

Name: Michele Lincoln

Agenda Item: C. Goal 2.1 Ready and Resilient Systems, Fire and Emergency Management, D Goal 2.4 Economic Opportunity through Innovation and Collaboration

Received: October 25, 2019

Testimony for CPAC Meeting October 24, 2019

Ready and Resilient Systems

Policies

2. In addition to all developments required to incorporate defensible space around structures and communities and ongoing maintenance of defensible spaces. Regulate with fire fighters to patrol regions to ensure land holders are in compliance. Written notices of unacceptable conditions along with required maintenance would precede any fines and costs related to mitigate the hazardous situation.

Actions

1, 2, &3: Engage the community to create and maintain fire breaks with designated off-road vehicle trails, walking paths, horse trails, and other recreational activities that take place on trails. Vegetation and brush maintenance will be abated by human contact.

If these public access activities are allowed on private land, provide liability waiver for the land holder. The county or state could assume responsibility under their insurance policies or post "enter at your own risk" signage.

There are ways of allowing public access on private land. Places like Montana allow hunters on private land with government cooperation. Check out Montana's Block Management Access program for ideas on how to partner the public with private land holders for recreational uses.

Additional Actions

#8 Hotels, apartment complexes, office buildings and the like require sprinkler systems for fire safety. Lahaina's history of devastating fires near residential areas warrants a similar precaution.

The Lahaina Waste-water Reclamation Facility has existing infrastructure to pump treated water to the Honokohau Ditch System. Extending from Honokohau to Launiupoko, it would allow for irrigation in this populated fire-prone region.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

Economic Opportunity through Innovation and Collaboration

Actions

1. Develop a West Maui Agriculture Strategic Plan.

“The economic impact of food import replacement is significant. Food expenditure of local consumers in 2004-2005 amounted to \$3.7 billion. Assuming that 85% of the food we consumed is imported, this translates to \$3.1 billion leaving our state. Replacing just 10% of the food we currently import would amount to approximately \$313 million. Assuming a 30% farm share, \$94 million would be realized at the farm-gate, which would generate an economy-wide impact of an additional \$188 million in sales, \$47 million in earnings, \$6 million in state tax revenues, and more than 2,300 jobs.

“Increasing food self-sufficiency will keep money circulating in Hawaii’s economy rather than supporting agribusiness in other states or countries. It will help to diversify Hawaii’s economy.” (The Strategy has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines for State Functional Plans under HRS§ 226-55.)

A reliable source of water is necessary to accomplish viable agriculture. Reinstating decommissioned reservoirs and the Honokohau Ditch System along with pumping water from the LWRF and former wells can provide a reliable agriculture water supply.

Currently, the county wants to install a large tank for reclaimed wastewater. Tanks require maintenance with limited access to benefit the greater good.

Tanks are unattractive compared to reservoirs. The reservoirs are strategically located along the slopes of West Maui with accessibility for various recreational, commercial, and safety uses.

Reservoirs enable firefighter helicopter accessibility to fresh water. Reservoirs provide habitat for native fish, birds, and wildlife along with providing a beautiful destination for hikers. Reservoirs and irrigation help to recharge the ground water and allow impurities to settle and clean the water for a healthier eco-system.

When you do what is right, the payoff is incalculable. Where God guides—God provides!

Additional Actions (Economic Opportunity)

7. Charge fees for non-residents to access nature trails. To control overuse from the visitor population and to generate income to maintain trails, require payment from non-residents.

To walk along the coast in Italy, Cinque Terre charges a fee of 7.50 Euros for adults, 4.50 for children (under 18); multi-day passes for 12.00 and 19.60 for a family pass (two adults and two children).

Today’s technology allows for electronic ticketing and collection of fees.

8. The same concept could be applied to beach access parking for non-residents. Sensors could be required in rental cars that electronically record time of entrance and departure from parking areas.

Rental car companies would add the charges to the credit card they keep on file. Payment would be made to the county district the charges were incurred. Rental car agencies could increase rental fees to cover the cost of the electronic device and to process the paperwork.