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Agenda Item: B.1 Section 3.4 | Areas of Change

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Aloha,

as someone who lived in Maui for over 20 years and has a child attending Kihei Charter school for the past 8 years I am strongly opposing the development of a mega mall in Kihei as opposed to a purely residential area as well as the development of Kihei Mauka.

I had to drive in Kihei for all these years for my daughter's school and athletic activities and can testify how horrible traffic is in Kihei and only getting worse! Going back from Wailea towards Kihei traffic backs up on Wailea Ike Drive all the way past Monkey Pod. And that is without any accidents or blockages along South Kihei road. We all know how prone to flooding South Kihei road is, so when that gets closed it is an even bigger nightmare.

Second of all, we don't need any more retail in Maui. And don't tell us that it is bringing jobs, we don't need the minimum wage retail jobs that cannot sustain living on the island. Retail and restaurants are already struggling with hiring. Why not focus on the crisis at hand which is lack of affordable housing instead of building more malls?

The second crisis on the island is the lack of self-sufficiency when it comes to food. The situation is extremely vulnerable, any kind of disaster event that can disrupt supply chains will leave us starving, and we are also at the mercy of the shipping companies that can raise costs whenever they want as Young brothers did during pandemic. So instead of building up Kihei Mauka and other lands we should use them for agriculture.

So in summary:

1. return the former Mega Mall site to the Residential designation.
2. return the Kihei Mauka area to Open Space and Agriculture.

Mahalo,

Milena Kari

Kahului, Hi

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