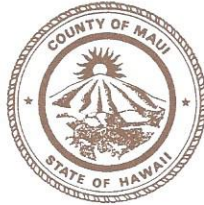


ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR



KEITH A. REGAN
MANAGING DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Ke'ena O Ka Meia
COUNTY OF MAUI – Kalana O Maui

August 12, 2015

Donna J. Clayton
Na Ala Hele Maui Advisory Council Member
255 Kaulani Drive
Pukalani, Maui, Hawaii 96768

Aloha Donna,

I am happy to hear that there is progress on the establishment of the West Maui Trail. I have heard positive comments about the project and there is enthusiasm in the air about the trail becoming a reality.

As we know, at one time it used to be all about the car and a city's 'drivability', when it came to rating and ranking a community as a great place to live or visit. Today, there's another question the ratings surveys are asking: How bicycle and pedestrian friendly is the community?

In the past, Maui hasn't shined in the bicycle and pedestrian friendly categories because the island has a limited number of designated multi-use pathways. West Maui, in particular, has the fewest alternative routes for cyclists and pedestrians to reasonably avoid riding or walking along the area's main artery, the Honoapi'ilani Highway.

West Maui residents, visitors, and the local economy would benefit from designating multi-use trails for walking and cycling in the community. Offering this type of recreation has health benefits to trail users, but would also help increase property values and enhance the safety of those riding a bicycle and walking. West Maui has the advantage of being able to make these types of multi-use trails immediately available by opening up, designating, and linking existing cane haul roads as car-free pathways.

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

The County of Maui is moving in the direction with its planning and new development to have our communities walkable and bicycle friendly. The West Maui Trail is the start of providing a venue for walkers and bicycle enthusiast to be outdoors, getting fresh air and not worry about cars and other vehicular traffic.

In conclusion, I support the West Maui Trail concept and look forward to working with Na Ala Hele, the Maui Bicycling Leagues and others working to make this all a reality. I know you have been working with my Executive Assistants, please continue to do so. Thank you for your leadership in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Arakawa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
Mayor, County of Maui