sandbags that have been in place in some cases for over a decade.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee properties have invested significant time and expense to get a Draft EIS done, and are willing to fund any viable solution.

We need the help of government agencies to help the Kahana Bay Steering Committee to make this project a reality.

Kind Regards

Steven Wong

I appreciate all your help.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 6:26:02 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass SCR76. Beach erosion throughout Kahana Bay is threatening the homes of hundreds of residents including those displaced by the devastating Lahaina fires, many of whom were moved into housing along Kahana Bay in communities such as The Hololani. Without a viable erosion mitigation plan in place, too many of our community members will be forced out of their homes, leaving many valued, and in many cases elderly, without the means to stay in the community. These neighbors are teachers, medical professionals, first responders, community volunteers, church members, parents and children. Forcing them to leave the community only weakens the meaning of Ohana. I hope we all remember how important family and community are, especially, after the Fires when so many of us lost family and friends.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 6:49:14 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin Callahan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 76 because it asks DLNR to help the condominiums in the Kahana Bay region find a real solution to the shoreline issues.

It will become a catastrophic problem if something is not done regarding this significantly eroding shoreline.

The only protection these condominiums currently have is temporary sandbags that have been in place for over a decade. The Kahana Bay Steering Committee properties have invested significant time and expense to get a Draft EIS done, and are willing to fund any viable solution.

We need the help of government agencies to help the Kahana Bay Steering Committee to make this project a reality.

Kind regards,

Kevin Callahan

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 7:04:40 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Colleen Alvarez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have owned a condo at Hololani for 30 years. We have used the condo for many family vacations as well as gifts to extended family who are unable to afford to travel to Maui otherwise. This project is very important to me and all of our family members as well as to the state of Maui to continue allowing tourism to help support the community. I respectfully request support from the committee to protect and restore this important community resource. We have many friends on the island who are full time local residents and own stores that are hurting due to the lack of tourism after the Lahaina fire. If we do not address the erosion issue, Maui will be hurt even more.

Thank you,

Beverly Gleason

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 7:10:42 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lindsay W	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR76 because urgent action is needed to protect the Kahana Bay community from the devastating impacts of coastal erosion. This is not a distant threat — it's happening right now. Families and full-time residents are already losing their homes, shoreline structures are being compromised, lanais are fenced off, and storm flooding is reaching the roadways. Without this project, these conditions will only worsen, displacing even more people and putting the entire community at risk. There is no beach left to save without a solution, and SCR76 is a critical step toward preserving both the shoreline and the lives of those who call Kahana Bay home.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 7:16:54 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Koshu Madnani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kahana Bay is a beautiful stretch which a lot of locals and visitors use. We need to preserve the beach and beach access to allow enjoyment of all. Pllease include the Kahana Bay in your discussion for the path forward. We entreat you to protect this stretch of beach which is fast disappearing.

Thank you for your consideration.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 7:18:55 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kim McMann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It was my life's dream to own a property in Maui and that dream came true two years ago when we purchased our condo in Kahana. After years and years of hard work we finally found our perfect place in paradise. What is breaking my heart is how these properties are at such high risk because of the erosion problems at Kahana Bay. Residents need this bill passed so their homes can be saved. The fact people are already being forced out of their homes or have already lost their homes, tells you the problem is real.

If this keeps getting delayed we will lose what beach/shoreline is left. This project is what will save the beach and our homes. Our community has done the work and has a plan so now the State needs to do their part.

The KBSC has offered to fully fund this project through the CFD which will help hundreds of local residents and allow this problem to get fixed. So please, please do the right thing and pass this bill so we can save our amazing community.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 7:30:43 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Grant Parthemer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern. I am an owner of a condominium in Hololani Resort on Kahana bay. I have owned over 14 years and been a visitor to Kahana Maui for well over 25 years. In this time I have seen the effects of the erosion and depletion of the beach along the Kahana shoreline. Please support SCR 76; its passage is vital to protect the coastline, lower Honoapiilani Road and the beauty of Mui for generations to come.

Thank you,

Grant Parthemer

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 7:40:02 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Sims	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 76 because it asks DLNR to help the condominiums in the Kahana Bay region find a real solution to the shoreline issues.

It will become a catastrophic problem if something is not done regarding this significantly eroded shoreline.

The only protection these condominiums currently have is temporary sandbags that have been in place in some cases for over a decade.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee properties have invested significant time and expense to get a Draft EIS done, and are willing to fund any viable solution.

We need the help of government agencies to help the Kahana Bay Steering Committee to make this project a reality.

Kind regards,

John Sims

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 7:42:34 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Parthemer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, I am writing in support of SCR 76. Kahana Bay is in danger of eradication.if the coastal erosion is left unchecked. Pleasensupport the effort to fortify the shoreline and protect Lower Honoapi'ilani Road, a vital connector to Kahana and Napili residents. I have owned a condo at Hololani for 13 years and frequently visited Maui since the early 1980's. Kahana Bay needs your help, please support this.

Thank you, Linda Parthemer

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 7:53:42 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeanne Epstein	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have owned here for about 15yrs. We had a beautiful and safe beach then. We now have sand bags that are falling into the ocean and are very unsafe. These bags can't be good for the sealife .The sea turtles eat the sand bags, which I'm sure isn't good for them.

If we were aloud to put the rocks in they would take up less space than the sand bags. We were told 5 years ago that we would be aloud to replace sandbags if the beach didn't come back. I see people walking on the sand bags and falling all the time.

I love the Hololani and all the local friends we have here.

I respectfully ask that you allow the rocks to be allowed to replace the sandbags.

To: Rep. Mark Hashem, Chair
Rep. Rachele F. Lamosao, Vice Chair
Committee Members

Date: April 9, 2024

Re: Support for S.C.R. No.76, S.D. 1 – Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project

Two years ago, we bought our condo at Hololani and have fallen in love with Kahana Bay and the community, visiting several times a year. We have also been able to share this incredibly beautiful area with friends and family who frequently stay in our unit. Everyone agrees – it's pure magic. Our intention is to retire in a few years and spend most of our time there. It breaks my heart to know that families are already losing homes at Kahana Bay due to erosion and the thought of further displacement of residents and businesses is unbearable.

I realize that the opponents are saying they want to "save the beach", but the reality is that there is no beach to save without restoration. Groins and sand replenishment are the only way to bring it back. This plan benefits the whole shoreline – residents, public access and wildlife.

The Kahana Bay community has done the work investing in planning, engineering, and studies and we now need the state to help. This project is being funded by the community – no state money needed and no cost to local taxpayers or the state.

I am respectfully and urgently requesting support from the committee to protect and restore this important community resource.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 8:14:55 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Arnold Epstein	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the adoption of SCR76. I live about half time at Hololani and am actively involved in supporting the Lahaina community. I helped develop the pickleball courts at Civic Center and have been providing assistance in the development of a hospital/expanded healthcare on the West side.

The development of the Kahana Bay sand restoration project is critical to the future of the Kahana Bay community. It will improve our beaches for the public, protect our properties and the environment from being destroyed. This solution will be completed at no cost to the County.

I respectfully request your approval of SCR76

Date: April 9, 2024

To: Rep. Mark Hashem, Chair
Rep. Rachele F. Lamosao, Vice Chair
Committee Members

From: Timothy Cox

As an owner at Hololani, I am in full support for S.C.R. No. 76 and am writing to you with an urgent plea for your approval of this resolution.

The threat of erosion at Kahana Bay is real and growing. Families are already losing their homes. Without mitigation, that will continue and the numbers will increase to include more residences as well as local businesses. There is also the potential loss of access on Honoapi'ilani road.

The Kahana community has come together to propose and fund a solution that will benefit everyone. We need the state's support to proceed and are not asking for state or tax payer dollars to fix the problem.

I am aware that the opponents feel this will destroy the beach. The reality is there is currently little beach left and without this project it will be gone completely.

Kahana Bay is a beautiful community and it is important that it be maintained for generations to come. My nephew will be honeymooning at our condo this fall. My adult daughters spend magical time there with us and their SO's. I look forward to the day I will have grandchildren experience the magic of watching turtles and whales from the Lanai.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 8:30:09 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Adam Zarro	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

As an indigenous Native Hawaiian with family from Lahaina, we need to support this project and others like it. This project will protect existing infrastructure like roads and sidewalks. Maui's government doesn't have the resources or bandwidth to address this issue in the near or distant future nor do we possess the resources to build things repeatedly.

Here we have a group of volunteers, willingly taking this task on and all the government needs to do is step out of the way. We need to let the locals that live there address the issue and use that blueprint to address this issue everywhere. If Hawaii was still a kingdom it would have been done already and replicated elsewhere.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 8:40:51 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julie Brockman	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha my name is Julie Brockman I am a property owner in Kahana and a resident of Maui for almost 20 years. I serve on the Board of Directors for Pohailani Maui and represent our association with Kahana Bay Steering Committee. Over the years as we have watched our beach dwindle our families and residents have lost more than just sand. We have lost time at the beach spent with our families. It has been a place for exercise, connecting with family, friends and also for solitude and gratitude While it threatens our buildings it also effects our daily life. So I kindly ask you to help us in our quest to restore our beach, protect our homes and create more memories for future generations of time spent here.

Mahalo for your Kokua ,

Julie Brockman

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 8:52:12 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brad Radl	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and members of the committee:

As a West Maui visitor for over 35 years and a condominium owner in the Kahana Bay area for the past 8 years, I have witnessed firsthand the extent of the beach erosion issue and fully support the approval and action to provide beach nourishment to the full extent possible including dune restoration. However, I do not support the establishment of linear groins because they are not a long term cost effective solution and do not promote the ecological health of the ocean environment. As an alternative, I believe SCR 76 should be amended to authorize and fund the creation of a Kahana bay based organization which would include local community's interests and be responsible for creating and implementing an integrated coastal restoration involving coral reefs, water quality and overall ecological improvement. Because of the urgent need for the beach nourishment, this should operate as per the Kahana Bay Steering Committee (KBSC) and Oceanlit engineering report. The bill should be amended to create this second organization for Kahana Bay coastal stewardship with a much longer time frame for action. The organization should be formed in a timely manner, with goals consistent with the concept of Mālama 'āina and specific goals of long term shore protection and restored ocean health as I more fully discuss below.

Reasons for a dedicated organization focusing on near shore restoration should result in a lower cost solution for the Kahana Bay residents, while creating an opportunity to establish Maui as a leader in coastal protection in challenging times. Instead of trapping sand through the use of groins, the focus would be on establishment of healthy coral reef barriers which can accomplish the following:

- Reduce ocean energy which is uplifting and transporting the sand away from shore. In some cases, the ocean energy can be reduced by up to 90%, significantly reducing the erosion rate.

- Coral Reefs are a natural self repairing structure which can impede sand flow both laterally to the beach, but also out to deeper parts of the ocean when blocked by fringing reefs.

- Healthy coral reefs promote improved fish populations. A key species is the parrotfish who create sand free of charge. Up to 70% of the sand on Maui beaches is attributed to reef fish, and restoration of the fish populations will:

1. Benefit fishermen through increased biomass up to 20 fold of commercially valuable fish and other aquatic life.
2. Mitigate future need for sand, by creating new sand from seawater via a natural process. Per the Nature Conservancy, a single parrot fish can produce up to 1 ton of sand per year.

- Coral reefs tend to be viewed as a more attractive solution and would enhance the value of the residents' properties in the taxing district.

On a technical basis, the Kahana Bay near shore coastal stewardship organization should have a known funding level for setting up a base of operation in the Kahana area, with goals of repairing coral reefs damaged by storms, and creating new reefs either naturally or with environmentally acceptable material . The specific goals would include:

1.
 1. Reducing wave energy reaching to the shoreline by 50% to 90%
 2. Enhancing the biomass of 10 to 20 times current levels
 3. Incorporate islanders' knowledge and integrate them with modern computing tools for modeling the dynamics of the near ocean environment for purposes of optimizing the stewardship of the ocean locally, but also creating a resource of value to outside parties.
 4. Develop a knowledge base and best practices for merging warm water coral into reef restoration activities to enhance the long term resilience of the coastal environment.

The organization contemplated in the amendment should have an initial budget for seeking outside expertise as needed for developing an integrated plan. The organization should be authorized to seek outside grants, research funds and other sources of funding to expedite achievement of the organization's goals.

In summary, I believe the SCR76 should pass with regard to beach nourishment and dune creation to address a critical issue in the Kahana Bay area, but recommend adding an amendment to replace the proposed groins with the creation of an organization which will look to long term use of nature for solutions to erosion problems. This organization should be composed of members identified in SCR76, but be expanded to include local fishing interests, parties interested in coral reef restoration and community members and organizations with local knowledge of desired and best practices for near shore ocean health. I hope this becomes an opportunity for the community to come together and recognize there is path benefiting a majority of people of Maui and perhaps become a showcase for others in the world with similar situations.

Thank you for the opportunity to allow me to provide my input and recommendations.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 9:24:06 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Natalie Fobes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in favor of this bill. There is a plan to stop erosion in Kahana Bay and add public beaches with native Hawaiian vegetation at no cost to taxpayers.

If erosion in Kahana Bay is allowed to continue, the County will have to spend millions to move utilities away from the shoreline.

Thank you.

Natalie

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 9:28:46 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ciro and Martha Delgadillo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We respectfully request that the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development approve SCR76. This Kahana Bay erosion mitigation project is urgently needed to restore and retain the shoreline and beach access, both vital to all residents, visitors and wildlife. Erosion is also a threat to public safety since it has caused flooding of Lower Honoapiilani Road, affecting emergency access. The serious state of many shoreline structures that are being undermined due to storm flooding will surely force many residents out of their homes. It is urgent that the State step in to help the mitigation project finally move forward. We have been visiting and staying in the Kahana area for some 40 years and we believe this shoreline is certainly worth saving!

Respectfully,

Ciro and Martha Delgadillo

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 10:23:23 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark Widawer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

I'm writing as someone who deeply loves and regularly visits Hawai'i—not only for its natural beauty but also because of the incredible communities that call these shorelines home. The erosion along the Kahana shoreline is not just a threat to a piece of land or a single property—it's a crisis affecting hundreds of residents, infrastructure, and the coastal environment.

SCR76 represents far more than just a plan—it is the culmination of years of collaboration, research, and community-driven vision. It offers a thoughtful and resilient approach to a very real problem, emphasizing sustainability, cost-effective solutions, and long-term protection of both the community and the natural shoreline. It ensures that permanent public access and recreational beach space are restored—not just for today's residents and visitors, but for future generations.

Importantly, this is not an issue that can be solved at the county level alone. The necessary infrastructure cannot and will not be taken on by the County. Only the State has the ability to bring together the right agencies, resolve complicated ownership matters, and move this critical project forward. Continued inaction is not neutral—it allows the problem to worsen, deepening the damage.

This ongoing erosion endangers Honoapi'ilani Road—an essential artery for residents—as well as public drainage systems, wastewater infrastructure, and public beach access. These aren't abstract concerns. Honoapi'ilani Road was already shut down for months due to flooding, causing serious hardship for the community. A drainage easement on this road regularly floods, and the people who respond to clear it must do so under hazardous conditions just to keep the road usable.

Without this project, there will soon be no beach left to protect. We must act now.

I urge you to support SCR76 and help ensure that this vital mitigation effort receives the backing it needs to move forward.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Mark Widawer

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 11:02:58 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this common sense measure. Rising sea levels have taken away our beach and are threatening our hale. For almost twenty years sandbags have been used as a temporary fix. They must be removed and replaced every few years disrupting the sea life. A natural rock revetement would provide a long term fix, a win for all who live and love life on Kahana Bay.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 11:19:23 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katie Busa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

I'm writing to express my strong support for SCR76. There needs to be a clear path forward to replenish the beach and protect our homes. This project will benefit the community by restoring the public beach for all to use as well as benefiting the area economically for years to come through taxes collected from vacation rentals and money spent at local stores and restaurants in the Kahana area. The condos around Kahana Bay are not just vacation rentals. There are many full time residents that reside at these complexes as well. This project would ensure the longevity of these buildings that offer a sorely need resource on the island. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Katie

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 11:58:17 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeffrey Levine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 76 because it asks DLNR to help the condominiums in the Kahana Bay region find a real solution to the shoreline issues.

It will become a catastrophic problem if something is not done regarding this significantly eroded shoreline.

The only protection these condominiums currently have is temporary sandbags that have been in place in some cases for over a decade.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee properties have invested significant time and expense to get a Draft EIS done, and are willing to fund any viable solution.

We need the help of government agencies to help the Kahana Bay Steering Committee to make this project a reality.

Kind Regards,

Jeffrey Levine

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 12:12:54 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jon Cole	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Committee Members,

I am an owner in the Hololani Condominiums and have enjoyed coming to Maui for over 30 years. I am asking you to support the efforts to protect our shoreline and infrastructure in the Kahana Bay area.

The fact that anyone opposes a solution to protect public and private property is incomprehensible. The Honoapi'ilani Road has been at risk for years and continues to be affected during periods of high storm surge and heavy rains.

The proposed solutions of added rock and groins to protect the shoreline are essential in order to have any beach in the future. Without those there will be no sand hence no beach! The work RESTORES the beach and provides for safe public access for all.

Private citizens are dealing with real consequences of having government agencies fail to support the necessary erosion mitigation measures proposed to date. At a time when the Mayor is concerned with housing for the local people this lack of progress toward a solution is absolutely doing the opposite. It is removing housing from locals.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committe (KBSC) is willing to fund this necessary work via a Community Facilities District.

Well thought out and designed plans have been proposed and it is now left to you to ensure the DNLR and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development move forward in making everyone work together to complete this vital work for the benefit of all.

Thank you for your consideration

Jon Cole

Hololani Condominium owner

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 1:12:00 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gwen McNeilus	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the House Committee on Water and Land,

My name is Gwen McNeilus, and I am writing in strong support of this resolution calling on the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to work collaboratively with the Kahana Bay Steering Committee, County of Maui, Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on a clear, community-supported path forward for the Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project.

Kahana Bay is not only a natural treasure but also a deeply significant place for the local community — ecologically, culturally, and historically. Over the years, coastal erosion has posed increasing threats to homes, infrastructure, and the bay’s delicate ecosystems. It is critical that any proposed mitigation project be guided by science, cultural sensitivity, and meaningful community input.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee has been tirelessly engaged in this issue for years, representing residents, Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners, and environmental advocates. Their insights are invaluable. Coordination with the County, DLNR, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ensures that we pursue balanced, sustainable solutions that respect both the environment and the people who call Kahana home.

By urging OPSD to formally engage with these stakeholders, this resolution reinforces the importance of transparency, inclusion, and proactive planning. It is a necessary step toward progress on one of Maui’s most pressing coastal challenges.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify and for your leadership on this issue.

Respectfully,

Gwen McNeilus
Property Owner, the Valley Isle Resort , Kahana Maui

gwenmcneilus@gmail.com | 925-519-3858

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 1:42:37 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Natalie Blackwood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Natalie Blackwood, and I strongly support the Restoring Kahana Beach project. This is not just about saving sand—it's about preserving homes, families, and the very spirit of a community that has stood the test of time.

Kahana has always been a place of peace, tradition, and belonging. But now, entire properties are at risk. Residents who have lived here for generations are being displaced, not because they want to leave, but because there is no longer a beach to protect them. Without immediate action, there will be nothing left—no shoreline, no homes, no history to pass on.

Restoring Kahana Beach isn't just a project. It's a lifeline. Let us honor and uphold the values of stewardship, community, and respect for the land. Let us take this step—not only to preserve what remains—but to restore what has been lost.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 3:15:41 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anabel Lapointe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of the Kahana Bay Beach restoration project.

I've owned a condo at the Valley Isle Resort for over five years.

Maui is very special to me especially the Kahana bay area. My husband and I spent our honeymoon there 27 years ago. It pains me to see how much the beach has changed over the years. We use to be able to walk all along the bay on the beach. Now there is hardly any beach left and it's getting worse every year.

There are so many people that will be affected as the surf gets closer and closer to our homes. Please help our community and West Maui with this problem.

After the devastating fires, we could use some good news, and have our beach restored to its original beauty.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ann Lapointe

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/9/2025 6:02:34 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Kawanami	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

strongly support SCR 76 because it asks DLNR to help the condominiums in the Kahana Bay region find a real solution to the shoreline issues.

It will become a catastrophic problem if something is not done regarding this significantly eroded shoreline.

The only protection these condominiums currently have is temporary sandbags that have been in place in some cases for over a decade.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee properties have invested significant time and expense to get a Draft EIS done, and are willing to fund any viable solution.

We need the help of government agencies to help the Kahana Bay Steering Committee to make this project a reality.

Kind Regards,

Karen Kawanami

SCR-76-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 3:14:23 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/10/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tracy Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR 76 because it is working to achieve a long term solution in the Kahana Bay region to the shoreline erosion. While the Kahana Bay properties have invested significant time and expense working on viable solutions, they need the help of government agencies to make them or alternative solutions a reality.

Thank you

Tracy Wong