March 23, 2015

To The People for Bikes Organization,

Thank you very much for your letter of March 14, 2016, requesting my support for funding from the People For Bikes organization to help further develop design concepts of Phase 1 of the West Maui Greenway, a five mile section of the planned 25-mile West Maui Greenway, a multi-use trail extending from Olowalu to Lahaina Town. Over the years, I have been a strong proponent of pedestrian and bicycle friendly communities.

However, Maui has not been seen as a bicycle or pedestrian friendly island because it has a limited number of designated multi-use pathways. West Maui, in particular, has the fewest alternative routes for cyclists and pedestrians to reasonably avoid riding or walking along the area's main artery, the Honoapi'ilani Highway.

Unlike other communities that require new infrastructure to be developed and constructed, West Maui already has the infrastructure in place to become a bicycle and pedestrian friendly community due to our existing cane haul roads. Additionally, the State of Hawaii provides liability protection to private landowners under Hawaii Revised Statues 2013, Title 28, Landowner's Liability Section 5:20 or recreational users on premises as long as there is no fee charged.

The West Maui Trail is the start of providing a venue for walkers and bicycle enthusiasts to be outdoors and safe from the numerous cars and other vehicular traffic. Therefore, I support the West Maui Trail concept and am thankful to Na Ala Hele, the Maui Bicycling Leagues and others for their leadership in this project.

Sincerely Yours,

Angus McKelvey

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