

Subject: Considerations for development, storm drainage, wetlands, and flooding

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Aloha Brave CPAC Members,

As an original Kihei girl, mahalo again for your long hours dedicated to South Maui's Community Planning.

I have the following testimony to consider regarding the latest map that was released.

1. As it relates to the additional land area added...How many acres is this? Has there been a CPAC discussion on this yet? Or has there been a community meeting about it? If so, I did not mean to miss them.
2. If there was a discussion, what was the justification for adding this much land for growth in Kihei when Kihei is already unsustainable regarding water availability, traffic, and basic infrastructure in relationship to against land that is already dubbed for development on the previous map? If there was not a discussion, please consider this and my following notes:
3. As a proponent of preserving all remaining wetlands or lands functioning as wetlands, even if they are not jurisdictionally deemed so, Maui County has not yet set aside more wetlands for preservation to help handle absorption of storm waters when only approximately 20 acres of remaining wetlands exist out of what once was 200 acres. Kihei Residents, owners, and guests have already been devastated with the latest storms, flooding and mud-floods. It cannot be denied, there will be hardscaping with any development and the must be measured against the benefit of more building in Kihei. Yes, we need more kama'aina housing, but perhaps Kihei is not the best area for that. As it is, the La'ie area may be negatively affected by 3 of those remaining acres in La'ie Mauka that are being grubbed, leveled and intended for a gravel parking area as you read this... and another storm is on its way. What if we discover that this newly mapped area is the perfect spot for an enormous retention basin to be built with the best in modern technology to help with irrigation in that area, be a reservoir to help with Kihei's lack of water, AND help be catchment to mitigate flooding?
4. In addition, without updating Maui's rules for drainage to include **cumulative storm water discharge** calculations for new developments to include those buildings in the nearby area, we will always be inadequately solving for storm water control. This includes rule 15-04-05 and which basically covers drainage areas of 100 acres or less, recurrence interval for a 1-hour storm, and during a 50-year storm. Kihei has experienced at least 3 major storms that produced much more water volume and velocity than what those calculations can handle in less than a year.
5. We can see that this newly mapped area will directly affect both Kulanihako'i AND Waipuilani gulches. Can there be certainty that the drainage design here won't take the community down the hardscaping and redirecting water route, as was discussed during the Mega Mall situation? Can there be certainty that the most high-tech state of the art solutions will be affordable for a development of this size, especially if they're not mega mansions. Developers would have to tackle what will be an extremely complicated drainage plan because of our current flooding makai of this. It might be good to plan to solve for our current flooding problems and improve Kihei's residents quality of life before we consider a new housing drainage system being added to the mix.
6. I am not 100% opposed to this village concept and it may be for the good for Maui's housing issues long-term, but until our flooding and current drainage issues are solved, I'm not in favor of this in Kihei. In my opinion, it would be wonderful to consider this as Open Space for people to enjoy, but we know, currently the ground and soil is damaged from Axis Deer, lack of shrubs and indigenous plants, as well as erosion. So again, why doesn't CPAC, the County as a whole including the Planning Department, DPW, and our S. Maui community and

developers consider solving some of our pressing issues before planning another housing development?

Mahalo for your considering all these things, and more, as you make the difficult decisions facing Kihei to help us move forward,

Charlene Schulenburg