



PRESS RELEASE

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Planning Commission Near Decision of Proposed Pulelehua Community *Maui Land & Pineapple Co. to Evaluate Suggested Conditions by Commission*

Kahului, Maui – The Maui County Planning Commission moved a step closer to a decision on the proposed Pulelehua Community, which would bring 450 affordable homes to West Maui, at their most recent hearing session on Tuesday, May 23rd. The Commission members continued to focus their concerns on the construction of a school, neighborhood parks and other beneficial features which were included in the community's plans by Pulelehua's future residents.

Convening at Maui County's Kalana Pukui Building in Wailuku, state and county departmental resources were available to field the Commission's questions on water, transportation and traffic, and airport safety.

These representatives included:

- ◆ Edwin Sakoda, State Commission on Water Resource Management. Sakoda confirmed the current water supply would be sufficient in the proposed site.
- ◆ Steve Takashima and Roy Sakata, State Department of Transportation, Airports Division. They addressed questions and comments on the proximity of Pulelehua to the Kapalua West Maui Airport. Sakata stated it is safe for Pulelehua to be next to the airport because no homes will be built near the approach/take-off strip. Additionally the airport is heavily restricted to small commercial planes flying during the day only.
- ◆ Glenn Yasui of the State Department of Transportation, Highways Division. Yasui reassured the Commission that Pulelehua will eventually alleviate traffic on the West side. Yasui also said that any new developments will impact the current roads, however the State cannot restrict people from access roads.
- ◆ Jim Charlier, Charlier Associates, Inc. – a transportation consulting firm – suggested a number of solutions to solving the traffic problem on Honoapiilani Highway, including locating housing

closer to employment, which is the intent of Pulelehua for many of its residents. Charlier also suggested increasing the use of public transportation.

- ◆ Kyle Ginoza, County Department of Transportation further explained the increased use of the public bus system running from Central Maui to the West side. Ginoza said the number of public bus routes will increase from seven to 14. High gas prices coupled with heavy traffic have resulted in a significant boost in ridership. In 2004 there was an estimated 30,000 riders versus over 34,000 riders during the month of March 2005 alone.

“We understand the Commission is doing their best to make the most informed decision,” said Bob McNatt, Maui Land & Pineapple Community Development Division President. “We appreciate their diligence and commitment to the process, and know they are genuinely interested in doing the right thing for Maui residents.”

Throughout the hearing the Commissioners continually thanked each official for their time and testimony in their respective areas of expertise. After all inquiries and testimony, the nine-member Planning Commission heard the recommendation to approve from Staff Planner Ann Cua. Cua read 21 conditions which sparked a series of additional conditions by the Commission, after which Maui Land & Pineapple Company agreed to review each of the conditions and continue the approval process at a follow up Commission hearing on June 13.

“This project is one of the most innovative and well-planned projects the island of Maui, if not the State, has ever seen,” Commission Chairperson Wayne Hedani said. “It will serve as an example for the rest of the state and other developers.”

Maui Land & Pineapple Company, Inc., is committed to the integration of agriculture, natural resource management and eco-effective design principles to create and manage holistic communities. ML&P’s vision of holistic communities is based on the traditional Hawaiian model of ahupua‘a, a system of self-reliance based on the artful use of land and water resources to sustain island life indefinitely. ML&P is a Hawai‘i corporation and successor to a business organized in 1909. Its principal operating subsidiaries are Maui Pineapple Company Ltd., a producer and marketer of Maui-grown pineapple, and Kapalua Land Company Ltd., operator of Kapalua Resort, a master-planned resort community in West Maui.

For more information, please visit www.pulelehua.com.