

April 4, 2016

PeopleforBikes c/o Zoe Kircos, Grants Manager 1966 13th St Suite 250 Boulder CO 80302

RE: West Maui Greenway Support Letter

Dear Ms. Kircos:

I represent the Maui Hotel & Lodging Association, the legislative arm of the visitor industry. Our membership includes over 160 property and allied business members in Maui County – all of whom have an interest in the visitor industry. Collectively, MHLA's membership employs over 20,000 local residents and represents over 19,000 rooms. We are the largest employer of residents on the Island - directly employing approximately 40% of all residents (indirectly, the percentage increases to 75%).

As Maui County's principal economic driver, we support Bike/Pedestrian pathways. Maui needs to create a comprehensive, integrated and connected transportation network including walking and bicycling for improved safety, better health, increased efficiency and convenience of choices. West Maui residents, visitors, and the local economy would benefit from designating multi-use trails for walking and cycling in the community. Offering this type of a recreation amenity can only help increase property values and enhance the safety of those riding a bicycle and walking. West Maui has the advantage of being able to make these types of multi-use trails immediately available by opening up, designating, and linking existing cane haul roads as car-free pathways.

It is in the industry's best interest to support growth that encompasses a bigger picture vision such as open space, greenways and bike paths. I support the West Maui Trail concept and look forward to working with Na Ala Hele, the Maui Bicycling League and others working to make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Lisa H. Paulson Executive Director