



April 13, 2016

Letter of Support for The West Maui Greenway

To Whom It Maui Concern:

Aloha and thank you for opportunity to share our support of The West Maui Greenway via this letter.

The West Maui Greenway is resident initiated and led project to create a 25 mile greenway from Ukumehame to Lipoa Point utilizing and upgrading existing cane haul roads along the route. As the cane haul roads are already present and as there has been a high level of interest by land-owners along the route to participate in this worthwhile project, our community has a real opportunity to create an additional recreational area and new greenway for residents and visitors to enjoy by simply upgrading what is there now. It provides the community with a new amenity at a small fraction of the price that it would cost to develop a project such as this from scratch.

Too often the needs of the community are overlooked when development occurs. Every effort should be made to support the need for open space and recreational facilities for everyone to enjoy. Given this, the Maui Chamber of Commerce has a long standing position statement on Beach Access/Open Spaces/Parks. It reads "The Maui Chamber of Commerce urges government to work with developers and the public to develop and maintain recreational and open spaces for use by the local community and visitors.

To help, the Maui Chamber of Commerce will work with various organizations to achieve the necessary land use designations to support these efforts and will urge our members to sponsor specific projects that will encourage public awareness of these facilities. We will also encourage developers to contribute to the quality of life by supporting the needs of the community.

The residents involved in this exciting project have already received support from the County of Maui; the State of Hawaii Na Ala Hele Program; the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Program; the Maui Bicycling League; landowners; user groups, membership organizations; and community members. They have a plan to establish the greenway in phases, with Phase I extending from Olowalu to the Pioneer Mill smokestack in Lahaina, Maui.

This public/private project is expected to be funded through grants, online crowd funding, private donations, community fundraisers, and with government support. The vision for The West Maui Greenway is to provide a family-friendly amenity that is widely used, attracts Maui residents and visitors, connects users with businesses in Lahaina and Oluwalu, educates users about the area, and provides a unique experience that users will remember and cherish.

We are pleased to lend our support of this project and hope you will support it as well.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President