Rec'd by D. Quinn 11/3/09
@ Kawai rules hearing

Proclamation of the New Foundation of the Royal Union of the Pacific Nations, named TE ALEPHA TE PAPA NUI A TE TAATA MAORI MAOHI NO TE MOANA NUI O KIVA.

Aotearoa, the 11TH September of 2009 at the Whaiora Marae.

In Jeremiah 15: 16, it quotes "when your words came, I ate them. They were my joy and my heart's delight. I bear your name, O God Almighty."

We, the Kings and Queen of this assembly, which represents the Maori – Maohi people of Te Moana Nui o Kiva, agree and bind under the Sovereign Authority of the Ariki Teatuaura who represents his tupuna (ancestor) Atua. The Sovereign Authorities of Ariki Teatuaura and Ariki Tuki Tepano recognize and reinstate the herein Sovereign Authorities identified of Te Moana Nui a Kiva who in turn also recognize them as Sovereign authority.

In virtue of the Royal lineages of the Sovereign Authorities and the innate rights given by blood, with consideration and respect for our cultural and traditional values, principles of freedom and equality. We affirm that this assembly represents and defends the rights of the people and future generations of the triangle of Te Moana Nui o Kiva.

The laws promulgated by the Kings and the Queen are to provide well being for their people. The laws that have been agreed upon will be executed.

We, the Royal Assembly, proclaim and collectively aprove this Foundation. No other entity can abolish or/and modify these laws.

Kings and Queens who are recognized under this proclamation are here with the authorized signatures:

AOTEAROA Ariki Heremia Te Oi Otimi

HAWAII Ariki Nui Aleka Aipoalani no Hawaii

MANGAIA Ariki Vaine Nooroa Numangatini

RAROTONGA Ariki Nooke Tumutoa

TUVALU Rev. Tanielu Siliga

SAMOA Afioga Fuimaono Ioana (Ali'I)

AOTEAROA Ariki Tuhono Tanirau

PAKOMOTU Ariki Teiri Tanginui

The Kings and Queens of this Royal Assembly are appointed to administer the powers to form the TMAK Kawanatanga.

The Kawanatanga of TMAK are as follows:

Head of State:
Ariki Teatuaura

Representative of Finance:
Ariki Teatuaura

Representative of Trade, Banking, Commerce and Communication (News Media):
Ariki Otimi

Representative of Ocean and Trade (Resources of Oceans, Fisheries, Boundaries):
Ariki Tuhono Tanirau (Joe)

Representative of Education and Technology:
Ariki Teiri Tanginui

Representative of Health:
Ariki Teatuaura

Representative of Solidarity (Family, Youth and Violence):
Queen Nooroa Numangatini

Representative of Transports (Terrestre, Maritime, Air, Sub-Marine):
Reverend Tanielu Siliga

Representative of Immigration and Foreign Affairs:
Afioga Fuimaono Ioana (Ali'I)

Representative of Justice:
Ariki Heremia Te Oi Otimi

Representative of Defence:
Ariki Teatuaura

Representative of Agriculture and Land:
Afioga Fuimaono Ioana (Ali'I)

Representative of Culture:
Ariki Tuki Tepano

Representative of Employment:
Ariki Tumutoa Nooke

Representative of Tourism and Environment:
Ariki Nui Aleka Aipoalani

Representative of Sports:
Ariki Tuki Tepano

This Sovereign Power has its official headquarters based in Aotearoa.

Approved and recognized by the Sovereign Authorities of:

Rapa Nui **Ariki Nui Tuki Tepano no Rapa Nui**

Maupiti **Ariki Nui Teatuaura**

LAW OFFICES OF NANCY J. BUDD
A LAW CORPORATION
4374 KUKUI GROVE STREET, SUITE 103
LIHUE, KAUAI, HAWAII 96766
(808) 245-5343

NANCY J. BUDD, ESQ.
LICENSED IN HAWAII
AND CALIFORNIA

FACSIMILE
(808) 245-5818
E-MAIL
nancy@njbudd-law.com

November 3, 2009

To: Laura Thielen, Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources

Subject: Establishing entry fee authority for all State Parks to provide increased revenue

The Recreational Renaissance Plan B provides for entry fees to be charged at 8 state parks, including two on Kaua`i-- Koke`e and Ke`e-- to raise money for statewide purposes. The DLNR estimates that the total gate revenues from all 8 parks will be approximately $3.5 million per year. As Koke`e currently generates more than enough to sustain its operations without gate revenue, none of the additional money will return to support Koke`e.

As you know, we are in the process of finalizing a master plan for our Koke`e and Waimea Canyon State Parks. The word "our" is used intentionally, as each island finds its special places dear, in fact sacred, to its local people. Kōke'e is unique in the world – biologically and culturally-- and it is a fragile place that has been allowed to remain to a large extent under the tourist radar. While we appreciate that the DLNR is a state agency and that state parks are intended for the use of all residents of the state, management of these special places should remain sensitive to the mana`o of the local island community that finds refuge in its parks.

In large part, because the DLNR has largely ignored the pleas of those on Kaua`i who have testified by the thousands over the years, the legislature established a Koke`e State Park Advisory Council to "review and assist in updating and revising the Koke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks Master Plan" as well as to "participate in the protection and preservation of the area's natural and cultural resources." The current version of the master plan ignores years of public input and sees an entry gate or fee station as an "integral" part of the plan. The community has found this to be a dangerous element of the master plan for several reasons:

1. The public has objected to having money raised by charging a fee to enter Koke`e deposited in a statewide fund with no requirement that this money be used for Koke`e and Waimea Canyon needs. Koke`e already generates 3 times more income than is spent on its maintenance and repair-- the entry fee simply adds more to a statewide pot.

2. The road is currently a two-lane mountain road that will be expanded to 4½ lanes to accommodate an entry fee booth or gate.

Rec'd from Nancy Budd
@ Kauai Public Hearing 11/3/09

3. Plans for the station include a 100 sf entry station, a parking lot and an additional building, all at the site of the entry gate.

4. In order to place a fee station on a DOT road, jurisdiction of about 7 or 8 miles of the road will have to be transferred from DOT to DSP. The DSP portion of the road near the meadow and higher has historically been deplorably maintained. If state parks take over the building, repair and maintenance of this road, it will add additional responsibility and cost to the State Park system that is already understaffed and chronically underfunded.

5. The Koke`e State Park Advisory Council has requested that the BLNR defer actions affecting Koke`e and Waimea Canyon State Parks until the BLNR has reviewed Advisory Council recommendations. In a letter dated August 13, 2009, the Advisory Council asked that the DLNR refrain from making irrevocable commitments to revenue generating schemes that are very controversial without first permitting the Advisory Council to work with the DLNR as part of the overall planning process for the parks. The current planning process is critical for establishing a long-term vision for this unique area.

6. Moving toward implementation of a critical part of the overall plan for Koke`e and Waimea Canyon State Parks prior to completion of the Master Plan and the issuance of a final companion EIS, segments the master plan and will only hurt the integrity of this special place and undermine public support for the State Park system.

7. This action moves us in a direction from which we will not return. In order to raise maximum gate revenue, there is incentive to increase tourist traffic up the mountain. Funding of state park operations should not be dependent upon promoting ever-increasing visitor numbers or revenue generation schemes within the parks; these are our last remaining protected natural areas and must remain our gift to our children's children.

While we understand the DLNR's need to financially support its massive land and water assets statewide, we believe that the fundamental goal of state parks management must be to "***preserve the parks***... *in their* ***natural condition*** so far as may be consistent with their use and safety" and to "***retain* to a *maximum extent*** the ***natural, scenic, historic and wildlife values***"[1] of these fragile parks. Please allow the Koke`e Advisory Council to continue its work with you and work with us to find alternative sources of support for our state parks.

Sincerely,

NANCY J. BUDD

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[1] Hawai`i Revised Statutes Section 184-6

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S

REPORT TO LEGISLATURE

OF

THE STATE OF HAWAII

ON

ACT 226

(SENATE BILL NO. 2365, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1)

SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2008

Recommendations from the Department of Transportation for additional revenue-generating initiatives to replenish the State Highway Fund, under Section 248-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

PREPARED BY:
STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
November 2008

Rec'd @ Hearing on Kauai 11/3/09
C. Hookano

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE FOR ADDITIONAL REVENUE-GENERATING INITIATIVES

BACKGROUND

The State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation (DOT) has been raising the issue of the health and viability of the State Highway Fund for the past several years in looking into the future, both long-term and near-term.

The State Highway Fund provides the funding to carry out the operations, maintenance, and capital improvement programs of the Department of Transportation's highway function. Revenues for the fund are generated through motor fuel taxes, rental and tour vehicle surcharge tax, motor vehicle registration fees, vehicle weight taxes, and other miscellaneous fees.

While expenditures have continued to increase, revenue growth has not been able to keep pace with the needs. The federally mandated fuel conservation requirements have led to lighter more fuel efficient cars. This as well as the high cost of fuel has decreased the growth in fuel consumption, thereby reducing the growth in revenues generated by the fuel tax and vehicle weight tax. At the same time, the rising oil prices have increased the cost of operating, maintaining and constructing the State's highways.

The total revenues for the State Highway Fund for fiscal year 2009 are estimated to be $212.7 million while the planned expenditures for the same period total $243 million. The expenditures are expected to exceed revenues by more than $30 million. For fiscal year 2008, the expenditures and revenues were $233 million and $213 million respectively, a shortfall of over $20 million.

Act 226, SLH 2008 extended until August 31, 2011, the $3 a day rate of the rental motor vehicle surcharge tax and required the Department of Transportation to provide recommendations to the Legislature for additional revenue-generating initiatives that will replenish the State Highway Fund, created by Section 248-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2009.

REVENUE SOURCES

State Highway Fund

The State imposes taxes, fees and charges relating to the operation and use of motor vehicles on the public highways of the State. These funds are deposited into the State Highway Fund established under Section 248-8, HRS. Moneys deposited in the State Highway Fund are used for acquisition, planning, design, construction, operation, repair and maintenance of the State Highway System.

The current taxes, fees and charges deposited to the State Highway Fund consist of: (1) the highway fuel license taxes; (2) vehicle registration fees; (3) the vehicle weight tax; and (4) the rental motor vehicle and tour vehicle surcharge taxes. Together, these taxes, fees and charges accounted for most of the receipts of the State Highway Fund. Other sources of Revenues include interest earnings on moneys previously credited to the State Highway Fund, vehicle weight tax penalties, certain rental income from State Highway System properties, passenger motor vehicle inspection charges, overweight permits, sales of surplus lands, commercial license fees and other miscellaneous revenues. There are no toll roads or bridges in the State. The primary sources of Revenues are further described below.

Sources of Revenues and User Taxes

The following is a summary of the sources of revenues that are deposited to the State Highway Fund. (The impact of the major user taxes and fees are shown on Attachment A.)

Highway Fuel License Taxes. Highway fuel license taxes consist of license taxes on fuel sold to motor vehicle operators pursuant to Chapter 243, HRS. The distributor of motor vehicle fuel pays the fuel license tax for liquid fuel produced or imported by the distributor to be sold or used by the distributor. Highway fuel license taxes are currently assessed at a rate of $0.17 per gallon of gasoline and diesel oil (highway use) and $0.02 per gallon of gasoline, diesel oil and liquid petroleum gas (non highway use). The highway fuel license taxes are collected by the Department of Taxation, which then transfers the receipts to the State Highway Fund.

The rate of taxation on fuel increased significantly between 1975 and 1991. Highway fuel license taxes increased from $0.085 per gallon of gasoline and diesel oil and $0.060 per gallon of liquid petroleum gas in 1975, to $0.110 per gallon of gasoline and diesel oil and $0.080 per gallon of liquid petroleum gas in 1985, and to $0.160 per gallon of gasoline and diesel oil and $0.110 per gallon of liquid petroleum gas effective July 1, 1991. The State fuel tax was increased to $0.17 per gallon for gasoline and diesel oil (highway use) and $0.02 per gallon for gasoline, diesel oil and liquid petroleum gas (non highway use) effective July 1, 2007 by Act 209 SLH 2007.

Vehicle Registration Fees. All vehicles, including motor vehicles, must be registered annually with one of the four counties of the State. The vehicle owner must pay a State registration fee of $25 for each vehicle, pursuant to Section 249-31, HRS. The State vehicle registration fee has been increased from $1.00 per vehicle in 1979 to $10.00 per vehicle in 1985 to $20.00 per

vehicle in 1991 and to $25 per vehicle in 2004. From each annual motor vehicle registration fee, $20 is deposited into the State Highway Fund and $5 into the emergency medical services special fund. The four counties each collect the vehicle registration fee along with their respective county registration fees and transfer the State's vehicle registration fee to the State Highway Fund.

Vehicle Weight Taxes. All vehicles, including motor vehicles, are assessed an annual State vehicle weight tax pursuant to Section 249-33, HRS. The tax rate is $0.0075 per pound for vehicles less than 4,000 pounds; $0.01 per pound for vehicles between 4,001 and 7,000 pounds, $0.0125 per pound for vehicles between 7,001 and 10,000 pounds, and $150.00 per vehicle for vehicles over 10,000 pounds. Vehicle weight taxes increased from a minimum rate of $0.0045 per pound to $0.0050 per pound to $0.0075 per pound and a maximum charge of $36.00 per vehicle to $65.00 per vehicle to $150.00 per vehicle over the period from 1991 to 2002. The four counties each collect the vehicle weight tax along with their respective county vehicle taxes and transfer the State's vehicle weight tax to the State Highway Fund.

Rental Motor Vehicle and Tour Vehicle Surcharge Taxes. Chapter 251, HRS, imposes a surcharge tax on all rental motor vehicles and tour vehicles. The rental motor vehicle surcharge tax is imposed on the owner of the rental company when a rental motor vehicle is rented or leased. Through Act 223, SLH 1999, the surcharge tax was increased from $2.00 per day to $3.00 per day or any portion of the day effective from September 1, 1999 through August 31, 2007 and was further extended by Act 258, SLH 2007 from September 1, 2007 through August 31, 2008, and Act 226, SLH 2008 from September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2011.

The tour vehicle surcharge tax is imposed on the tour vehicle operator. The surcharge tax is $65.00 per month for each tour vehicle more than 25 passengers and $25 per month for tour vehicles more that 15 up to 25 passengers used or partially used during the month.

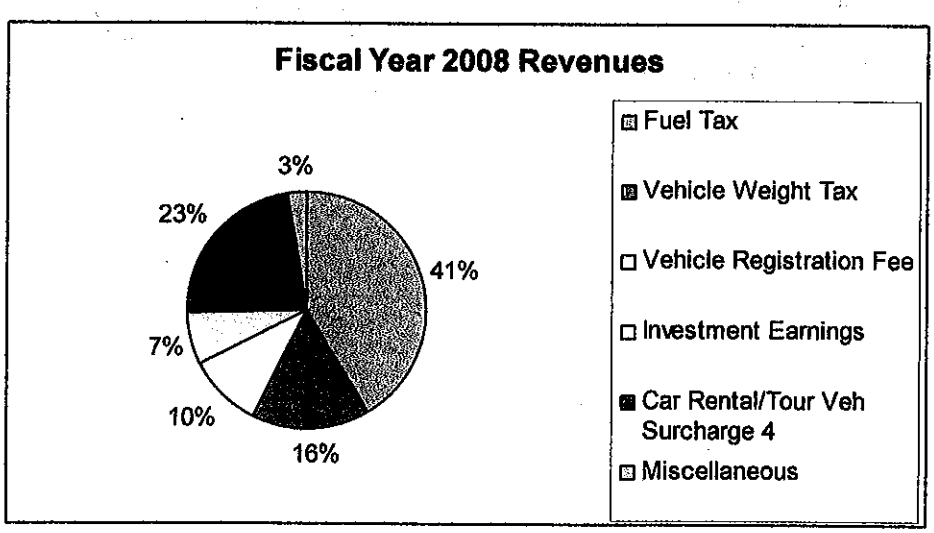
All rental and tour companies must register with the State. The registration fee is a one-time $20.00 fee.

Interest Earnings. Interest income is derived from the investment of Highway Special Fund moneys held in the State Treasury.

Miscellaneous. Miscellaneous revenues include permit fees for overweight vehicles, commercial drivers' license licensing fees, periodic motor vehicle inspection fees, rental and sale of property, refund and reimbursement of prior period expenditures, and other miscellaneous revenues.

HISTORICAL REVENUES (000's)

FISCAL YEAR	FUEL TAX	VEHICLE WEIGHT TAX	VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES	INVESTMENT EARNINGS	RENTAL/TOUR VEHICLE SURCHARGE TAX	MISC.	TOTAL
1995	67,702	19,186	19,179	9,924	21,465	3,559	141,015
1996	69,010	20,992	16,076	11,054	21,941	3,804	142,877
1997	69,881	21,305	16,210	10,961	22,600	3,558	144,515
1998	68,580	21,753	16,418	8,076	22,838	4,120	141,785
1999	67,209	22,434	16,749	10,535	23,591	3,885	144,403
2000	68,088	23,479	17,216	10,956	34,587	4,320	158,646
2001	71,931	24,388	17,609	14,961	38,633	5,647	173,169
2002	73,046	24,508	17,461	11,453	36,054	26,716	189,238
2003	75,506	27,222	19,037	11,952	39,472	11,783	184,972
2004	79,607	27,393	19,174	8,569	41,414	9,685	185,842
2005	80,913	28,847	19,462	8,781	43,950	2,879	184,832
2006	82,853	31,845	20,766	14,166	50,582	4,075	204,287
2007	85618	33,309	20,765	16,204	46,989	5,591	208,476
2008	87,885	33,549	21,033	14,316	49,196	5,876	211,855



The current revenues deposited into the State Highway Fund are inelastic and have not kept up with inflation and the highway needs. Converting the State Highway Fund revenues into more elastic forms would provide the DOT with an enhanced ability to address the needs as the economy and inflationary environment changes. The change from charging a flat rate tax would enable fees to keep pace with economic fluctuation.

The implementation of a system of charges based on vehicle miles traveled is considered a more direct means of charging highway user fees. Charging a specific rate per mile can be se to meet

a certain revenue target level. However, there are implementation issues with this revenue alternative including technology required to collect fees, enforcement and public acceptance.

There is a need to re-evaluate all highway users and identify current categories that utilize our roadway infrastructure. There is also a strong need to evaluate the assessment of highway user fees to each category. Under current assessments, vehicle registration (cars and trucks) and drivers are the only categories that pay user fees via vehicle registration (commercial and passenger) and licensing fees. Since the development of this out-dated assessment methodology, many new interest groups that utilize our roadways have emerged, including pedestrians, bicycles, mopeds and other new forms of transportation.

Revenue Generation Alternatives

In order to sustain the operating and capital improvement fiscal requirements of the Department of Transportation's Highway Program during the next six-year planning period, additional revenues will be required. In order to achieve the ideal funding level of $86 million to be spent annually on special maintenance, the Department would need more than $40 million in new revenues each year. There is a need to increase revenues and find additional innovative revenue sources for deposit into the State Highway Fund.

Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)

A VMT fee may have medium to long-term potential as a revenue source for transportation financing, though it may be an inadequate alternative to generate additional revenues because of the significant administrative burdens it may impose.

Office of the Sovereign
Dayne Aleka Aipoalani
Head of State
Hawaiian Kingdom
P.O. Box 919
Kekaha, HI 96752
Aliinui@atooi.net

Linda Lingle
Laura Thielen
Department of Land and Natural Resources
Kalanimoku Building
1151 Punchbowl St.
Honolulu, HI 96813
Ph: (808) 587.0400

November 3, 2009

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

NOTICE OF TRESPASS

Tortious interference with High Contractual relations of the Polynesian Kingdom of Atooi

Hawaiian Kingdom

Intentional Tort- DLNR

Negligent Tort- DLNR

Concurrent Tortfeasors John Does: DLNR, DLNR Kauai, DLNR Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement, Division of Aquatic Resources, Engineering Division, Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Land Division, Division of State Parks, Syngenta Seeds, Pioneer Hi Bred Intl Inc, BASF Plant Science, Ceatech, Far West Ag, Westside Co-op, Kikiola, Waimea,

Any company(s) contracted by the STATE OF HAWAII

Attn: Mrs. Laura Thielen:

This is to inform you that the Supreme Authority of the Hawaiian Islands, Ali'i Nui Dayne Aleka Aipoalani and the Ali'i Customary Chiefs & Chiefess are the owners of approximately 92,646 acres of Crown Lands, it encompasses all of the Waimea River Canyon area, the uplands of Koke'e, the high swampy plateau of Alaka'i and the Northwestern coastal valleys of Nu'alolo and Miloli'i on Kauai, Hawaii, Polynesian Kingdom of Atooi-Hawaiian Kingdom.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that you are not authorized to possess any Polynesian Kingdom of Atooi-Hawaiian Kingdom lands at this time. You and your associates should immediately cease accessing any portion of such PKOA-Hawaiian Kingdom lands and the surrounding areas of ingress and egress of said lands for any reason whatsoever, without the prior written approval of the Ali'i nui of the Polynesian Kingdom of Atooi-Hawaiian Kingdom Supreme Authority. You and your associates are directed not to use or occupy any lands owned by the Ali'i's and Customary Chiefs and Chiefessand the surrounding areas of ingress and egress of said lands, or any of the land owned by the Polynesian Kingdom of Atooi-Hawaiian Kingdom including, but not limited to the use of any ditch, canal, reservoir and the water therein for any purpose, or the use of electrical power generated on the property, gaming, gathering, hunting rights, land, air, water, minerals, forestry, environmental and tourism issues without the prior written approval of the Polynesian Kingdom of Atooi-Hawaiian Kingdom Supreme Authority.**

Failure to vacate the premises may result in commencement of legal action against you. In the event legal action is required, you may be liable for all reasonable and necessary legal fees and costs incurred by the Polynesian Kingdom of Atooi-Hawaiian Kingdom Supreme Authority. All contracting rights on Crown Lands (Waimea), is to be done with the Supreme Authority, No corporate entity or Governments of the United States of America can modify, alter or abolish this document.

Sincerely,

Dayne Aleka Aipoalani

Supreme Authority
Dayne Aleka Aipoalani
Head of State
PKOA-Hawaiian Kingdom
Royal Union of the Polynesian Triangle
Te Moana Nui A Kiva (TMAK) Nations
Representative of Environment & Tourism

Rec'd by D. Quinn
@ Kauai DLNR
Rules Hearing 11/3/09

Copy to Chair's office 11/4/09

Naturalized Landscape Makapuu, Oahu - Mother Nature's gift

Rec'd at Oahu Rules Hearing 11/9

KEVIN J. MULKERN
A LICENSED LANDSCAPE
CONTRACTOR, INC. C-8944

KEVIN J. MULKERN
PRESIDENT
HONOLULU, HAWAII

808-396-6595
www.mulkernlandscaping.com

Naturalization

"Doing things that work". Naturalization (letting Mother Nature win) is free. Most people don't realize when public landscapes naturalize.

When CompUSA closed its Honolulu store on the main corridor from Honolulu Airport to Waikiki, they turned off the water and stopped maintaining the grounds. There were letters to the editor and editorials in the local newspapers. Within days Bishop Estate, the landlord, had the water turned on and the gardeners back. Naturalization is not an option for private property owners. Why doesn't this standard apply to our public spaces?

In 1973 University of Hawaii published a circular "Ground Covers for Hawaii Landscapes" where plants such as portulaca, gazania, wedella, ice plant and lipia, were promoted because they "require very little maintenance". They are still used successfully by resorts and homeowners. There's little evidence today they were planted along our interstate freeways. There have been no editorials or displays of public outrage about the millions of taxpayer dollars that were wasted.

The State Dept of Transportation plans to use natives at Halawa interchange. In the late 70's the Halawa Interchange cost taxpayers about $2 million; it's now naturalized. Do we really need a pilot project to study naturalization? It's has a successful track record. Is the Dept of Transportation aware there's a difference between naturalization and natives? Native plants are some of the most expensive plants to install and maintain. Their track records at Makapuu, Diamond Head, the Ala Wai and Barber's Point deep draft harbor have been abysmal and have cost taxpayers millions.

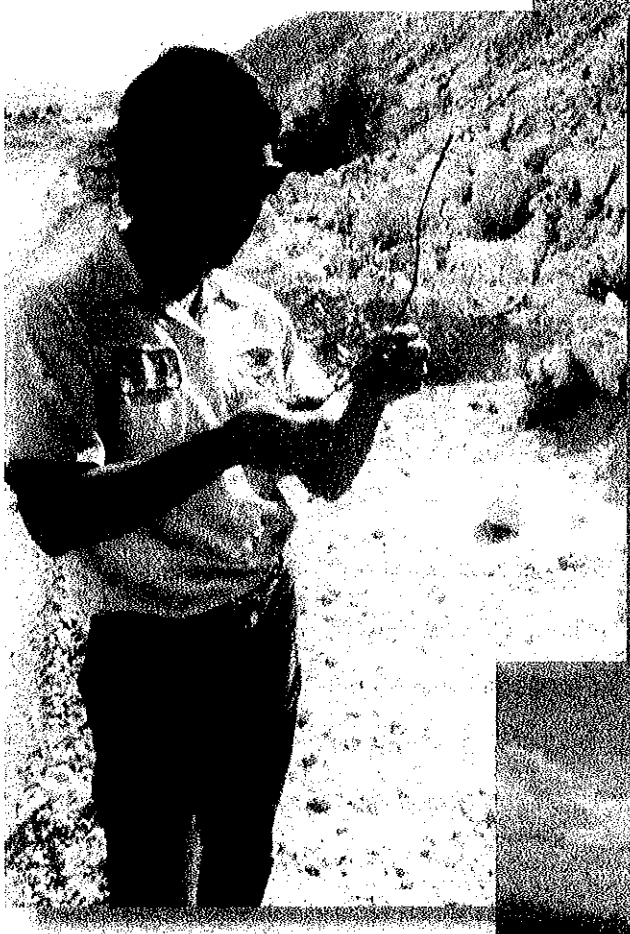
Mother Nature has done a great job hiding our mistakes with an assortment of plants which work to provide a habitat for birds and insects and prevent erosion, protecting our ocean. It was all free.

Kevin J. Mulkern ASLA

Reference Honolulu Star Bulletin Kokua Line 5/25/08, 2/08/09, 2/15/09

UH Cooperative Extension Service Circular 457, May 1973

2004
Diamond Head beach access. Over watering probable cause of failure (Nio Papa). Installation cost unavailable.

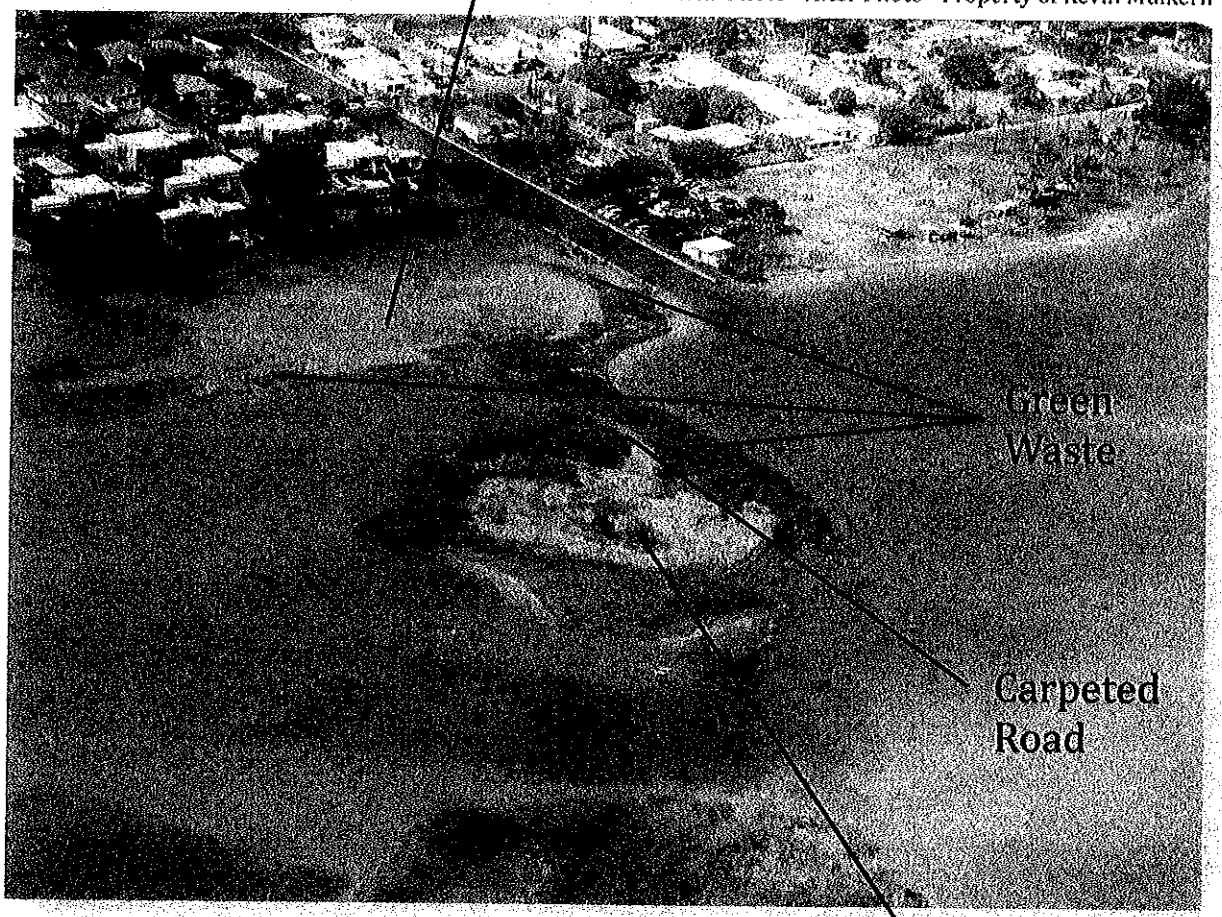


1985
Beach Morning Glory (Ipo Mea) at Barbers Point deep draft harbor. Unrooted cuttings probable cause of failure.

2007
$290,000 failure at Makapuu Point, lack of water probable cause.

Barren Area - Loose Fill

Aerial Photo - After Photo - Property of Kevin Mulkern



Paiko Lagoon
Wildlife Sanctuary

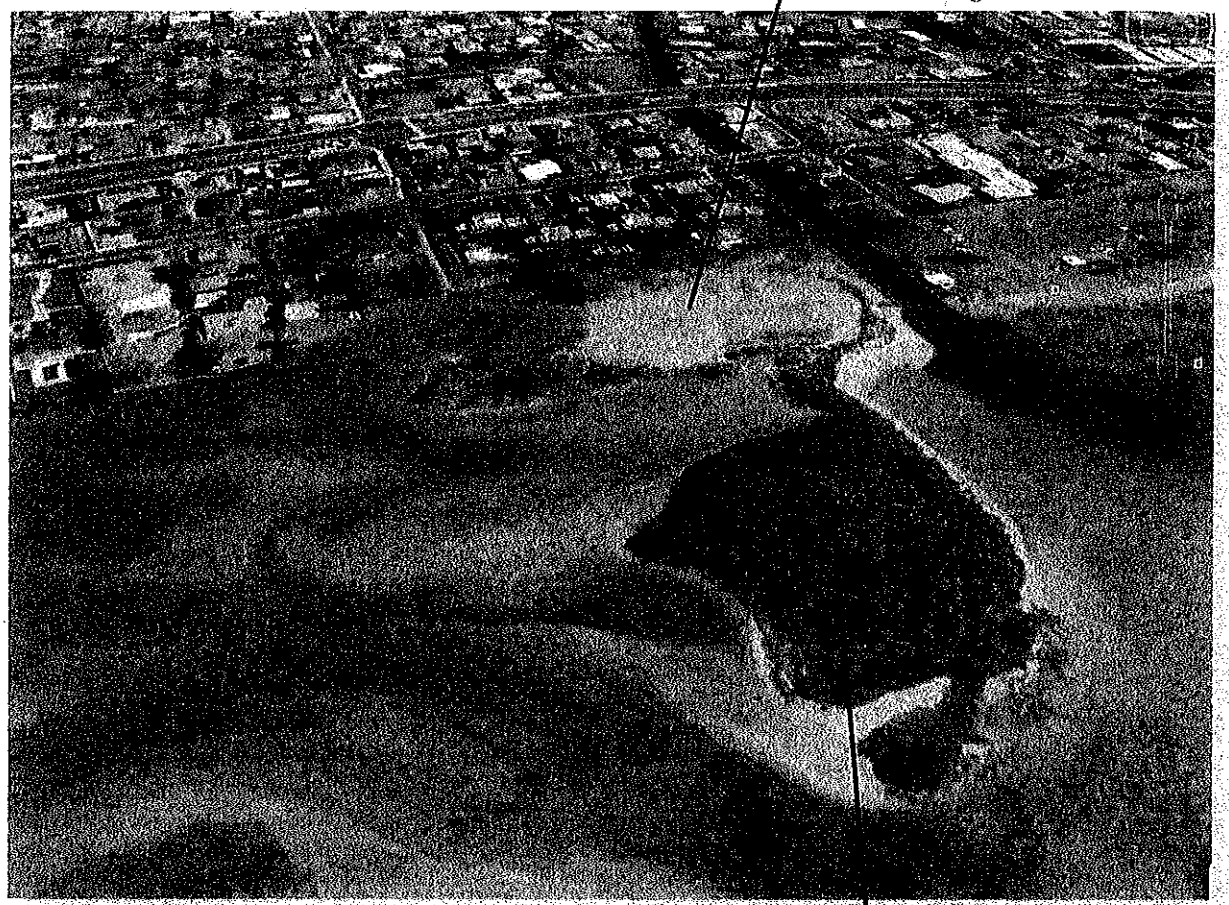
Bulldozed Area

Why Destroy a Naturalized Landscape and Leave Green Waste and Loose Fill?

Ample Open Space For New Plantings and Experimentation

Barren Area

Google Earth - Before Photo



Paiko Lagoon
Wildlife Sanctuary

Naturalized
Planting - Kou, Milo,
Kiawe's and Akulikuli

The Refuse Division has no jurisdiction in this area nof discussion. You'd have to address you concerns to DLNR or the Governer's office. I agree that government should spend tax payer money in a responsible manner. Sorry I can't be of further assistance.

Thanks,

Chris Hirota
Recycling Specialist
Refuse Division
1000 Uluohia St, Suite 212
Kapolei, HI 96707
phone: (808)-768-3423
fax: (808)-768-3434
www.opala.org

From: KJM ALLC [mailto:mulkernlandscaping@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2009 2:24 PM
To: Hirota, Jed C.
Subject: Re: Paiko Wildlife Sanctuary Pictures

October 9, 2009

Jed C. "Chris" Hirota

Recycling Specialist

Refuse Division

1000 Uluohia Street, Suite 212

Kapolei, HI 96707

Re: Paiko Lagoon/Environmental Hotline Complaint

Dear Chris:

Thanks for your prompt response and the time you spent at Paiko with me. Jason Misaki with Dept of Land and Natural Resources,returned my phone call and explained DLNR 's project at Paiko.

Jason explained the grant money had specific guidelines for "habitat improvement". There was no requirement for a landscape architect or landscape contractor, and DLNR was experimenting with alternative plants to re-vegetate this area. I asked if an archaeologist was required to oversee the excavation work as Hawaiians have traditionally buried their dead along the coastline, and he said no. As far as installing silt barriers (socks), removing green waste or maintaining the new plants, DLNR has exhausted the funds and has no timetable or provision for finishing the project.

I've asked for the dollar amount of the grant. I also asked why they didn't use the adjacent barren area, as the objective was to encourage native birds which prefer minimal plantings. Now there are 2 barren areas.

Jason was unaware that DLNR spent $290,000.00 on similar plantings at Makapuu Point and that approx 95% of the plants have died. Information on the type of plants they're experimenting with has been published in Landscape Industry Magazine with copies hand delivered to Laura Thielen.

"Jim Conklin"
<bjmcduffie@cox.net>
11/24/2009 12:04 PM

To <RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc <theconk1@cox.net>
bcc
Subject $5.00 per car per visit TAX

I have had an opportunity to read through the DLNR Recreational Renaisance Plan B(Back to Basics) and was disappointed to see the proposed funding plan appears to be targeted exclusively to Island visitors.

My wife and I spend 5 to 7 weeks a year on Maui and visit Makena Beach 4 to 5 times a week while on island. If the proposed fees are enacted we will experience an additonal cost to our stay of approx. $100.00 to $175.00. I feel certain that during the time we are on the Island and at Makena Beach we contribute less toward needed maintenance than the locals will over the year they have use of the park facilities. However this plan is asking visitors to pay for all additional maintenance costs.

I would suggest that a smaller fee spread across ALL park users would be a fairer to all and less onerous to tourist...who represent the bulk of Hawaii's annual revenue. Visitors to the islands, most probably, do not get any more from the park system or create more need for maintenance to the parks than locals, therefore why should they be asked to pay more.

My wife and Ilive in Southern Nevada and know first hand the negative impact a down turn in tourism can bring to state revenues and to local employment. I should think you would be better advised to be looking st ways to entice more visitors not deter them.

My thoughts for your consisderation.

Thank

Jim Conklin

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to voice my concern and disgust for the proposition of charging entrance fees for non-residents to several of the State Parks and Monuments across the State of Hawai'i.

First of all, I was born and raised on the island of Maui, and attended Ha'iku Elementary, Kalama Intermediate, and Maui High Schools prior to leaving the island to attend college and graduate school. I grew up going to Makena State Park and Iao Valley Monument on a regular basis, and on my trips back to the islands in recent years, I have made many trips to both since. I would take extreme offence to being forced to pay to visit these places that are so much a part of a place that I still call home.

The State is doing their best to deceive the public by referring to these fees as only being levied on tourists, but that is not the case! Many people who call Hawai'i their home would also be subjected, whether they attending college abroad, or simply don't have a valid photo ID to prove that they are, in fact, residents of Hawai'i. Don't give in and commercialize the beautiful natural resources of the State!

Aloha,

Dr. Casey Mathison

Casey Mathison
[redacted]
San Diego, CA 92130

SAN DIEGO CA 92130
13 NOV 2009 PM 1 L

Department of Land and Natural Resources
Attn: Recreational Renaissance Rules
PO Box 621
Honolulu, HI 96809

RECEIVED
'09 NOV 23 A8:06
DEPT OF LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES STATE OF HAWAII

9680971621

Larry Wilson
<larrywilson@mac.com>
11/22/2009 04:12 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@Hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Makena Beach parking fees

To Whom it may concern,

I recently heard the county is considering a charge for parking at
Makena Beach. I feel this would be a bad decision for the County to make.

I have spent the winter the last 20 years in Kihei and on Makena Beach. I spend almost everyday at the beach.

The expense of $5.00 a day is $150 a month and would discourage visitors to this area.

Please reconsider this.

Thank you,
Larry Wilson

Nancy Wilson
<nancywilson@mac.com>
11/22/2009 12:06 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@Hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Parking fees at Makena

To Whom it May Concern,

We were recently made aware of the County's consideration of charging a parking fee at Makena Beach. We feel this would be poor decision for the County to make.

We have been "visitors" to your island since 1987, starting with a 10 day vacation, and working up to spending the entire Month of February the last several years. Next year we will be spending 5 weeks in Paradise.

While we are not "locals", we do have several friends who live there, mostly in Kihei, where we stay at the Kihei Akahi. During our month stay, there is no more than 4-5 days that we are not at Makena Beaches. There is just no place like it on your island, and try to be there by 9:00am for a full day of sun, waves and friends.

The expense of $5.00 parking for every day we are there seems to be extreme and would probably discourage several visitors to your island. Please reconsider this idea.

Nancy Wilson
Dallas, Oregon

TMarlow113@aol.com
11/21/2009 03:52 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Makena State Beach Parking

Aloha-

Please note that it seems to us that charging for parking at Makena State Beach park is counter-productive. A charge will simply force people to park up on the narrow street or illegally or hazardously. It will also discourage tourists from visiting.

We live on Oahu and visit Maui frequently. Makena is a frequent stop.....the parking lot is tiny as it is...we usually have to park in the dirt up the hill and walk down...., but at least off the street.

It also seems that having someone collect the fees and patrol the lot for non-paid cars parking is expensive. Will local residents nearby end up having cars parked on their driveways and the local streets? Will there be more hitchikers and people walking along the narrow road?

It is hard to imagine that charging for parking is worth all the unintended consequences.

Thanks for considering our thoughts as fellow residents of the state.

Tony Marlow
Kaneohe, HI

Juan Wilson
<juanwilson@mac.com>
11/19/2009 08:21 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Kokee Testimony on Reacreational Renaissance Rules

DO NOT IMPLEMENT THE GLNR PLAN!

In 2004 when the DLNR first presented its Kokee Preliminary Master Plan to the residents of Kauai it was received like a slap in the face. The plan was an affront to virtually everyone who lives here. We don't live on this island for the nightlife. We live here because we want to live close to Kauai's beauty. The entry gate idea was greeted with threats to tear it down if ever erected.

The DLNR had to back away from its original proposal. They promised to go back to the drawing-board and fix the biggest problems.

At the end of a raucous BLNR public meeting on Kauai on 14 January 2005, Ron Agor, Kauai's BLNR representative, made a motion that was adopted by a majority vote of the BLNR. The motion was detailed and wide ranging. and it included removing a physical gate to Kokee State Park from the plan.

In subsequent versions of the plan the substance Mr. Agor's motion was abandoned. That adopted motion should have been honored.

Over the the last five years the DLNR has been coming back again and again with a bad plan that the people of Kauai do not want. The entreaties from Kauai fall on deaf ears in Honolulu. We are not the only ones who have been ignored. In private conversations with planners with the consulting firm that did the preliminary study for the DLNR it was revealed to me that Peter Young, the BLNR chair at the time, simply over-road the consultant's advise that would have resulted in a plan more in keeping with the wishes of Kauai residents. So much for public discourse.

The DLNR argues it has no money to maintain state parks. The DLNR "improvements" to Kokee in its plan are focussed on revenue generation for park funds. Just like schools, and libraries (as well as police and fire departments) state parks are not businesses. We don't want the commercialization of this sacred place to help replenish the general fund coffers of the DLNR. We don't want privitization and corporatism to invade Kokee. We don't want the DLNR plan.

Kokee is not an amusement park for tourists owned by State of Hawaii. It is the aina of the Hawaiian people and the evidence suggests that the DLNR may not be an agency that can be entrusted with its care.

If the state cannot afford to maintain Kokee, the people of Kauai will. As you surely aware, the volunteer work by Kauai residents is why there is public access to Polihale State Park today. The DLNR estimated repairing the road to Polihale would cost $4 million dollars and several years to accomplish. That was not good enough for the people here. Businesses and individuals volunteered. Materials was offered, Equipment was offerd. Time, energy and skill were offered. The road to Polihale was opened in weeks, not years and at one hunderedth the cost.

Perhaps the DLNR should find another business to be in. I seems the flood of bad ideas from the state (like the Superferry and Furlough Fridays) won't stop until the Lingle Administration is out of office and its hanger-ons have left government service. That day cannot come soon enough.

Juan Wilson
Architect-Planner
PO Box 949
Hanapepe HI 96716
(808) 335-0733

Linda Pascatore
<lindapascatore@earthlink.net>
11/19/2009 07:27 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject

I have testified many times on this issue, and will again ask you to leave Kokee as it is!
No Gate!
No Fees for anyone!
No road widening!
No new Lodge!
Leave the Meadow alone!
No new parking lots!
Let all leaseholders stay!
New leases by attrition only, and by lottery, and with a sliding fee scale--Kauai residents get preference, then State residents!

The people of Kauai have shown up in force time and again from the very beginning of this process, to tell you to leave Kokee as it is! What does it take for you to listen to the public input? Is the whole process of public testimony just a hoop you jump through, and then you can totally ignore it? We are very disappointed and disheartened by your continuing to put forth plans with elements we have all opposed since the beginning. The people of Kauai are disappointed, disheartened, and frustrated at this process and the results, and some are getting angry.

Kokee is not a cash cow for the DNLR to support other parks and projects. All we need is to maintain what we have there. If you do not have the money for this, no worries! We will take care of it, Kauai style--like we did for Poli Hale. The DNLR said it would take two years to fix the road and open our State Park at Poli Hale. Kauai came through with volunteers and donations and did it ourselves in two months! We can take care of our own repairs at Kokee, if you will just leave it and us alone.

Kokee is a sacred place of refuge. We need this peaceful, quiet, beautiful park preserved in a natural state. Please listen to the People!

Linda Pascatore
PO Box 949
Hanapepe, HI 96716

"Jonathan Selover"
<jonselover@hotmail.com>
11/19/2009 04:34 PM

To <RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject State Park Daily Fee

Dear DLNR,

After hearing about Recreation Renaissance Plan B, I've become very concerned. Please do not implement the $5/day fee for parking at Makena State Park. This will cause unnecessary traffic jams during the day. People will find other areas to park causing serious problems. Where is the oversight with this plan? How much money will be "taken" from this fund to pay employees to collect the funds? Will the collected funds go to "improve" Makena State Park or will it go towards another project as all well intentioned "funds" end up doing. PLEASE rethink this plan and DON'T implement the daily parking fee for Makena State Park. Please keep Makena State Park in it's natural state without State interference. Thank you. Jon Selover, concerned Maui visitor from New York State

James D/Janet Jones
<pahrah@sbcglobal.net>
11/19/2009 07:40 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@Hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Parking Fees

When we come to Maui, we visit for at least a Month and are a Big Beach and Little Beach daily, a $5.00 parking fee for 30 days would be $150.00. This could change our outlook on visiting Maui. We are on fixed income. FYI, Janet Jones, [redacted], Reno, NV 89512

kamsunset@aol.com
11/18/2009 05:36 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@Hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Makena Beach

I am writing in opposition to the parking fees that may be charged for public parking at Big Beach. This beautiful beach should be free for all to enjoy not just the ones who can afford it.

jfam815@aol.com
11/18/2009 03:38 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Parking Fees at State Paqrks

To whom it may concern;

We are sending this email to voice our concern over the possibility of parking fees being set up at Hawaii State Parks starting in 2010.

First and foremost, let me say that we do understand in this tight economic climate that all government entities are having a hard time and are looking for ways to increase revenue.
But, having said that, the park going public are also having a difficult time making ends meet. My husband and I are not residents of Hawaii, but visit 1 to 2 times a year for the past 5 years.
We are daily beach goers and it is our greatest pleasure. To have to pay a daily parking fee will definitely keep us away from the beaches and maybe change our vacation destination.
Because as we all know it is extremely expensive to come and spend time in your beautiful state.

But what about the residents of Hawaii? How will they be able to afford to go to the beautiful beaches in the place they call home? Having lived on Oahu for 5 years , I know that going to the parks and beaches is one of the great pastimes on the weekends. And it is FREE!

As far as we know, no information has been given about the logistics of implementing this at the state parks. How many new employees will be hired to collect fees and enforce them?
And at what cost? How long will it take to pay for these employees before the monies go into the intended fund? It seems ludicrous to hire new employees for this purpose while public school teachers are being furloughtel 17 Fridays this school year. Also it is unclear where the monies will go.

Please keep the beautiful beaches of Hawaii accessible and affordable to all.

Sincerely,

Julian & Joan Foldes
Chandler, AZ

MAUI TOMORROW FOUNDATION, INC.

Protecting Maui's Future

Mark Sheehan *President*
Rob Parsons *Vice President*
Trip Lynch *Treasurer*
Judith Michaels *Secretary*
Lance Holter
Richard Michaels
Maury King
Elle Cochran
Michael Duberstein
Kai Nishiki
Mike Foley
Irene Bowie *Executive Director*

November 18, 2009

Dept. of Land and Natural Resources
Attn: Recreational Renaissance Rules
P.O. Box 621
Honolulu, HI 96809

Aloha DLNR staff,

Maui Tomorrow Foundation, Inc. submits the following comments regarding Recreational Renaissance Plan B as it pertains to Makena State Park.

As one of the named stakeholders, recognized by the Maui County Council, and charged with making recommendations to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources and Maui County Parks & Recreation Department in the development of a new master plan for Makena State Park, we feel that the master plan must come prior to any changes at Makena State Park in relation to Plan B.

There are no details put forth in Plan B as to how the taking of fees from visitors would be implemented. Would widening of the road; fencing off of access areas; and the leasing of concessions be allowed? These issues and more must be addressed before DLNR can consider implanting Plan B at Makena State Park.

Makena State Park is a heavily used resource and carrying capacity, environmental and cultural concerns and the desires of the community must be thoroughly examined prior to further infrastructure and other impacts affecting this precious resource.

We ask that "Plan B" implementation with regard to the state park at Makena be held in abeyance until the completion & acceptance of a master plan for the park and look forward to working together with you and your staff in the creation of this document.

Sincerely,

Irene Bowie

Irene Bowie
Executive Director

55 N. Church Street, Suite A-5 • Wailuku, HI 96793 • Phone/Fax: 808.244.7570 • aina@maui-tomorrow.org • www.maui-tomorrow.org

"Gareth"
<gareth@htahawaii.org>
11/17/2009 12:58 PM

To <recreationalrenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject Recreational Renaissance Rules

History: This message has been forwarded.

Aloha, attached is Hawaii Transportation Association's comments on the Department of Land & Natural Resources parking fee proposal for parks.

Mahalo,

Gareth K. Sakakida
Managing Director
Hawaii Transportation Association
P.O. Box 30166
Honolulu, Hawaii 96820
Ph: 808-833-6628
Fax: 808-833-8486 DLNR Paking Fees.pdf

Hawaii Transportation Association
Driving Hawaii's Economy

November 17, 2009

Department of Land & Natural Resources
Attn: Recreational Renaissance Rules
P.O. Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

TESTIMONY ON THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES' RECREATIONAL RENAISSANCE RULES
(HAR Chapter 13-146, "Hawaii State Park System")

Thank you Small Business Regulatory Review Board. I am Gareth Sakakida, Managing Director of the Hawaii Transportation Association (HTA) which has 420 transportation related members throughout the state of Hawaii.

HTA opposes the proposal of parking fees for various parks throughout the state.

This proposal sets a bad precedence for the visitor industry where we will now be charging for the opportunity to merely view panoramic vistas and take photographs.

Unlike National Parks or the Diamond Head State Monument, the parks in question have no activities associated with them. There are no hiking or camping opportunities. There are not even restroom facilities or security.

The sightseeing stop might last for 15 - 20 minutes (buses are allowed a maximum of 15 minutes to allow passengers to merely take photos of the Hanauma Bay area). Paying $40 for 20 minutes of picture taking and looking at the scenery is excessive.

It is unfair as it targets visitors who arrive at the park via a commercial vehicle (regulated by the PUC) or commercially obtained vehicle (rental cars).

The collection of fees, and methodology, is dumped onto the commercial vehicle operator. How do you recoup the cost of a per vehicle fee when the number of passengers vary greatly trip to trip?

Only the honest companies end up paying fees as they are properly marked as required by the Public Utilities Commission and the Department of Transportation. Other vehicles who illegally transport visitors are disguised as general public vehicles and will not pay. Everyone needs to pay.

The general public also takes visitors to parks in their private vehicles and should be required to pay.

It is unfair as it targets visitors.

Revenue from the fees will be used for the maintenance / improvement / construction at other parks where the general public will benefit, so it behooves the general public to participate in the payment of any fees.

There is no balance of pricing between vehicles.

A $5 fee for a rental car runs a per head charge of between $5 and $1 per person.
Or, based on 20 minutes, a range of $.25 - $.05 per person, per minute.
A $10 fee for a 1-7 PUC vehicle runs a range of $10 - $1.42 per person.
Or, based on 20 minutes, a range of $.50 - $.07 per person, per minute.
A $20 fee for an 8-25 PUC vehicle runs a range of $2.50 - $.8 per person.
Or, based on 20 minutes, a range of $.125 - $.04 per person, per minute.
A $40 fee for a 25+ PUC vehicle runs a range of $40 - $.88 per person.
Or, based on 20 minutes, a range of $2 - $.04 per person, per minute.

Transportation companies must operate within means and not overburden the industry they serve. Government must do the same!

Commercial passenger motor carriers have been ravaged by dropping business volumes for over two years and are facing unprecedented low levels with nothing encouraging on the horizon. Some segments of the industry are experiencing a loss of half their activity so have been downsizing and cutting costs all this time.

The industry has not increased prices because there is no money out there to sustain that. Everyone is reducing expenses. No one is balancing their budget.

So having government step in and mandate additional fees or higher taxes to operate creates undue burdens on business and the public.

Everyone is cutting costs, and making do with less. Government must do the same and the public must accept the fact that government will have less too.

Thank you,

Gareth K. Sakakida
Managing Director

Dale Evans
<dale@charleystaxi.com>
11/17/2009 02:57 PM

To <dpalcovi@dbedt.hawaii.gov>, <lynne@billwoods.com>, <Dorvin@leisinc.com>, <djr@bigislandtoyota.com>, <hawnnut@hialoha.net>, <Hildgund@aol.com>,
cc <RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov>
bcc
Subject SBRRB 11/15/09 agenda re PROTEST of Parks parking fees

November 17, 2009

SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY REVIEW BOARD
c/o SBRRB Business Advocate (staff) dpalcovi@dbedt.hawaii.gov

SBRRB Meeting Agenda Wed 11/18/09, 10:30 am
250 So. Hotel St., Cf. Rm. 410
http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/business/start_grow/small-business-info/sbrrb/November%2018,%202009.pdf

TESTIMONY OF CHARLEY'S TAXI in strong opposition to DLNR's assessment of parking fees at Nuuanu Pali and Scenic Lookouts
By Dale Evans, President & General Manager

re DLNR Rule-Making for Hawaii State Park System
http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/recreate/planb/SP-HAR-Changes
<http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/recreate/planb/SP-HAR-Changes>

We protest DLNR's Rule-Making Process as to the parking fees approved by the Land Board at its August 14, 2009 meeting.
See Rule-Making checklist for "Small Business Impact Statement" delivered to SBRRB on 9/08/09
See attached: SCN_20091113132305.pdf

- DLNR's failed to provide notice and hearings to taxicab and other transportation and tour company stakeholders of its August 14, 2009 meeting agenda to impose parking charges at state parks including Nuuanu Pali scenic lookout, thus depriving us from providing relevant important testimony and input prior to board's decision.

- *Paragraph B.7 (page 7)*

"The Board of Land and Natural Resources at its August 14, 2009 meeting approved the collection of parking fees for 8 signature parks on the premise that some of the locations will eventually be transitioned into entry fees."

Before even seeking input and views from stakeholders, DLNR appears to have already approved the fee schedule for parking fees at signature parks.

- *See H-1, P 3 under (b)*
http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/chair/meeting/submittals/090814/H-Submittals-SP-1.PDF

The following parking fees shall be applied:
General Public
Resident: *no charge*

Visitor: *$5 per vehicle ($3 at Nuuanu Pali due to limited stay of visitors)*

Commercial Vehicles regulated by the PUC:
1-7 passenger vehicles *$10*
8 -25 passenger vehicles *$20*
25+ passenger vehicles *$40*

Will the parking fees for taxicabs be free, or same as $3 (for car rentals) or same as $10 (for 1-7 PUC vehicles)?

- *Paragraph B.2 (page 3)*

We refute DLNR's denial in that (2) such new/changed rules will cause a direct and significant burden upon small business(es), and (3) will directly relate to the formation, operation or expansion of a small business. We agree with DLNR's stated recognition in subparagraph (1) that the proposed rule(s) will affect small business.

- *Paragraph B.3 (pages 4-5): "Plans for the parking fees will be discussed in public community meetings before any on the ground implementation. During the rule making process, the public discussion on entry fees would be conducted."*

DLNR's plans are vague and unspecific as to whether the amount of the parking fees, as well as the method of collections, are to be considered.

- *Paragraph B.4 (page 5)*

By approving the parking fee for Nuuanu Pali, DLNR board 's shows little understanding of the marketing impacts of charging for parking at scenic lookouts. The stop at Nuuanu Pali is brief (less than 20 minutes typically). A parking fee for "scenic lookouts" is probably a "first" in the USA at least: $3 for tourists in a private (rental) car is ridiculous.

The reference to only "commercial tour bus companies for their non-resident patrons" ignores or dismisses the parking fee impact on 1-7 and 8-25 passenger commercial vehicles. Is DLNR only concerned about "big tourbus companies" and not the small independent carriers?

- *Paragraph B.5 (page 6)*

We refute the state's denial of the parking fees having "no impact" on the tourism economy. This fee sends a strong and bad message to visitors: Hawaii targets tourists mainly for higher and discriminatory taxes and fees."

- *Paragraph B, 8, 9, 10, 11 (pages 7-8)*

Is there a new or increased fee or fine?
Will the proposed rule affect small business?
Was the departmental advisory committee on small business or other businesses or organizations consulted during he drafting of the proposed rule, and were the committee's recommendations, if any, incorporated into the proposed rule?
Did the Small Business Regulatory Rview Board or a small business make any recommendation to the department or agency regarding the need for any rule change that may be related to the proposed rule?

DLNR's Small Business Impact Statement" is superficial, hasty and cursory. Its failure to answer these important questions tells of its cavalier attitude about transparency for stakeholders and the general public to be affected.

COMMENTS TO DLNR RE PARKING FEES
See attached

We request you require DLNR to conduct a transparent and conscientious effort to analyze the economic and business impacts on small businesses and their customers of any of its proposed rule changes.

Respectfully submitted,
Dale Evans, President & General Manager

SCN_20091113132305.pdf protest to SBRRB re DLNR parking fees comments to DLNR 11.16.09

Charley's Taxi
LIMOUSINES VANS & TOURS
The way to go.
Since 1938
www.charleystaxi.com

November 16, 2009

Board of Land & Natural Resources
Laura H. Thielen, Chairman
John Morgan, Oahu
Robert Pacheco, Hawaii
Ron Agor, Kauai
Jerry Edlao, Maui
David Goode, At Large
Dr. Samuel M. Gon III, At Large

COMMENTS of Charley's Taxi & Limousine
In Strong Opposition to Charges for parking at State Parks (Nuuanu Pali lookout)
Re RECREATIONAL RENAISSANCE PLAN B

"State Parks need money"

We don't question the need and conditions of the State Parks system and its "Recreational Renaissance" plan.

However, we strongly object to your misguided approval on August 14, 2009 to charge outrageously exorbitant parking fees for Nuuanu Pali (particularly as to any Scenic Lookout) and other state parks. Using parking fees as expedient to entrance or access fees is foolish and harmful.

Phony Pretexts

Imposing highly excessive parking charges to help underwrite the broader costs of DLNR's "Recreational Renaissance" plan unacceptably extends the scope of a "user fee" dedicated for a specific purpose.

Assessing parking charges to use the same currently available parking spaces — already paid for by taxpayers – offers nothing new or different.

Disguising "parking fees" as Entrance or Access Fees is deceptive and improper.

Charging for parking for a stop at a "Scenic Lookout" is nonsense — a very bad precedent. Visitors stay briefly (probably 20-minues maximum) for viewing and taking pictures. (What's next: Hanauma Bay, Diamond Head Lookout?)

680 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 303, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5409 Ph: (808) 531-2333 Fax: (808) 533-1161 email: info@charleystaxi.com

The greater risk for our Tourism Industry is depriving visitors from experiencing the natural beauty that are popular visitor attractions. The overall impact of onerous fees is for government to try taking a bigger share of disposable visitor spending.

Onerous charges

Visitors to Nuuanu Pali are not picnicking, hiking, staying for hours at a time.

Twenty minutes (20") is the typical stop at Nuuanu Pali. The approved parking charges are excessive and exceeds the value of tourists "having a look".

$3 for visitors in car rentals = 15-cents (20" stop average per minute)
$10 for 1-7 passenger vehicles = 50-cents "
$20 for 8-25 passenger vehicles = $1 "
$40 for 25+ passenger vehicles = $2 "

$3 for visitors in car rentals = $1.50 per person (1.6 avg per car)
$10 for 1-7 passenger vehicles = $6.26 pp (1.6 avg per car)
$20 for 8-25 passenger vehicles = $1.81 pp (11 avg per minibus)
$40 for 25+ passenger vehicles = $1.14 pp (35 avg per bus

Actually, the charges are minimums no matter how short the stop is; the charge are also a maximum, no matter how long the stop is.

There is no showing of comparisons between Hawaii's parking charges per se with parks in other places. Apparently, the proposed parking charges are deemed part of access fees and permits at other parks.

Gouging small transportation businesses

See H-1, P 3 under (b)
http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/chair/meeting/submittals/090814/H-Submittals-SP-1.PDF

The following parking fees shall be applied:
General Public

Resident:	no charge
Visitor:	$5 per vehicle ($3 at Nuuanu Pali due to limited stay of visitors)

Commercial Vehicles regulated by the PUC:

1-7 passenger vehicles	$10
8 -25 passenger vehicles	$20
25+ passenger vehicles	$40

Economic Impact & Discriminatory Pricing

Residents are exempt from parking charges. Car rental users will pay $3 but commercial passenger vehicles will be charged $10, $20 and $40. Why should the 1-7 passenger vehicles pay three times as much as car rentals to use equivalent sized parking spaces?

What is the parking charge for taxicabs?

Most taxicabs are not PUC-licensed. Will taxicabs be charged $3, $10 or -0-? And if a driver has a PUC license on his vehicle but is working on the taxicab meter, will he be charged $10?

Recouping Parking Fee is prohibited by ordinance.
http://www.co.honolulu.hi.us/refs/roh/12.htm

Taxicab drivers are prohibited from charging customers for fees not specified in the Taxicab Ordinance. Therefore drivers will be forced to suffer a total loss (cost of parking fee). Honolulu's Taxicab Ordinance specifically prohibits charging for anything not specifically authorized by the Ordinance and by Administrative Rules of the Dept. of Customer Services. Parking fees is not permitted to be charged by ordinance.

ROH 12-1.10 © (1) When Fares or Charges Permitted. Fares are only applicable to the use of the taxicab when actually occupied by or standing at the direction of the passenger for hire or when occupied by parcels or baggage transported for hire; provided, that no other charges shall be made for the use of a taxicab for hire except as provided herein.

Trip Refusal is prohibited by ordinance
http://www.co.honolulu.hi.us/refs/roh/12.htm

Taxicab driver can't circumvent the charge by refusing service to customers going to Pali. Taxicab Ordinance specifically prohibits trip refusal. Therefore if the driver cannot charge the customer for a fee mandated by the state parks department, the driver cannot refuse service and therefore is forced to absorb the loss.

ROH 12-1.4 Prohibited Acts, (c) Responding to Calls. The operator of a taxicab or taxicab company shall not refuse to furnish an unengaged, available taxicab and driver during the business hours of such taxicab or taxicab company upon call or request from an orderly person located within two miles of such stand, by the most direct street route. No taxicab driver, while on duty and not engaged in another call, shall fail to drive an available taxicab in response to a call or request from an orderly person.

The industry's image and reputation will be tarnished as some taxi drivers may develop a rude and surly attitude when visitors ask to go to Nuuanu Pali — simply because some drivers will ward off taking a money-losing trip.

Bad timing.

Now is the worst time to impose new and higher taxes and fees when the economy is in a severe recession and businesses are struggling to stay alive.

Visitors have less money to spend during their vacations. Visitor spending is down, visitor stays are shorter and hotel occupancy has dropped significantly.

Most businesses are slashing prices and cutting expenses in order to produce and sustain market activity in this time of severe recession. DLNR is wrong to pirate new and high user fees from tourists and the small businesses serving them.

Gouging tourists and small businesses seems of little concern to DLNR. Misapplying a parking fee to help underwrite costs for a massive Park Renaissance plan is symbolic of government's voracious and tyrannical powers.

Respectfully submitted,
Dale Evans, President

Charley's Taxi
LIMOUSINES VANS & TOURS
The way to go.
Since 1938
www.charleystaxi.com

November 17, 2009

SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY REVIEW BOARD
c/o SBRRB Business Advocate (staff) dpalcovi@dbedt.hawaii.gov

SBRRB Meeting Agenda Wed 11/18/09, 10:30 am
250 So. Hotel St., Cf. Rm. 410
http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/business/start_grow/small-business-info/sbrrb/November%2018,%202009.pdf

TESTIMONY OF CHARLEY'S TAXI in strong opposition to DLNR's assessment of parking fees at Nuuanu Pali and Scenic Lookouts
By Dale Evans, President & General Manager

re DLNR Rule-Making for Hawaii State Park System
http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/recreate/planb/SP-HAR-Changes

We protest DLNR's Rule-Making Process as to the parking fees approved by the Land Board at its August 14, 2009 meeting. See Rule-Making checklist for "Small Business Impact Statement" delivered to SBRRB on 9/08/09
See attached: SCN_20091113132305.pdf

- DLNR's failed to provide notice and hearings to taxicab and other transportation and tour company stakeholders of its August 14, 2009 meeting agenda to impose parking charges at state parks including Nuuanu Pali scenic lookout, thus depriving us from providing relevant important testimony and input prior to board's decision.

- *Paragraph B.7 (page 7)*

"The Board of Land and Natural Resources at its August 14, 2009 meeting approved the collection of parking fees for 8 signature parks on the premise that some of the locations will eventually be transitioned into entry fees."

680 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 303, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5409 Ph: (808) 531-2333 Fax: (808) 533-1161 email: info@charleystaxi.com

Before even seeking input and views from stakeholders, DLNR appears to have already approved the fee schedule for parking fees at signature parks.

- *See H-1, P 3 under (b)*
http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/chair/meeting/submittals/090814/H-Submittals-SP-1.PDF

The following parking fees shall be applied:
General Public
Resident: *no charge*
Visitor: *$5 per vehicle ($3 at Nuuanu Pali due to limited stay of visitors)*

Commercial Vehicles regulated by the PUC:
1-7 passenger vehicles *$10*
8 -25 passenger vehicles *$20*
25+ passenger vehicles *$40*

Will the parking fees for taxicabs be free, or same as $3 (for car rentals) or same as $10 (for 1-7 PUC vehicles)?

- *Paragraph B.2 (page 3)*

We refute DLNR's denial in that (2) such new/changed rules will cause a direct and significant burden upon small business(es), and (3) will directly relate to the formation, operation or expansion of a small business. We agree with DLNR's stated recognition in subparagraph (1) that the proposed rule(s) will affect small business.

- *Paragraph B.3 (pages 4-5): "Plans for the parking fees will be discussed in public community meetings before any on the ground implementation. During the rule making process, the public discussion on entry fees would be conducted."*

DLNR's plans are vague and unspecific as to whether the amount of the parking fees, as well as the method of collections, are to be considered.

- *Paragraph B.4 (page 5)*

By approving the parking fee for Nuuanu Pali, DLNR board 's shows little understanding of the marketing impacts of charging for parking at scenic lookouts. The stop at Nuuanu Pali is brief (less than 20 minutes typically). A parking fee for "scenic lookouts" is probably a "first" in the USA

at least: $3 for tourists in a private (rental) car is ridiculous.

The reference to only "commercial tour bus companies for their non-resident patrons" ignores or dismisses the parking fee impact on 1-7 and 8-25 passenger commercial vehicles. Is DLNR only concerned about "big tourbus companies" and not the small independent carriers?

- *Paragraph B.5 (page 6)*

We refute the state's denial of the parking fees having "no impact" on the tourism economy. This fee sends a strong and bad message to visitors: Hawaii targets tourists mainly for higher and discriminatory taxes and fees."

- *Paragraph B, 8, 9, 10, 11 (pages 7-8)*

Is there a new or increased fee or fine?
Will the proposed rule affect small business?
Was the departmental advisory committee on small business or other businesses or organizations consulted during he drafting of the proposed rule, and were the committee's recommendations, if any, incorporated into the proposed rule?
Did the Small Business Regulatory Rview Board or a small business make any recommendation to the department or agency regarding the need for any rule change that may be related to the proposed rule?

DLNR's Small Business Impact Statement" is superficial, hasty and cursory. Its failure to answer these important questions tells of its cavalier attitude about transparency for stakeholders and the general public to be affected.

COMMENTS TO DLNR RE PARKING FEES
See attached

We request you require DLNR to conduct a transparent and conscientious effort to analyze the economic and business impacts on small businesses and their customers of any of its proposed rule changes.

Respectfully submitted,
Dale Evans, President & General Manager

"hay_man@juno.com"
<hay_man@juno.com>
11/17/2009 06:54 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Parking fees

It has been brought to our attention that a $5/day parking fee is being considered for non-residents at Makena State Beach. We feel that if the parking fee is implemented it should be paid by all whether resident or non-resident. The parks are for everyone to use and by only charging non-residents it is a discriminatory fee. Everyone who uses the parks should be happy to pay to keep them in good repair.

Our only concern is the effect that it would have on Makena State Park as to the implementation of collecting the fee and whether it would impede traffic along the roadway.

Thank you,

David & Kathi Hussman

TJB9000@aol.com
11/17/2009 06:38 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Makena State Park

I have been a visitor to Maui every year since 1985 and always enjoy Makena Beach so much. It is most disappointing to hear that you are planning to charge visitors $5 a day to park there. There is no way to get to Makena without driving. It almost sounds as if you do not want visitors to Maui. Are there criteria for deciding what beaches will be "selected" for this type of treatment? Clearly, there is not much money spent on "upkeep" at Makena.

I hope that in your deliberations, you will decide that charging visitors for visiting the beach is not in keeping with the "Aloha Spirit."

Sincerely, Tim Burke, San Francisco

Cliffsfo@aol.com
11/17/2009 06:50 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Parking Charge at Makena Beach

It has come to my attention that you are planning to charge those of us who visit Maui every year $5 a day to park at Makena Beach. I would be interested to know how you decide which beaches to pick on. You have no public transportation to Makena Beach. Walking from Kihei or Wailea is not a practical alternative. I have been visiting Maui for over 20 years and cannot imagine why you would start punishing us now. A God created beach with little or no maintenance deserves better. I hope you will reconsider this olan to punish those of us who love Maui.

Clifford B. Stevenson
San Francisco, CA

"Carole"
<abraham4@shaw.ca>
11/16/2009 04:07 PM

To <RecreationalRenaissance@Hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject Re:Parking fees at Makena Beach

Hi, i'm a regular at mekena beach and i only get there once a year IF i can, charging to park is another expence i was not expecting :-(

I don't agree with this.....at ALL!!!!!!!

karendclauson@aol.com
11/13/2009 04:03 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Makena State Park

I would like to oppose the proposed $5 parking fee for Makena State Park Beach.
-Karen Clauson

Jim & Linda Idoine
<jimlindamaui@yahoo.com>
11/15/2009 06:20 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Parking fees at Makena

The idea that you will make money by charging the tourists to park at Makena beach is a step backward. It will cost you hundreds of thousands of dollars to implement this plan would require you to totally rebuild and expand the current parking lots 10 times their size . You would have to hire at least 6 fee collectors, build restrooms for the employs and the public. South Makena rd. would need to be rebuilt so the lines of people who want to park wont stop traffic on the roadway. The biggest detriment would be just one more reason for the tourists to go some where else where they aren't being bled to death. You are pricing the tourists out of your market,we need all the visitors we can get.The reason we have come to maui since the mid 80's is Makena beach. If we had had to pay $5.00 a day to use the beach , for 4 months each year we would not have been able to afford being here, and would not have bought our home here. Your plan is not thought out , it will drive away business at a time when no one here can afford to lose any more of the business. You should be looking for ways to help the local business people not hamstring them. This plan will cost far more than it will ever bring in. Jim & Linda Idoine

<alonedge@alaska.net>
11/15/2009 09:20 AM

To <RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject Parking fee consideration for Makena State Park

Subject: Parking fee consideration for Makena State Park

To: Whom it may concern:>
> It has come to my attention that local publications have indicated that
> under proposed rule changes under consideration an intention to impose a
> $ 5 parking fee for non-residents at Makena State Park has been
> indicated. As a 34-year visitor to Maui and a daily user of the beaches
> at Makena over a three month stay each winter I would find the imposition
> of such a fee a serious deterent coming to Maui in the future.
>
> I find it incredible that in the face of our severe economic national
> crisis with over 15,000,000 people unemployed resulting in significant
> losses of available tourist dollars that any tourist destination fighting
> for the shrinking market would pick now to increase cost to visitors in
> ANY category. Not only that, but given the nature of the Makena parking
> situation, and the limited number of park attendees, I'm sure you would
> find that the COST OF IMPLEMENTING THE FEES WOULD FAR EXCEED THE REVENUE
> GENERATED.
>
> Have you considered doing a cost analysis of such a parking fee. Do you
> know
how many non-residents use the parking lot per day, per month? How much
money
will actually be generated? Here are some issues you may want to further
consider:
>
> 1. Collection booths and traffic systems of some kind will have to
> built, maintained and secured at the entrance of the two main parking
> lots.
>
> 2. Personnel will need to be staffed at each during all hours of
> operation. Procedures preventing collection abuses will need to be
> implemented.
>
> 3. Additional overhead costs of collection, ticketing, accounting,
> enforcement and security systems will have to established.
>
> 4. As the word gets out, people will simply park along the narrow two
> lane road to avoid entering the 'official' parking lots and then walk in
> to the beach to escape paying the fee.
>
> 5. This would then create new traffic problems and hazards and cause
> needless additional traffic enforcement problems.
>
> 6. There would be no way to tell whether these cars belonged to residents
> or visitors.
>
> 7. Charging a fee automatically creates a contract under which the county
> would be legally responsible and liable for all damages, losses and
> thefts to any of the fee paying vehicles.

>
> 8. Attendance would fall off as most short term tourists upon learning of
> the fee would simply opt out and stick to all the other free beaches
> available. That would further increase the cost to revenue ratio.
>
> 9. Weekends and especially Sundays would become a traffic nightmare since
> vehicles will back up, congest, and tempers will run short as delays
> build up. The road past the park will have to be widened
since traffic will back up waiting to be be allowed into the parking area.
If the road is not widened, accidents may very likely occur and Hawaii
will be sued as a result of causing a road blockage. Residents living south
of Makena will be inconvenienced as they wait to get past the traffic jams
caused by others waiting access to the beach.
>
> 10. The last and biggest consideration is that HAWAII IS IN A DESPERATE
> COMPETITION FOR THE DECREASING
AVAILABLE TOURIST DOLLAR and every effort should be
made to ENCOURAGE and REWARD the potential visitor for
choosing Hawaii over the enticement of all the other tropical destinations
offering discounts and promotions to try to compete and fight for their
share of the diminishing tourist numbers and DOLLARS.>
>
> Thank you for your consideration. I hope my family and I can continue to
> choose Maui for our annual winter vacation and that reconsideration and
> wisdom will prevail.
>
>
>
> Mahalo,
>
>
> Al & JoAnn Carson
[redacted]
Anchorage, Ak 99516>
>
>
>
>
>
>

Johnny Dwork
<johnny21370@yahoo.com>
11/13/2009 06:01 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Makena Parking Fee?!

Aloha,

Regarding your recently announced plan to start charging a $5 per car parking fee for use of Makena beaches:

1) Where is the income supposed to go and how much do you really think this project would generate? I would hope that you first plan to do a study of other projects of the same scope and purpose. You will find that, when parks departments are finished paying for the various impact studies, architectural plans, community meetings, public announcements, construction of attendant's booth, gates, signage, and the ongoing attendant's fees and benefits, only a small amount of usable money is actually generated....at the additional cost of creating more traffic and more anger amongst tax payers and tourists.

2) Have you seriously considered how horribly traffic would back up on that road if all cars must stop to pay a fee. I just spent 15 minutes waiting on line to get into the Parks Dept. parking lot out at 7 Pools...at the end of the day (!)...when there were only 4 cars ahead of us. Imagine what it will be like when you have a line of 100 (or more) cars backed up on that two lane road on a Saturday. Imagine how pissed off the local residents will be (who pay a hefty property tax, mind you) and how their property values will decline and how, when they start selling their homes, income from property taxes will decline. Imagine how many people would then be late for beach-side weddings, snorkel classes, etc. that happen a bit further down that road.

3) Dare to take an honest look at another supposedly well-intended Makena Park project: the abysmal failure of the $15,000 picnic table/concrete installation along the path from the parking lot to Big Beach. You put a picnic table downwind of toilets that are always improperly serviced and therefore stink constantly!!! This project did accomplish two things very well: a) it pissed away tax dollars on a useless installation and b) it demonstrates perfectly how government bureaucracy can fail to serve tax payers.

c) How in God's name can you propose such a unpopular plan when Maui's public school teachers are being furloughed this year? With all due respect - because I know that yours is a completely different department than the

Dept. of Education - but if you proceed with this public relations debacle while being aware of this great educational injustice, then you will indeed be perceived as doing the Devil's work. Really, how could you sleep at night knowing this?

Mark my words: If you go through with this plan my peers and I will stop frequenting Makena, as well as all the stores, restaurants and gas stations we spend our money at. You might make some cash from tourists, but you will be killing the life blood of this island.

Most Sincerely,
Johnny Dwork
[redacted] Hana Highway

Mark

George Lukens
<glukens@alaska.com>
Sent by: glukens@alaska.com

11/11/2009 11:28 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov

cc dave swanson <mauidaves@hawaiiantel.net>, alonedge@alaska.net, Anthony Lawrence Greco <algmaui13@gmail.com>, Ed & Sharon Hopkins

bcc

Subject Parking fee consideration for Makena State Park

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It has come to my attention that local publications have indicated that under proposed rule changes under consideration an intention to impose a $ 5 parking fee for non-residents at Makena State Park has been indicated. As a thirty-seven year visitor to Maui and a daily user of the beaches at Makena over a four to six month stay each winter I would find the imposition of such a fee onerous to the point that I would seriously consider not coming to Maui in the future.

I find it incredible that in the face of our severe economic national crisis with over 15,000,000 people unemployed resulting in significant losses of available tourist dollars that any tourist destination fighting for the shrinking market would pick now to increase cost to visitors in ANY category. Not only that, but given the nature of the Makena parking situation, and the limited number of park attendees, I'm sure you would find that the COST OF IMPLEMENTING THE FEES WOULD FAR EXCEED THE REVENUE GENERATED.

Consider the following:

1. Collection booths and traffic systems of some kind will have to built, maintained and secured at the entrance of the two main parking lots.

2. Personnel will need to be staffed at each during all hours of operation. Procedures preventing collection abuses will need to be implemented.

3. Additional overhead costs of collection, ticketing, accounting, enforcement and security systems will have to established.

4. As the word gets out, people will simply park along the narrow two lane road to avoid entering the 'official' parking lots and then walk in to the beach to escape paying the fee.

5. This would then create new traffic problems and hazards and cause needless additional traffic enforcement problems.

6. There would be no way to tell whether these cars belonged to residents or visitors.

7. Charging a fee automatically creates a contract under which the

county would be legally responsible and liable for all damages, losses and thefts to any of the fee paying vehicles.

8. Attendance would fall off as most short term tourists upon learning of the fee would simply opt out and stick to all the other free beaches available. That would further increase the cost to revenue ratio.

9. Weekends and especially Sundays would become a traffic nightmare since vehicles will back up, congest, and tempers will run short as delays build up.

10. The last and biggest consideration is that HAWAII IS IN A DESPERATE COMPETITION FOR THE DECREASING AVAILABLE TOURIST DOLLAR and every effort should be made to ENCOURAGE and REWARD the potential visitor for choosing Hawaii over the enticement of all the other tropical destinations offering discounts and promotions to try to compete and fight for their share of the diminishing tourist numbers.

Thank you for your consideration, I hope my family and I can continue to choose Maui for our annual winter vacation and that reconsideration and wisdom will prevail.

Mahalo,

George Lukens
[redacted]
Anchorage, Alaska 99515

billmccormack@comcast.net
11/11/2009 06:34 AM

To "." <RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject Makena Parking Fee

Aloha,

As a part time resident of Maui, I have always enjoyed Makena Beach park. There is a diverse crowd of locals and tourists every day of the week. This would be limited if a fee were charged for parking. Kam I, II, III would then be overly crowded during the week, as they already are on the weekends.
Please also consider the full financial impact of putting up a Toll Booth and staffing.

Sincerely,
Bill McCormack
[redacted]
Kula, HI

"steve bennett"
<steve@altpdx.com>
11/11/2009 07:40 AM

To <RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject Fees for Makena Beach and other state parks

I HAVE JUST LEARNED OF THE PLAN TO BEGIN CHARGING DAILY PARKING FEES FOR THE PARKS AND BEACH. I DO NOT BELIEVE THIS IS A GOOD IDEA AT ALL. I HAVE ENJOYED GOING TO LITTLE BEACH AND BIG BEACH OVER THE YEARS AND I AM AGAINST CHARGING A PARKING FEE FOR NON-RESIDENTS TO ENJOY THE BEACH. THE BEACH SHOULD NOT COST MONEY ANYWHERE IN HAWAII.

Steve Bennett, Principal Broker, GRI, CRS
Portland's Alternative Realtors
[redacted]
Portland, OR. 97214
[redacted]

Angelo Dinoto
<adinoto@clearwire.net>
11/11/2009 10:02 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject $5.for.parking.@.Makena.State.Park....Get.a.Life!

Whose.ever.small.brain.this.idea.came.from.to.charge.money.to.go.to.the.beach.needs.some.electro-shock.therapy.to.set.their.brain.correctly.
Time.was.anyone.could.park.on.the.beach.now.there.are.locked.gates.
and.closing.times.
This.is.not.progress.this.is.regression,and.repression
...Picking.the.pockets.of.people.
suffering.from.double.digit.unemployment.is.a.miserly.criminal.thought.
If.your.state.needs.money.get.it.in.ways.that.does.not.incite.people.to.
riot.
Overtaxing.is.the.best.way.to.create.hatred.of.government.to.the.point.
that.people.will.start.lashing.back.at.the.government.
Instituting.moronic.policies.as.this.beach.parking.fee.is.enough.to.force
some.to.fight.back.in.ways.that.are.regretable.
Such.an.idea.I'm.sure.was.vomited.by.someone.who.doesn't.even.go.
to.the.beach.and.the.pressure.on.them.was.to.make.the.state.more.
money.
Not.only.will.it.cause.unrest.people.will.leave.the.islands.and.there.
goes.your.economy...W/out.people.you.have.no.economy.
Like.any.business.you.have.to.give.something.to.get.something.back.
unless.if.you.are.a.CORRUPT.STATE.GOVERNMENT.staffed.by.
business.IDIOTS.
You.try.something.like.this.and.there.will.be.fall-out.
See.your.own.value.as.a.STATE.and.generate.income.in.a.respectful,
responsible.fashion..Stop.looking.in.my.pocket.for.your.fiscal.solutions!
Angelo.Dinoto

"Kent Sjolander"
<cksjo@hawaii.rr.com>
11/11/2009 07:06 AM

To <RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject Proposed Park use fees

Aloha,

I would support the fees only if the income guarantees that the parks will be staffed with life guards and other amenities be kept up to standard and/or improved. If this is just a way for the State to get more money and then cut park service anyway, I would be against the proposal.

Kent Sjolander
Maui

ONELOA COALITION

Working to ensure the preservation of historical and cultural sites and the natural ecology of Oneloa State Park

November 11, 2009

Dept. of Land and Natural Resources
Attn: Recreational Renaissance Rules
P.O. Box 621
Honolulu, HI 96809

Aloha DLNR staff,

Oneloa Coalition is a group consisting of Surfrider Foundation, Savemakena.org, Maui Tomorrow Foundation, Kihei Community Association, and Makena Homeowners' Association, named as stakeholders by the Maui County Council in a Condition of Zoning for Makena Resort. Our charge is to make recommendations to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources and County of Maui Parks and Recreation Department in the development of a new master plan for Makena State Park.

Oneloa Coalition's goal is to ensure that this plan balances the protection of cultural practices, burial and archaeological sites with the park's recreational, landscaping, parking and facility needs and that the master plan keep the character of this "wilderness" park in place. We look to state and county government agencies as resources and advisors to this process.

While members of Oneloa Coalition realize the economic difficulties the State of Hawaii currently faces and support your efforts to find creative solutions to these funding challenges, we do, however, have particular concerns with the Recreational Renaissance Plan B in regards to Makena State Park.

We believe it is premature to include Makena State Park in Plan B as the park's master plan is not yet in place. Makena State Park is a heavily used resource and carrying capacity, environmental and cultural concerns and the desires of the community must be thoroughly examined prior to further infrastructure and other impacts affecting this precious resource.

We ask that "Plan B" implementation with regard to the state park at Makena (Oneloa) be held in abeyance until the completion & acceptance of a master plan for the park and look forward to working together with you and your staff in the creation of this document.

Sincerely,

Irene Bowie

Irene Bowie (Maui Tomorrow Foundation)
For Oneloa Coalition

55 N. Church Street • Wailuku, HI 96793 • 808.244.7570 • OneloaCoalition@gmail.com

Peprgngr@aol.com
11/11/2009 01:28 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Non-Resident Parking Fees

To Whom It May Concern regarding proposed implementation of $5/day parking fees for non-residents at certain Maui state parks:

I sincerely hope that this plan will not be implemented. My husband and I vacation on Maui for several months each year and a $5/day parking fee at Maui's most popular parks/beaches will represent a huge financial burden to us.

We manage to stay in Maui for extended vacations by expending funds carefully; nevertheless, the fact remains that we expend tens of thousands of dollars each year during these trips - please do not penalize our love for the island by charging us to park our car so that we can enjoy our favorite spots. Our dollars, and other visitors' dollars, are important to Maui's overall economy - please let us expend them in ways that are "win-win" - in ways that we feel that we are getting some real value for an expenditure, and local merchants reap the rewards of sales of goods and services to us - not an empty expense to us simply to park our car at several of our favorite destinations on the island - something we have no choice over at all and therefore feel totally taken advantage of, even to the point of being unwelcome - that's not the Maui spirit - and it's not good for the Maui economy either. Many regular visitors may decide to look for other vacation destinations where they can get better value for their hard-earned dollars.

Please keep the paradise in paradise. Please do not pass this fee and penalize non-resident visitors.

Sincerely,

Laura Kittery
Stoughton, MA

Ned Davis
<ned_p_davis@yahoo.com>
11/11/2009 03:40 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject We Object to Proposed Parking Fees at Makena

Dear Colleagues,

We very much object to the proposed parking fees at Makena State Park (and other beaches) even if the proposed fees are limited to non-residents.

One of the most wonderful things about Hawaii is that the beaches are open and free to all. Compare this to New Jersey for example where the beaches are carved up and rented out -- What an eyesore & a pain!

Because of the more remote location of Makena in particular, instituting a parking fee there is tantamount to charging admission -- no one can just walk over from their hotel in Wailea or Kihei -- it is simply not practical maybe with the sole exception of the former Prince hotel, but even that is quite a hike.

This proposed plan is much different from a parking meter or garage in Waikiki (hotels are walking distance from the beach there, it's an urban environment, sort of to be expected, many tourists don't even need a rental car there & certainly wouldn't drive it to the beach, etc)

Please do not implement this change at Makena! This would be a terrible shift in tenor, and particularly bad timing when tourism is down anyway (we need to protect our friendly image -- not degrade it).

Warmest regards,
Ned Davis & Family
Residents of Kihei, HI

Caroline Brehm
<oulserv@hawaiiantel.net>
11/11/2009 07:32 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject No Entrance Fees for Our State Parks!!

Aloha.

I recently heard of a proposal by the DLNR to allow entrance fees for all state parks. I am writing to protest this idea with the strongest possible feeling.

One of the best things about living in Hawaii is the opportunity to get out into nature, to see the whales from the lighthouse at Makapu'u, to stop at the Pali for a brief look, etc. When things are getting me down, and that's happening a lot in this horrible economy, it's wonderful to have access to a place that helps put it all into perspective, and remind me of how blessed and lucky I really am. My family and friends derive true sustenance from our visits to Hawaii's beautiful natural areas. Please don't close yet another venue of relief and pleasure to us.

Charging an entrance fee means that we won't be able to stop at the Pali for that few minutes, take that deep breath, and feel that wonderful sense of calm amid all the turmoil. We won't be getting our exercise, letting off some steam, and getting inspired by the whales as we walk up to the lighthouse.

Please don't take this away from the people of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Caroline Brehm
[redacted]
Kailua, HI 96734

Terry Morrison
<vuterry@yahoo.com>
11/11/2009 05:14 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Makena State Park

History: This message has been replied to.

I come to Maui for an escape and the beaches. I enjoy going to Little beach, I go early in the day and enjoy the quiet. This destination is great for me when I visit Maui. If this was to change it would more than likely alter my plans to visit Maui.

Respectfully Terry Morrison, Portland, OR

Matt Carr
<mattkcarr@gmail.com>
11/10/2009 07:02 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc Casey Mathison <casey@scripps.edu>, Crystal Miller <crystalyukimiller@gmail.com>
bcc
Subject Fees for Non-Residents at 'Iao and Makena State Parks

Dear Department of Land and Natural Resources Board and Staff:

I recently learned that your office has proposed to charge admission fees to non-residents at Makena and 'Iao state parks. I strongly oppose this measure. I am "born and raised," but live in California currently. It would be a slap in the face to have to pay to go to the streams and beaches that I have frequented for all of my life when I come home to visit family and friends. I greatly enjoy stopping by 'Iao stream for a half-hour or so to take a dip in the stream swimming holes I have been frequenting since I was a child when I drive downtown from my parents home in Makawao. Makena Beach is one of my favorite places on earth and to charge fees for the use of a beach strikes me as running contrary to the spirit of "free use of natural resources" that we have in Hawai'i. The beaches are free here, and should be. This is not Massachusetts or Florida; we should not have pay-to-enter beaches. I have paid taxes on Maui in the past, and my family continues to pay taxes to support these resources.

Either way, though, if the Board is going to levy fees on non-residents for access to these sites, they ought to include an exemption that people born or raised on Maui but who currently live elsewhere (think college kids, people like me who moved to the mainland for a job or other reasons) can vouch in good faith that they have lived on Maui for a minimum of, say, 5 years and can thus be granted free entrance. Sure, there could be some fraud, but it would be outweighed by the fact that to charge people like me who have gone to these resources frequently since I was a child would not be made to suddenly pay to access these resources.

The Board may also want to consider that locals who have moved to the mainland may have developed customary rights to the beach and there may be cause for a legal challenge to the levy of such fees or there may be a defense to a charge of trespass for failure to pay fees.

I simply cannot imagine being asked to pay for entrance to my beloved Makena beach and 'Iao stream. Cash to go bodysurfing?? No way!!

With aloha,

Matthew K. Carr, Esq.
(of Makawao, Maui and currently living in Sacramento, CA)

"John R Harvey"
<walleadawg28@msn.com>
11/10/2009 01:24 PM

To <RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject Park fees

This letter is to address the proposed legislation with regards to imposing fees at parks on Maui, specifically at Makena Beach. We have been traveling to Maui for 37 years. We've seen many changes, both good and bad. We spend a great deal of our time at Makena Beach. We are totally opposed to assigning fees to non-residents to attend this and other beaches. We feel as if we are like residents of this island, and have made many locals our friends. We have always appreciated island life and it's people. In fact, over the 37 years of traveling to Maui, I can honestly say, the ones who have cared most for the parks have been the visitors, not the locals. The locals leave their trash everywhere, even now, with garbage on the island becoming an issue. To charge a visitor, who already pays more than it's fare share in hotel/condo taxes, car rental taxes, etc., is deplorable. We know several couples who are not returning to Maui this next year, mainly because it is getting too expensive for them. Charging visitors to go to the parks will only defer more of them somewhere else. When are the residents going to step up to the plate and pay for the necessary services? How can you possibly think you can cover the cost of park maintenance, not withstanding the salaries that will surely be in place for park employees, when you cannot even keep the schools open and fully educate the masses. You are initiating 17 teacher furlough days because you cannot afford to keep the schools operating. Perhaps you need to become more thrifty, with regards to monies spent in Maui County. It, like most government, is extremely top heavy with personnel it does not need.

It is not up to the visitors to take care of Maui, but to the residents who live and play there. The economy is not doing favorably. We hear about all the people who are not visiting the island. More and more fees will surely take more of the vacation industry money out of Maui and on to another place. What you should be doing is educating the residents about how to keep the beach parks clean, keep the cars from being broken into, provide better and more adequate parking for all visitors, put a recycling system in place that does not require you to take all your recyclables to one location, but has curbside pick-up, like most large communities on the mainland does. We've watched the recycle bins fill up at Makena Beach only to have the garbage pick-up person put it all into one truck. It then goes into the landfill, not to recycling.

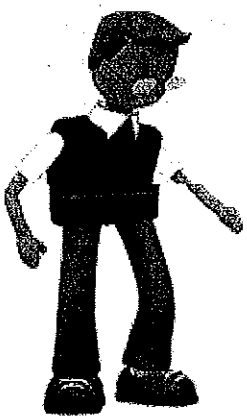
The beach parks are there for everyone to use, visitor and local alike. If you are going to charge for one, you must charge for all. We are against any fee charged for going to Makena Beach or ANY beach park on Maui. The DLNR needs to rethink this issue and come to some other conclusion that benefits all. The visitors are currently the only people keeping Maui and the other islands alive.

Respectfully,

John & Paula Harvey

Jack VanderStelt
<jkvandy2@yahoo.com>
11/10/2009 01:23 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject NO NO to FEE



No to the $5.00 fee to park at Big beach.
You are just pricing Maui out of tourist dollars We will stay home.

Jack & Karen☺

kathykarl@aol.com
11/10/2009 02:57 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Parking fees

We are opposed to the planned "Parking Fee" of $5 at Makena State Park. We have been coming to Maui nearly every year since 1988, spending our money on the island, but feel this parking fee is a bit ridiculous. During our 2 - 3 week vacation, we'd be spending about $100 to park at Big Beach.

Please do not implement this fee. Thank you!

Kathy & Karl Clauson
Phoenix, AZ

"Taylor, Denny"
<Denny_Taylor@miltoncat.com>
11/10/2009 05:38 AM

To "RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov" <RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject PARKING FEES AT MAKENA STATE PARK

January 2010 is the 15th year that we have vacationed in Maui. Our stay is usually 6-10 weeks. The primary reason we continue to go back is the group of friends that we met on our every day trips to Mekana Park. If we have to pay a $5 fee every day that adds a lot more cost to our vacation. If this fee is passed we certainly will have to look for places other then Maui to vacation in the future.

Dennis and Kathy Taylor
[redacted]
Spring Hill,Fl 34608
[redacted]

jtouss2885@aol.com
11/10/2009 05:51 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Parking fees

All you are going to do be emplementing a $5 parking fee at Makena is make everybody park on the road instead of entering the parking lot. Well this should produce a mess beyond my comprehension. No doubt the cost of collecting the fees will supercede the revenue collected. John Toussaint Lincoln NE

Peter Noyes
<pcnoyes@yahoo.com>
11/10/2009 05:55 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Makena Parking Fee

To add a parking fee to the already increased and burdensome rental tax is sure to drive more tourists away from the island, including my wife and me. Why add another fee, especially one that will most likely cost more to collect than it will generate in revenues? Pete Noyes

PsyctecB@aol.com
11/10/2009 08:51 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Disagree with Makena parking fees

To Whom it may concern,

My husband and I vacation in Maui every year. Our sole reason to visit this most beautiful island is to enjoy Makena's Little Beach. We have done other activities while there but our main focus always comes back to the comradery we share at Little Beach. We often have great intentions of seeing the places we have not yet been but inevitably a day on the beach usually wins out. After all it is free and not far to drive. We have made many friends from all over the world on the beach. We stay in touch and even go to other destinations with the people we have met there. The Sunday drum circle is quite an experience. Our communing at Little Beach has made Maui the best vacation experience we have ever known. Our favorite time of year was Halloween and joining in the party at Lahaina. That has been ruined for us by the discontinuation of the street party that we enjoyed so much. We have been to Oahu, but find it far too commercial to enjoy. Charging for parking at a public beach is just too much. As it is, it is hard enough to find a place to rent where you can park your rental car without a daily fee. So now I would be faced with paying $5 a day to the place I am already paying to stay at and then an additional $5 a day to park and enjoy the public beach. I understand that the economy has hit Maui hard, but soaking more money from your regular visitors will only shorten our trips meaning less trips to the restaurant and with less days I may never see the other beautiful sights when I go. It will certainly mean more planning and ride sharing among the people we know. Maybe we should just start trying other destinations now. I am sure that if we look we can find another tropical location that we can enjoy without being unduly taxed (parking fee) for an enjoyable day at the beach. I strongly suggest that this fee will only discourage new people from going and enjoying the Makena beaches, meaning that they won't have the opportunity as we have to fall in love with the beach so much that it brings us there once and sometimes twice a year. I am against the Makena beach parking fee.

Thank you,
Roberta Wolff
Las Vegas, NV

"William K."
<whkleinw@hawaiiantel.net>
11/10/2009 09:50 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Makena State Park Parking Fee Proposal

To whom it may concern,
There are several things that disturb me on this proposal.
1. What changes is this future revenue planned to provide? Will it be directed back to the Makena park, or spent elsewhere for projects that are not that high of a priority? Will it be supporting state parks on Oahu?
2. Since there is no way to determine who is a resident and who is a visitor to this island, this will mean that all cars will have to be stopped and licenses checked. This will be a bottleneck in the flow of traffic for locals as well as visitors.
3. At times the parking facility at this park is totally full. How are you going to handle the visitor who arrives and cannot find parking and who is going to find another beach to visit? Is there a reimbursement procedure in place.
4. This proposal will create a negative attitude on our visitors who will feel that they are being nickel and dimed at every chance by the county government of Maui. This is not presenting a positive environment for our guests. Let's keep their stay on Maui to be one that is open, unobtrusive, and enjoyable.
5. This almost sounds like a job creation effort for the new positions of parking lot enforcer and collection officer. It will cost too much to manage; a lot more than it is worth.

William H Kleinwachter
[redacted]
Makawao,Maui,Hawaii 96768
(808)[redacted]
whkleinw@hawaiiantel.net

Jimdenise18@aol.com
11/09/2009 09:14 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Proposed Fees at Mekena Beach

We protest the proposed fees for Mekena Beach Parking Lot. We have been lodging in Kihei for the last few years and stay for two months at a time, with your proposed fees for the parking lot it will make it prohibitive to park and visit this beach area.

We are already taxed on everything and this proposal will cause us to seek another venue for our long periods of stay. In these economic times you are forcing us with pensions to review the value of staying in Maui.

I could provide other meaningful reasons, however in my opinion your shooting the golden goose once too often with the proposed fees.

James E. Goulart
Denise M. Goulart

[redacted]
Elk Grove, California

Retired Chief of Police
Belmont California

torb@telus.net
11/09/2009 11:57 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Fee proposal

Dear Sirs/Madams

On our recent (only second) visit to your state, I came across a proposal to implement fees at some state parks. While I appreciate that the state (and several others) is in a financial bind, to put more burden on the tourist is unwise. On our visit, I was concerned that there appears to already be a two-tier system (e.g. Some restaurants offer a $2 rebate if customer shows a HI id; Hanauma Bay has--apparently recently increased--a $7.50 fee that, I believe, only applies to out-of-state visitors). In a shrinking tourist market, you risk shinking your portion further. We visited Hawaii particularly because, in comparing to alternatives (San Diego, Mexico, the Caribbean, etc.), Hawaii came out competitive, despite the higher airfare. Given the very high cost of living (for which I have no statistics but the prices, especially within the most populated areas of Oahu, are quite outrageous), we are already reticent to return any time soon. At a time when other destinations are realizing that they need to encourage tourism with less taxes and fees, as well as more incentives, your state's competitiveness may be eroding.

(By the way, while it is not directly related, I find your Furlough Fridays completely unacceptable; education is the last place to make cuts.)

You asked for an opinion and that is ours.

T. Lindhede

TradeUsa069@aol.com
11/09/2009 04:43 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Prking fees

I think that parking fee for stste parks is totally wrong . people pay plenty of gas tax and other tax on everything in order to just get to the park. then you want to charge to park . how wuch do you think someone pays in tax just to get to the parkand then the gov waste 1/2 that money and how want the public to pay more . TOTALLY WRONG.....

Check out my pictures at www.bluedoggpictures.com just a few for now more will add more.

LWuerffel@aol.com
11/09/2009 04:53 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Proposed parking fees

Please re-think your proposal of adding parking fees to some of the beaches.
We fly from Colorado. Usually $1,500 or so.
We stay at your Hotels. Usually &1,500 or so.
We spend at your shops and restaurants.
We rent your cars.
We attend many tourist activities.

How long before you profit from added employees, insurance, the new fee buildings, etc?

You get enough of our money!!!!

We are tired of being nickeled and dimed in this economy.

Thank you for listening
Larry Wuerffel
719[redacted]
[redacted]
Pueblo West, CO 81007

Terisassy@aol.com
11/09/2009 05:13 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Re Makena Beach

Hi-

I am very interested in keeping Makena natural, and can't imagine why we locals have to pay to go to what has been forever a been a treasured clean site. Please don't put a parking fee on those of us that live in Maui, that is one of the things left in this really horrible time that is a free place to enjoy our best beach. It will make me sick if there is resort property there.

Enough is enough, too much development in these times. Home prices will never go back to what we bought homes for, the market here is going to go down because of new properties all over Wailea.....please stop building new resorts and new condo's.

Thank you for reading my view.
Sincerely,
Terry Murphy

Poordavid@webtv.net (Rick Blain)
11/09/2009 06:21 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject parking

History: This message has been replied to.

I am opposed to fee parking at Big Beach.

David Gardner
POB 10693
Lahaina

"Donal"
<donalf@comcast.net>
11/09/2009 06:40 PM

To <RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject

Hello
Just got the news here that you may implement daily parking fees for non-residents in 8 heavily-used state parks. Just to put our say out there.
We live here in Seattle and have visited Maui every year since 1996. Sometimes twice a year. This year we have spent 23 days there on two separate trips. Well anyway we have been staying down in the kihei Wailea area for the last five or six years. Mainly for their close proximity to the Makena beaches. The $5 a day charge would add a lot more per day to our vacation like $115 more this year. This would certainly not keep us from visiting Maui but it would cut our travel days there down. On the other hand it may open up other vacation areas for us to seek out.
Thanks for reading
God Bless
Donal

"Melvyn Floyd"
<melfloyd@comcast.net>
11/09/2009 08:13 PM

To <RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc "'dave swanson'" <mauidaves@hawaiiantel.net>
bcc
Subject Proposed Parking Fees At Makena State Park

As a regular visitor to Maui I want to register my objection to the proposed Parking Fee at Makena State Park. I have been coming to Maui for Vacation for over 10 Years I would think that in these times Maui would want to encourage visitors by making their time here enjoyable. By adding a $5 fee will add over $200 to my vacation. Makena in my view is the most beautiful Beach area in the world. Please don't put people off visiting this beach area just to make more money. It will certainly make me reconsider visiting Maui. I really feel that this will ultimately have the opposite effect and will not increase revenue in the long term.

Regards

A concerned Vacationer.

Mel Floyd
[redacted]
Kokomo
IN 46902

DEBBIE FRIEDMAN
<djfbsk@yahoo.com>
11/06/2009 10:07 AM

To recreationalrenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Koke'e testimony

Regarding Koke'e Again!!!! I still say, "KEEP KOKE'E KOKE'E, OKE'E???!!!! Leave it's natural beauty alone, please. Just maintain existing trails, bathrooms, parking areas, restaurant and museum, and that's it! There should not be an INCREASE in tour bus activity, if anything, only smaller vans should be allowed..NO BIG BUSSES! They sit idling spewing out fumes and noise while people are trying to enjoy the "viewing areas." The buses are part of the problem of damaging the roads. Why can't we start setting an example that beautiful island places can have RESPONSIBLE tourism where we don't over-do everything to the point that the reasons people come to Kaua'i in the first place are being ruined??? We need to keep SOME things on this planet wild and free and unspoiled. Tourists will still come here if we don't have a gate and charge a fee. Tourists will still come here and enjoy Koke'e just the way it is. And those who live here will feel proud and will enjoy the solace they get in Koke'e. How many more times are you going to ask for public input and then keep acting like you still don't hear us and you still don't care???? Please listen to the people of Kaua'i and to the returning tourists who come to Kaua'i because it is Kaua'i, not O'ahu or Maui or Disney World. Let's chill already.

mahalo, Debbie Friedman

Andrew Huey
<andrew@prolookproductions.com>
11/06/2009 09:35 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject no fees at big beach

beaches (including Big Beach) should remain free to the public. 3rd entrance will be a fiasco once you start imposing fees, not to mention the line of cars. This is ridiculous. Also, what the heck does leasing to "commercial use" mean. Will there be a fricking walmart across from big beach? Yes this is an exaggeration but you get my point. Keep Maui Maui!

Andrew Huey
President, ProLook Productions, LLC
P.O. Box 959-344
Kihei HI 96753
808.874.2581 ph
808.879.9679 fax
www.prolookproductions.com

<mfitting@hawaii.rr.com>
11/05/2009 04:26 PM

Please respond to
mfitting@hawaii.rr.com

To recreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Kee and Kokee

Aloha,
I am in favor of pay-as-you-go systems but also in favor of allowing our residents free access to all the lands on our island. It seems to me like a wonderful idea to put a tax on vehicles that are individually reserved at airports. This would be easy to administer and could allow those that are reserved by insurance companies or car repair concerns or by the locals who rent away from the airport to avoid the tax. It also could be a one-tax, i.e. a tax that accompanies each rental, as opposed to a daily tax since probably only one or two days are spent by each visitor in the state parks. Finally, it should be earmarked for repairs to the parks since this is the purpose in instigating the tax in the first place. I'm thinking a $10 charge per rental.

As a resident of Kauai, I would enjoy spending time in Kokee and staying their overnight. Thus far I have not done so since the accommodations are mediocre. However, in deference to those who wish to leave the lands as they are, I support those who do not wish any further development and will rent at Hanalei Colony or Waimea Plantations when I want to spend time in these areas.

Marjorie Gifford
Princeville

Paul Kelley
<paulck_99@yahoo.com>
11/05/2009 03:59 PM

To recreationalrenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Kokee Plan B

Please keep Kokee' Kokee' okee'. That means just leave it as is. Maintain the existing trails and facilities. Do not
Absolutely no entry gate with fees charged. If you need money, just tax existing tour buses for each visitor they
testified themselves that they would rather that you did that. Tax those that are making money off of the park. Pl
Save the beauty of the land.

Please save this letter and read it over and over so that I don't have to write it again.

Aloha

Paul Kelley

808-[redacted]

Ellen Coulombe
<ellen.coulombe@gmail.com>

11/05/2009 01:34 PM

To <RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject Opposed

I am opposed to the erection of a gate leading to Kokee State Park. I know that the park has suffered for many years from severe underfunding. But, that same underfunding has been what has kept the park "as it is". And although some may complain about lack of restrooms, unmaintained trails without signage, etc., as the island around Kokee becomes more and more developed, the "wilderness" aspect of Kokee State Park becomes more valuable and cherished.

In the world we live in today, I vote for "underdeveloped", and I believe this exact sentiment is the unexpected backlash you see at the public meetings.

Ellen

Ellen Coulombe
Wings Over Kauai
[redacted], Lihue, HI 96766
www.wingsoverkauai.com
808-[redacted]

"Valerie Weiss"
<weissv001@hawaii.rr.com>
11/05/2009 11:07 AM

To <recreationalrenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject Koke'e Testimony

11-05-09

DLNR/State Park Officals

Please do not alter Koke'e Park. NO GATE, no paving over the aina to provide bigger parking lots, no new signage, no flyers, no new buildings. Keep this gem in it's natural state so that it will remain an important destination for all of us on Kaua'i, resident and visitor alike, for it's peacefulness and naturalness.

The buildings/bathrooms/roads, etc. should be maintained as they are are. The full size busses that arrive should be phased out in favor of vans. Until the full sized busses are eliminated they should be required to turn off their engines while parked, for the benefit of air and noise quality as well as to enhance the peacefulness that is Koke'e. More than once I have heard comments from visitors passing the idling busses about the fumes and noise. The busses are a major detraction to the experience as well as a cause of road wear and tear and damage. Not to mention the large number of people who depart the bus all at once to over crowd the other people taking in the beauty at the lookouts.

Let's keep the things that draw visitors to our island. If we don't they might as well go Honolulu, New York or LA.

Thank you for allowing Kaua'i to remain as natural as possible.

Valerie Weiss
[redacted]
Kapaa Hi 96746

NOV 09 2009

Wyeth Heuionalani
PO Box 189
Anahola, HI 96703

DLNR Recreational Renaissance Rules
POB 621
Honolulu 96809
5 Nov. 2009

Aloha kātou,

Medieval philosopher William of Occam famously declared that, when two or more solutions to a problem present themselves, it is logical to choose the simplest. DLNR should listen to him.

Better yet, DLNR should listen to the people of Kaua`i. Over several rounds of public hearings on the State of Hawai`i's proposed plans for Koke`e, our people have consistently and eloquently said that they do not want "improvements" such as a large new lodge and the levying of admission fees for the park. Yet DLNR continues to present plans that include provisions for these very things! Why?

Not so long ago, the State of Hawai`i, to its great embarrassment and discredit, ignored our people's opposition to the Superferry. Despite media attempts to depict this opposition as coming from one ethnic or socio-economic group, those who attended the hearings and demonstrations know that people from a full spectrum of professions and ethnicities were involved. If anything, local opposition to the Recreational Renaissance Rules runs wider and deeper in our community than did resistance to the Superferry. It will not go away just because your office continues to ignore it.

The simplest solution to the Koke`e conundrum would be for DLNR to listen to Kaua`i. Why not just do it?

Heu`ionālani Wyeth

Heu`ionālani Wyeth

c/c The Garden Island newspaper

Brad Parsons
<maulbrad@hotmail.com>
11/04/2009 12:33 AM

To <recreationalrenaissance@hawaii.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject Comments on "Recreational Renaissance Plan B" for 11/3/09 Hearing

First, the proposed codified Rule changes are not in OCR machine readable format, they are an image file, and therefore cannot be cut-and-pasted to comment and work with. The files can just as easily be posted online as OCR files by DLNR in the future.

My comments in bold follow the italicized quotes in order from the following document:

http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/recreate/planb/RR-PLAN-B-FACT-SHEET

RECREATIONAL RENAISSANCE "PLAN B"
**** BACK TO BASICS ****

...We have to take action now, and not just wait. Otherwise, we will lose some of these important places forever.

We don't have to take action now. These places will not be lost forever. Koke'e and Kalalau will still be there. They will be there longer than us. We can take a few more months to wait for the Koke'e Advisory Council recommendations instead of the raised camping and admission fees.

...to support debt service on capital improvements in State parks, harbors, hiking trails, boat
ramps, and piers.

...We trust the legislature will support our progress and grant the bond authority next year...

You all may or may not be aware, but last month Hawaii tried to sell over $655 million and possibly as much as $800 million in General Obligation Bonds and there were no takers on that issue. The State was not able to sell those bonds because the yield and terms were not high enough for the perceived performance risk of the State. I don't think you all understand that bonds for park operating expenses in this environment are just not realistic. This is partly why the Recreational Renaissance bonding authority the first time around was not granted by the Legislature, because that would have been competing with the State's General Obligation bonds in the market, which the State is having a hard enough time selling. Beyond that, bonds are suppose to be for capital improvements, not operating expenses.

...If you subtract the four lifeguard contracts and utilities, that leaves about $93,000 per park per year for all operational costs in fiscal year 2009. With today s budget and restrictions, we re down to about $70,000 per park per year for operations.

...If we are successful in raising $4 million total through fees and other means, then parks will have approximately $127,000 per park per year, with the entire sum of the increase

going to repair and maintenance and improved operations at parks statewide.

This is a worthless statistic. There is no point in calculating an average "per park per year" dollar figure for fees collected. The size of the State Parks varies greatly. Only a few of them are large State Parks and they cannot be accurately compared to much smaller roadside parks. Furthermore, there is no usefulness in comparing a "per park per year" figure for the State Parks to a "per park per year" figure for the few much larger National Parks in Hawaii. That whole comparison is wasted calculations and serves no useful purpose but to possibly mislead.

...Parks will begin with parking fees for tourists only at $5 per car, walk-ins remaining free. The parking fee can be collected through an automated system that differentiates tourists from resident and is low-cost to operate. Footnote - 1 Entry fees are the same as proposed in Recreational Renaissance - $1 walk-in; $5 car...

First you say no charge for walk-ins and then the footnote says $1 for walk-ins. It should be NO charge for walk-ins. Further, you say "will begin" with $5 per car for tourists. At a minimum, it should stay that way, $5 per car for tourists and NO charge per car for kama'aina, ever. If you imply one thing, then you should remain consistent on it.

...In addition, Parks will charge modest fee increases at campgrounds and cabins, mainly by starting a split fee system with slightly higher fees for non-residents.

I noticed that in all of the documentation for today and in the proposed new rule changes, you do not mention the fee increases that the BLNR already approved on August 14, 2009. That includes overnight camping permit fees from $10 to $12 for residents and from $10 to $18 for visitors. I think a lot of the residents in the audience today are not aware of this. These are hefty camping fees. If these raised camping fees are to stay, then the BLNR should also offer an annual Kama'aina Camping Permit for something like $50. Also, if DLNR is going to collect these kinds of camping fees, then they should at least see to it that trash is kept picked up and facilities are properly maintained at the camping grounds. In the case of Kalalau, that has not been done, and the visitors are rightly complaining that they feel the current $10 per night that they pay is not being used to properly maintain the Park that they are using. If the BLNR is going to almost double the visitor camping fee, then they need to make sure trash is picked up and the campgrounds are maintained regularly. Kalalau went all last winter without trash being picked up.

...All revenue generated in Parks will stay in fixing up Parks. All revenues generated by the Na
Ala Hele Trail system will stay in fixing up trails.

This is misleading. Everybody on Kaua'i knows the BLNR intends to take fees collected from Kaua'i's two large State Parks and trails and use them for Parks and trails on other islands.

...Pilot asset management system at 1 Park, 1 Harbor, 1 Trail.

The DLNR Chairperson says part of the problem is that they don't have an accounting system that indicates which park that fees were collected for and don't have expenses broken down to each park. If that is the case, then I propose for

this "Pilot asset management system" that the first Park it's used on be Koke'e and that the funds collected from that stay on Kaua'i, and that the first Trail it's used on be Kalalau and that the funds collected from that stay on Kaua'i.

...The goals of Plan "B" dedicate 100% of new revenues to improved repair, maintenance, and
operations in the interim. We ll also start the longer-term process of raising new revenues from
vacant lands so we can do more capital improvements faster...

All I can say is that developing these vacant lands looks like one big open-ended money making effort that may not really benefit DLNR or the State as opposed to preferred private interests.

One last point, if BLNR/DLNR has the patience to wait for the Legislature to act upon Koke'e Advisory Council recommendations, the idea of a modest fee on rental cars to go to a Special Fund for State Parks is a good one that can reasonably raise the necessary funds. By my own calculations a 50 cent fee per day per rental car statewide could raise $11 million dollars per year. The Koke'e Advisory Council conservatively calculates that a 50 cent fee per day per rental car statewide would raise $8 million per year, or that a $1 fee per day per rental car would raise $16 million dollars per year. That solves the State Parks revenue problem and justifiably allows the funds to be spent proportionately on each Park however the BLNR sees fit. So what's the rush?

Mahalo for this opportunity to comment,

Brad Parsons
Kauai, HI

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DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR/DLNR/
StateHiUS
11/03/2009 05:15 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: Recreational Renaissance Testimony

----- Forwarded by DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR/DLNR/StateHiUS on 11/03/2009 05:13 PM -----

"Glass" <sglass@hawaiiantel.net>

11/03/2009 04:18 PM

Please respond to
"Glass"
<sglass@hawaiiantel.net>

To <DLNR@hawaii.gov>
cc <kokeeadvisory@gmail.com>
Subject Recreational Renaissance Testimony

Testimony regarding "Recreational Renaissance"

Hearing November 3, 2009
Lihue, Kaua`i

As we will not be able to attend the hearing, we would like to submit this testimony.

Since Peter Young, the previous Director of DLNR, presented the plans for Kokee to hundreds of Kaua`I residents at our Convention Hall, we have observed DLNR continue to pursue the plan they have created, in spite of and in direct conflict with our Kaua`I communities' stated opposition. Most people who attended the first meeting were not given the opportunity to vote for the third choice, do nothing other than "preserve and maintain."

We understand that Kokee is considered by you to be only a part of the greater State system of State parks. But you, at the same time, continue to fail to understand, acknowledge or respect our concept of Kokee, our mountain backyard, as a unique world treasure which must be preserved in its' natural state for future generations.

Volcano and Hanauma Bay are examples of natural environments which have been exploited and are now no longer natural, but commercial

We understand that you wish to have all State parks generate revenue; that they should be as self-supporting as possible. But, the DLNR was mandated not to develop, but to hold, preserve and maintain these lands. You were not ever mandated to develop them into people playgrounds or recreational areas to compete with resorts.

If you consider the cost of the "improvements" to accommodate more use of these parks, the additional revenue will never keep up with the costs of staff, maintenance and

repair. You will constantly be chasing the revenue through more development.

The financial statements of how much revenue Kokee has generated and how much has been spent on the area to repair and maintain is not readily available, but we do have the figures for 2007. Kokee brought in almost three times as much as was spent on maintaining it. So, a threat that the area might need to be closed because of lack of funds is simply not reasonable.

You may have to temporarily close some smaller parks which cannot generate enough funds to remain open, but the Advisory Council has offered an alternative way to increase revenue without gating off the entrance to Kokee and other State parks. Why aren't you considering and responding to this proposal of charging a small additional fee on rental cars for the support of Parks?

I know I speak for the people of Kaua`I (other than those who would directly benefit financially by development of "improvements") when I say that we do not want food concessions, a multi-story hotel in the meadow or elsewhere, more parking, taking over the presently well-maintained DOT road from Waimea (the contrast with the present State park road is significant), and no entry gate for collecting fees from visitors.

The Advisory Council has made concessions to your plan, such as allowing an increase of a few rental cabins within the footprint of the existing cabins, and suggesting the addition of a room to the Museum to provide space for more information about the area.

How can we convince you that the reason people visit and live on Kaua`I is our natural environment? The hotels, zip lines, kayak trips, ATV's are allowed only on private land or leased in specific areas.

Kokee belongs to the State only "in trust." Kokee is not for sale!

As you can perceive from the above, we are expressing an increasing concern for the disregard DLNR is showing to the residents of Kaua`I (who employ you) and to our representative Advisory Council.

Mahalo for the opportunity to express our sentiments on this important issue to all of us.

Sincerely,
Stephen and Sharry Glass
[redacted]
Kapaa, Kaua`I

2 Nov 2009

NOV 04 2009
recieved via mail

Lee-Lewis
[redacted]
Honolulu, HI 96826

Re: Park Fees

I suggested this five years ago.

After traveling extensively, many countries, (especially in Asia), charge to go into their parks, beaches, tourists sites.

Some called it: DONATIONS — a very kind and understanding word people understand.

In Mito, Japan, we were charged $10 — to go to their beach. There was no sand or surf —

Wake up Hawaii —

Fining people for walking their dogs and smelly armpits — please!

See Las Vegas review last week? Hawaii residents are keeping downtown alive & profitable —

Pass a lottery in Hawaii — screw BIG BROTHER —

Monica Lewis

Jane Lowe <jane_lowe@yahoo.com>
11/02/2009 06:30 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject no akaka falls fees, but if you must...

First, if you must charge fees to Akaka Falls, please make sure that when you construct the collection station so there is enough room for the tour buses to get in and out - it's already tight in there as it is. Second, please rehab the disfunctional restrooms (and put more ladies' if can) and add a drinking fountain. Or you can just leave it alone for a couple more years and save that money, then do the improvements when the economy rebounds.

Other than maybe on Hilo ship days, I can't imagine you would collect enough to make it worth the hassle of installing a collection booth and hiring somebody to work there. Better make sure there's plenty of shoulder outside Akaka and Hapuna because there's going to be plenty of walkins.

Harry and Debbie Otaguro
<hotaguro@comcast.net>
11/01/2009 01:56 AM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc Harry Otaguro <hotaguro@gmail.com>
bcc
Subject Fees at state parks

One of the things I found to make Cape Cod beaches very unfriendly was their admission prices. I would always say to people that Hawaii's beaches are not for sale. Welcome to everyone -- resident and visitor alike. (I concede the need for admission to Hanauma Bay to help protect its fragile ecology, but I fear it's set a bad precedent.)

My intention is to move back to Hawaii soon. I'd hate to find it pandering its primary assets.

Harry Otaguro
hotaguro@gmail.com

Allen S Hanaike/DLNR/StateHiUS
10/27/2009 01:33 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc Curt A Cottrell/DLNR/StateHiUS@StateHiUS
bcc
Subject SP-Draft Rule Changes - Suggestion

Aloha,

Regarding:

1. **State Park rule change highlights**
   Proposed rules amendments allow on-line camping reservations via the internet and payment by credit card... (And if similar language is required elsewhere for boating, DOFAW, etc. apply there as well.)

Perhaps consider:

Section 13-146-50 (b)

(9) All payments of fees and charges shall be in U .S. funds. Acceptable payment methods shall be determined by the Board of Land and Natural Resources ; including, but not limited to: Cash, cashier's check, certified check, traveler's check, postal money order, credit card, debit card, on-line payment processors, money order or bank check; provided that personal or business checks may be used to pay for events that will occur (30) thirty or more days after the date of payment .

On-line Payment processors = PayPal like companies

Are there provisions in the rules to collect fees for returned or bad checks?

Aloha, Allen :)

Allen S. Hanaike >|< Telecommunications Planner >|< State of Hawaii >|< Department of Land & Natural Resources
----
Tel: 808-587-0334 >|< Fax: 808-587-0361 >|< Kalanimoku Building >|< 1151 Punchbowl St Rm 118 >|< Honolulu, HI 96813

-----> Follow what's happening with DLNR via Twitter: http://twitter.com/dlnr

Jocelyn Watari
<mauiskindiver@gmail.com>
10/13/2009 12:12 PM

To RecreationalRenaissance@hawaii.gov
cc
bcc
Subject Chapter 13-146, HAR, Rules Regulating the Hawaii State Park System

History: This message has been forwarded.

Proposed amendment of Chapter 13-146, HAR, Rules Regulating the Hawaii State Park System are to clarify some definitions, allow for internet camping and lodging reservations, payment by credit card, update penalties, issue special use permits for commercial tours,**and establish entry fee authority for all State Parks to provide increased revenue for improved operations, repair, and maintenance at State Park facilities.**

I agree with the need to generate revenue to maintain the state parks, my main concern is that local families with children that are currently utilizing these parks for family recreation will no longer have this option if a fee per person is imposed on them. I am lucky enough that this would not effect me, but this would have an effect on the working class family of four (figuratively speaking) who would then have to pay a chunk of money every time they want to take the kids to the park for a picnic. The primary reason most families with children to state parks with their children is because there is no entry fee, (it's beautiful, educational, and it saves money).

--
Jocelyn Watari
jwatari@hawaii.edu
Library Ast IV
Maui Community College