

From: [Francine Aarona](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8 Deny Lease to Ruby & Sons
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 4:15:11 PM

Aloha Chair Case and BLNR members,

My name is Francine K. Aarona, also know as Aunty Mopsy/Protect Pā‘ia.

When is it going to stop. When is it going to stop being the State of Aloha and be the State of Kuleana. The Maui County has its Kuleana in protecting access and parking areas for its residents to enjoy our beaches and fishermen to be able to gather food for the ‘Ohana.

Why are we going to allow foreigners to continue Gentrification on our ‘Āina. Purchasing property out of bankruptcy does not give one the right to change our community plans to provide privatization for their clients and visitors.

I oppose the (35) year lease to Ruby & Sons. The County of Maui is willing to negotiate with the state to acquire this valuable asset. We must keep public lands in public hands, especially for the interest of our community.

I ask that you pay attention to our History and our Culture. “Keawakapu” is a sacred place, a place where special privilege is granted to come and enjoy the pleasures of the channels that are created to swim, to fish. Respect it and care for it.

Mahalo for allowing me to testify in holding on to our Kuleana. Continue to stay safe and Healthy.

Aunty Mopsy/ProtectPā‘ia

From: [Chris Adams](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Testimony
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 7:55:32 AM

Aloha and Good morning again Board Members,

I am writing in again against limiting boating and tour companies at Mala. We as divers are indeed seeing damage done to this amazingly beautiful environment.

However, any damage that we are finding is not from environmentally responsible and ecologically mindful tour companies but instead from destructive fishing practices.

Please see images below that were taken by a friend only 3 days ago at Mala Pier.

Please take this into consideration as you decide NOT to further restrict commercial and tour access at Mala Pier

Thank you so much,
Chris Adams

From: [akauelelaban](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Regarding Item D-8, Lease of Public Lands to Ruby & Sons
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 1:35:02 PM

October 6, 2021

Please DENY THE LEASE to this foreign corporation and instead, ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH MAUI COUNTY, to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Access to the beach at Keawakapu, also known as “Mana Kai” is an important part of our lifestyle and culture as residents of Maui. It is our right as residents of Maui County to have access to our beach and shoreline on PUBLIC LANDS. Taking away the parking area by awarding a lease to a foreign entity (Ruby & Sons) would essentially completely cut-off all public access to the beach there, since there is no other designated parking available for that beach in that highly developed area of South Maui.

Please help to preserve the public’s right to access our beach at “Mana Kai” by denying the lease.

Respectfully,
Chellsie Akau-Elaban

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

From: [kaulani akina](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] D-8 Deny Lease to Ruby & Sons
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 10:21:55 AM

Aloha DLNR and to whom receives this letter,

I'm a Maui resident and this is my written testimony asking you to deny the lease to Ruby & Sons specifically for the area in Kihei/Kamaole.

As a lifetime resident I've watched it grow incredibly hard for locals and tourists alike to find places that are safe and close to the beaches to park. Manakai is a safe beach spot for kids with shade and to lose the parking area for public/local use would make it harder to go to this beach without crossing a busy street and especially hard with children.

Maui County needs to retain this space for public use. Beaches are not private property and by losing the parking area they become harder to use by the public and easily accessible by the tourists staying in the condos/house/hotels in front of them and basically become tourist use only.

Days Inn has the entire Sarentos parking lot now that sarentos is permanently closed and shouldn't need so much more parking to take our entire public parking away. Sarentos paid for years to have a valet drive their guests' cars across the street to make up for their lack of parking and the owner Aaron Plack took on that additional cost and did not ever encroach on the public beach parking to run his business. The hotel needs to look into other options that respect the locals of Maui. We have all successfully shared this parking lot in the past and should be able to continue to do it in the future.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Ka'ulani Akina

From: [Sara Amanda](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Cc: [Sara Amanda](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawakapu Public Parking
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 7:34:06 PM

Too often is parking limited where residents of Maui county who regularly want to enjoy their favorite beaches have minimal access to do so. I ask that the BLNR deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead, enter into an agreement with the country of Maui to manage our public beach parking.

From: [Aram Armstrong](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for October 8th session
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:03:01 PM

Aram Armstrong
808 437 9751
aloha.aram@gmail.com
Item D8

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Aram Armstrong. I am a resident of Makawao and grew up in Kihei, riding skateboard and BMX on the sidewalks and back roads of Kihei. South Maui's beaches were my after school program. Keawakapu Beach is a pearl in a string of pearls that make the south Maui's coastline a treasure attracting visitors from across the globe and it is our kuleana as a community to uphold the principle of public access to Hawaii's beaches and deny privatization of our natural resources.

I am writing to advocate that BLNR denies the lease to Ruby & Sons Hospitality LLC, a foreign-owned corporation. Jiejun Liao, Xiaoying Wang and their agents do not have the kuleana to manage access to Keawakapu Beach. The County of Maui is the rightful manager.

Mahalo nui loa for your service to our community.

Aram Armstrong

From: [Sue](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawekapu
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 1:56:18 PM

Aloha, I wish to offer testimony regarding the proposed lease of public lands to a foreign investor. Public beach access is already sorely lacking and the quality of life for local residents is being eroded year by year. It is time that local interests come first.

I ask the BLNR to deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Thank you for your consideration,

Susan R. Armstrong
137 Kuono Pl, Makawao, HI 96768
808-870-6765
40 year resident of this beautiful island

From: [Maile Atay](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Cc: kai.nishiki@gmail.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 6:32:03 PM

Aloha e DLNR a County of Maui,

With regards to item D-8 for Friday's meeting this is written testimony opposing the hotel developer's application for a long term lease.

I understand the County of Maui is willing to negotiate with the State to acquire this valuable public asset, in the best interests of our community. We must keep public lands in public hands as we want Maui to stay MAUI and not turn us into another Waikiki.

I've been a long time user of the beach and have witnessed the developer/speculator's clear disdain for our community and public beach access laws. They have taken down signs explaining the reserve status and have asked local fishermen to leave the area.

I believe the County of Maui is the best entity to manage our public beach reserve parking lot for us and future generations. Without responsible management, locals will not be able to continue to enjoy beautiful Keawekapu.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Maile Atay

From: [Duke Au Hoon](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 11:36:49 AM

Aloha blnr,

As a kanaka maoli of these lands as child that grew up in Kihei. The burden of over growth buildings, structures etc. That has taking over the land that has greatly diminished its beauty & its people. They say theres no aloha its cause it's being exploited & sold as a business. To item D-8 I ask that you keep Hawaiian lands in Hawaiian hands. Enough is enough. Please for BLNR to deny the lease to Ruby & Sons or any out side entity. Its time to invest in our selfs. Lets look into a Hawaiian owned business or non profit to manage such public parking & beach access's. Or have Maui County involved to manage such Public beach reserve Parking & Access.

Aloha & Mahalo

Duke H Au Hoon

Co-Owner Rachaelrayartcollection LLC.- U'i Gallery

Makau Lures & Hakuole Designs

From: [Konaneakamahina Awo de la Nux](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Regarding Item D-8, Lease of Public Lands to Ruby & Sons
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 11:40:40 AM

Please DENY THE LEASE to this foreign corporation and instead, ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH MAUI COUNTY, to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Access to the beach at Keawakapu, also known as “Mana Kai” is an important part of our lifestyle and culture as residents of Maui. It is our right as residents of Maui County to have access to our beach and shoreline on PUBLIC LANDS. Taking away the parking area by awarding a lease to a foreign entity (Ruby & Sons) would essentially completely cut-off all public access to the beach there, since there is no other designated parking available for that beach in that highly developed area of South Maui.

Please help to preserve the public’s right to access our beach at “Mana Kai” by denying the lease.

Me ka ha’aha’a,
Konane de la Nux

From: [Susan Boatright](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Ruby & Sons Lease
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 12:41:43 PM

Aloha,

I am in strong OPPOSITION to the approval of the Evaluation Committee's Recommendation for Selection of Proposal Submitted by Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC in Response to Request for Qualifications / Request for Proposals for Lease of Public Lands; Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui, Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004: 149.

It is definitely not okay for a foreign hotel developer to get a 35 year lease of public beach reserve parking.

Here's what we have been informed that this foreign hotel developer has done over the past few years.

- bought oceanfront property at Keawakapu out of bankruptcy and inappropriately influenced local officials to maximize hotel development by changing the community plan from Single Family to Hotel designation.
- utilized relationships with the County to gain half of the public beach parking and mark it for hotel use only.
- attempted to illegally close the public beach parking lot on numerous occasions without permits.
- put up cones to illegally block public beach access parking on S. Kihei Rd.
- during the pandemic while the resort was closed they blocked off "their" stalls with orange fencing in the beach parking lot to prevent public use. Photos of this have been provided by other testifiers.
- called the police on local fishermen and families with keiki using the public beach reserve to try get rid of them so tourists at their hotel could watch the sunset(per DLNR/police reports)
- caught on facebook live ripping down the "Public Beach Reserve" signage and telling keiki and local fishermen they are revoking the public use of the beach reserve(which hotel has no right to do)
- have done nothing about an illegal revetment on the public beach in front of hotel.

It is reported that this Chinese hotel developer is currently paying \$140 on a month-to-month lease with the State to bully and harass the public using a public beach reserve and parking lot. Now they are apparently asking to be rewarded with a 35 year lease from the State of Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources.

The County of Maui is reportedly willing to negotiate with the State to acquire this valuable public asset, in the best interest of our community. We must keep public lands in public hands.

NO foreign developer should be given a long term lease for our beach reserve parking lot, especially when they have demonstrated clear disdain for our community and public beach access laws.

I therefore ask the BLNR to deny lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with

the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.
Mahalo nui loa,
Susan Boatright

From: [Chris Breckels](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda item D-8. Parking lot lease.
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 4:41:16 AM

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#) Please deny application for lease of the parking lot at Kewawakapu beach. There are few public access left on Maui and this Hotel has demonstrated in the past it has no interest in supporting local culture and public access. This practice has got to stop. Mahalo, Christopher Breckels, Lahaina.

From: [Shelly Bright](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] D-9 Testimony for Fri, 10/8/21 BLNR Meeting
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 6:45:05 AM

Aloha,

Please submit this as my testimony regarding Item D-9. Please deny a lease to Ruby & Sons for the parking lot and instead enter into an agreement with Maui County to manage the Keawapaku North, Public Beach Reserve Parking lot.

Mahalo,

Shelly Bright

From: [Maggiebruck](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 7:40:07 AM

Re: October 8,2021 meeting Agenda Item D-8

Aloha,

Please deny the Keawakapu parking lot lease to Ruby & Sons and work with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot. That lot is so special and local families deserve access to that wonderful stretch of beach. If you look around that area the wealthy and the resorts have plenty access to that coast! Ruby & Sons has not been respectful of beach access and should not be awarded this lease.

Thank you for your consideration.

Maggie Bruck
3567 Piikea Pl
Makawao HI 96768

From: [Ravinder Bugga](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Item D-8 Keawakapu Beach
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 10:50:05 AM

Now including my name and address. Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ravinder Bugga <ravimaui@gmail.com>
Date: October 6, 2021 at 10:10:43 AM HST
To: blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov
Subject: Item D-8 Keawakapu Beach

Aloha Members,

I am writing to urgently request that you deny a lease to Ruby @ Sons, and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

The developer has repeatedly demonstrated clear disdain for our community, and public beach access laws. Please deny the lease.

I'm a member of the West Maui Community Plan Advisory Committee, but I am writing this on my own account.

Thank you.

Ravi Bugga
15 W Mahi Pua Place
Lahaina HI 96761

Ravimaui@gmail.com
808 866 7432

Sent from my iPad

From: [Jeanne Butler](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Denial of Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:15:06 AM

To the BLNR,

I am asking you to deny (Item D-8) the 35 year lease to a foriegn country and instead enter into an agreement with

the County of Maui to manage and protect our Public Beach Reserve Parking Lot.

We are slowly losing our Island's beaches and land to the wealthy. If you allow this to go through it will surely

show the people that live and work here to make this island work at it best that you are only in it for the money

and NOT for our Ohana and our livelihood.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this very pressing matter...

Jeanne Butler

Kihei, Maui

From: [Pamela Campbell](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 5:21:56 AM

please refuse Ruby and Sons request!! Keawakapu beaches should be county of Maui property, open and available to residents and Hawaiians for cultural and recreational usage. Don't be a part of the thievery, giving or selling our keiki heritage to outsiders! this beach area is special to Maui, please keep it county property so all may enjoy it!

mahalo,
pamela campbell
Maui resident

From: [judith carroll](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 10:58:28 AM

Aloha

I am a 27 year resident of Maui Meadows. The beach in front of the Mana Kai is my backyard. It is where i go to relax, breath, swim, walk, it's my special place. The Ruby&Sons Company are not good neighbors. They have done everything in their power to destroy the parking lot and limit beach access to residents. Their trashy plastic netting blocking off parking spaces during the height of the Pandemic when NOBODY was in the hotel was an insult to the seniors and to everyone who lives on Maui that NEEDED that beach for their physical, mental, and spiritual health and well being. Imagine the trashy plastic falling down to block parking places for what? As the GOVERNING body of our land and natural resources i am begging you to deny the lease to Ruby&Sons and immediately enter into an agreement with Maui County to manage this PUBLIC beach parking lot. We have lost so much beach access already, the view plane is disappearing, PLEASE can we just have a small parking lot to access our beach? The Hotel should never have been allowed to be built. It is nothing but a box, an eye soar and a greedy developer who jammed his so called beachfront hotel into a small lot and built an ugly box. Is this what Maui is going to look like in the future? Surely you have some people with decision making power who have an eye for beauty. If not maybe form a committee of thousands of Maui artist to guide you. Please have them take down their ridiculous parking signs that restrict residents for their guest who do not exist. We deserve a parking lot to access OUR BEACH.

Thank you for listening

Aloha

Judith Carroll

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Cheryl Clemmensen](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Reference Agenda Item D-8 regarding Maui beach
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 1:38:06 PM

To whom it concerns:

I ask the BLNR to deny a lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage this public beach reserve and parking lot.

This is this critical beach reserve and parking lot property that needs to be kept open for public use vs restricted to private use.

Thank you!

Cheryl Clemmensen

From: [Shaka Doug Corbin](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawakapu Beach Parking Lot
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 4:54:21 AM

Aloha,

I am in strong OPPOSITION to the approval of the Evaluation Committee's Recommendation for Selection of Proposal Submitted by Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC in Response to Request for Qualifications / Request for Proposals for Lease of Public Lands; Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui, Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004: 149.

It is definitely not okay for a foreign hotel developer to get a 35 year lease of public beach reserve parking.

Here's what we have been informed that this foreign hotel developer has done over the past few years.

- bought oceanfront property at Keawakapu out of bankruptcy and inappropriately influenced local officials to maximize hotel development by changing the community plan from Single Family to Hotel designation.
- utilized relationships with the County to gain half of the public beach parking and mark it for hotel use only.
- attempted to illegally close the public beach parking lot on numerous occasions without permits.
- put up cones to illegally block public beach access parking on S. Kihei Rd.
- during the pandemic while the resort was closed they blocked off "their" stalls with orange fencing in the beach parking lot to prevent public use. Photos of this have been provided by other testifiers.
- called the police on local fishermen and families with keiki using the public beach reserve to try get rid of them so tourists at their hotel could watch the sunset(per DLNR/police reports)
- caught on facebook live ripping down the "Public Beach Reserve" signage and telling keiki and local fishermen they are revoking the public use of the beach reserve(which hotel has no right to do)
- have done nothing about an illegal revetment on the public beach in front of hotel.

It is reported that this Chinese hotel developer is currently paying \$140 on a month-to-month lease with the State to bully and harass the public using a public beach reserve and parking lot. Now they are apparently asking to be rewarded with a 35 year lease from the State of Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources.

The County of Maui is reportedly willing to negotiate with the State to acquire this valuable public asset, in the best interest of our community. We must keep public lands in public hands.

NO foreign developer should be given a long term lease for our beach reserve parking lot, especially when they have demonstrated clear disdain for our community and public beach access laws.

I therefore ask the BLNR to deny lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Sincerely,

Doug Corbin
Kihei, HI

From: [Tamara A. Paltin](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 2:47:38 PM

Aloha e Chair Case and DLNR board,

Mahalo for your service to our communities. I respectfully request that you deny the lease of public lands to Ruby & Sons and, instead enter into agreement with Maui County to manage this public beach reserve parking lot.

There has been much public outrage locally as to how this parking lot issue has been managed to date and the developers actions to date have only enflamed the issue. I believe giving them a 35 year lease is the wrong thing to do with these public lands as they have not shown a history of working together with the public/community. This entity has tried to illegally close the public beach parking lot on numerous occasion without permits and put out cones illegally to block access from South Kihei Road causing a dangerous traffic situation. There has been video circulating on social media of this entity, with no authorization to do so, ripping down the "Public Beach Reserve" signage. They have also called police and DLNR about public using these public parking reserve on residents trying to go to the beach or fish, thus harassing local residents.

Maui County and the State have just begun to realize the value of beach parking and paid parking for visitors as a way to maintain our resources and to continue to lease this parking area to Ruby & Sons for \$140 month to month or to give a 35 year lease is the absolute wrong way to go and will only cause more public uproar. If the intent of the measure is to increase the public recreational use of the land, which is a great intent, please do not continue to lease the land to Ruby & Sons and instead consider an EO to Maui County.

Mahalo,
Tamara Paltin
Councilmember
West Maui

From: [Kayla DeLong](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item d-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 1:21:08 PM

Aloha,

I am in strong OPPOSITION to the approval of the Evaluation Committee's Recommendation for Selection of Proposal Submitted by Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC in Response to Request for Qualifications / Request for Proposals for Lease of Public Lands; Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui, Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004: 149.

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The County of Maui is reportedly willing to negotiate with the State to acquire this valuable public asset, in the best interest of our community. We must keep public lands in public hands.

NO foreign developer should be given a long term lease for our beach reserve parking lot, especially when they have demonstrated clear disdain for our community and public beach access laws.

I therefore ask the BLNR to deny lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Mahalo nui loa,
Kayla DeLong

From: [Angela Domingo](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Do not approve D8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:03:32 PM

Aloha,

In reference to D8 below, we have been land owners on Ponana St (directly across from Keawekapu beach) for 26 years. Please do not allow the lease of land for use by Ruby & Sons Hospitality. On weekends, holidays and busy times there is not enough parking for both locals and tourists at Keawekapu beach. Hundreds of cars end up on the opposite side of the street along S. Kihei Road & all along Kilohana Dr. This congests the intersection of S.Kihei & Kilohana making it dangerous for beach goers and local traffic. Another thing is that \$140 per month is a ridiculous price to lease anything so valued by the community. I would think that the county of Maui would be a much better steward of the land especially with its proximity to the ocean and the desire to protect our natural resources. It would be irresponsible to give that land away to any private entity for 35 years! They have not been a good tenant or neighbor - taking public access signs down, taping off parking spaces when the hotel was closed during Covid, letting hens & roosters roam wild reproducing at alarming rates. Please do not lease to Ruby & Sons Hospitality.

Sincerely,
Renato & Angela Domingo

“D8. Approve Evaluation Committee’s Recommendation for Selection of Proposal Submitted by Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC in Response to Request for Qualifications / Request for Proposals for Lease of Public Lands; Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui, Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004: 149.”

Aloha Angie

From: [David Dorn](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony, BLNR Land Board Meeting, Oct 8, 20201, Item D8, Please deny lease of Public Lands to Ruby and Sons Hospitality LLC.
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:43:47 AM

To: BLNR, Land Board Meeting Oct 8, 20201, Item D8

Subject: Please deny lease of Public Lands to Ruby and Sons Hospitality LLC.

Dear BLNR board members and all,

My name is David Dorn, a south shore resident, homeowner, and board member of Sierra Club Maui.

We respectfully ask that you deny the requested lease of Public Lands to Ruby and Sons Hospitality LLC.

Shoreline access is vital for our lifestyle, culture, health, and recreation.

However, there is already a chronic shortage of beach parking on Maui.

This is because planners have repeatedly failed to add beach new access parking at a comparable pace with a rising population, increasing tourism, and development.

- This is especially true in South Maui and Wailea where hotels take up most of the shoreline and parking is restricted to very few remaining public access ways.
- The applicants are attempting to take away a large portion of the available parking spaces. Far in excess of their original allotment.
- This is not fair to the public who relies on this parking in order to be able to safely access the beach.
- Most of the public parking has been removed from the front of the Mana Kai hotel as well and puts more cars into the remaining public spaces.
- Local families are already having difficulties getting beach parking for recreation, because there are too many tourist cars parking there, and often too many hotel staff cars parking there as well.
- We need to have more parking spaces available for local residents. Especially for the local ohana's with keiki and kupuna who need to be close to the shoreline.
- Beach access is a quality of life issue for local residents.
- Having equitable access to the beaches and waters of Hawaii is a legal right.

Please do not approve the lease of these public lands, and keep this land available to the public for public use as it was intended.

Thank you for hearing my testimony
David Dorn

From: [L Dows](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item D-8 Keawakapu Beach Parking
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 6:18:46 AM

Aloha Esteemed Public (Community) Board Members and Representatives,

I implore you to protect and preserve access to the Keawakapu Beach Parking area, the entire beach parking area, for open access for public use unrestricted or encumbered by privatization. Please terminate the temporary lease offered to the current and or future owners of the hotel known as Maui Ocean Front Inn and Sarento's on the beach or any other private business. The taking of public spaces (public by tradition or previous designation) and privatizing of them is exactly the impact of "excessive tourism" and visitor industry favoritism that we, the people of Maui, strongly oppose.

The practice of allowing a tourism business, a visitor industry property, to develop to a size and scope unsupported by the size and planned and permitted use of the owned property with the intent and fact of then expanding to public land is unjust.

Though the current situation began years ago when the hotel property was allowed to expand beyond the capacity of their lot, This decision today is an opportunity to reverse a part of that wrong. At the least, it is an opportunity not to repeat the same flawed and harmful practice of supporting what amounts to reverse eminent domain - the taking from the public of lands to award their use to private businesses.

Please negotiate with the County of Maui to establish this parking as public use only. This beach is unique in its physical characteristics which make it accessible to participants of all abilities and activities. It is integral to the health and lifestyle of Maui residents and in particular the South Maui community. It is one of the few places most like a community park that remains in South Maui as predominantly a community gathering place. Other South Maui community parks do not offer the unique qualities of sufficient parking for residents to gather with easy set up area and access to the water with water sports equipment such as canoes, kayaks, stand up paddle boards, coolers, beach wagons and such. Other parks have too little parking for friends to meet up with their equipment, or are too hilly and prohibitive for the average participant to navigate with their equipment, or are over run with activity vendors who nearly monopolize the areas.

Please keep this parking lot accessible to residents. Our community members deserve to continue traditional uses of this beach without harassment from and competition with business customers of a privately held investment property.

This is a place and a time to turn the tides of corrupt and ill advised decisions that can and will negatively impact our community for years, decisions that will forever change the traditions and trajectory of our island.

Do not extend any provision for usurping public spaces and lands for over-development of privately held investment property.

Mahalo,

Lynley Dow's
808-385-6424
129 Auhana Rd Apt C
Kihei HI 96753

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Deb Doyle](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Ruby and Son's lease
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 1:23:37 PM

Dear BLNR-

Please deny the lease to Ruby and Sons on the public access parking for South Maui Beach.

Sincerely, Deborah Doyle

Sent from my iPad

From: [mary drayer](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Cc: [mary drayer](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] BLNR agenda - Item D-8 Ruby and Sons lease Mana Kai Beach parking
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 2:12:25 PM

Aloha,

As a 74 year Maui resident, i am writing in OPPOSITION to BLNR granting a lease to Ruby and Sons for the public beach parking lot area in Keawekapu, Maui.

Instead, I request for BLNR to please enter into an agreement with County Of Maui to manage that parking lot.

How much more can our island state take of foreign investors? When is it enough?
We have already lost so much. Please be one of the entities that will protect what is left.

Mahalo,
Mary Drayer
557 Imi Dr
Wailuku, Hi 96793
808-244-5646

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Gerald Durkan](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8 Keawakapu
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:02:45 AM

Dear Board Members:

Please deny the lease to Ruby and Sons (item D-8) and instead enter into an agreement with Maui County to acquire the land for public use. This site is one of the best for paddlers and families to enjoy and I feel it will be a genuine loss to our community.

Sincerely, Gerald P Durkan MD

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Anna Eckart-Dodd](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Regarding Agenda Item D-8,
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:42:20 AM

State of Hawaii
Board of Land and Natural Resources

October 6, 2021

Regarding Item D-8, Lease of Public Lands to Ruby & Sons

Please DENY THE LEASE to this foreign corporation and instead, ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH MAUI COUNTY, to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Access to the beach at Keawakapu, also known as “Mana Kai” is an important part of our lifestyle and culture as residents of Maui. It is our right as residents of Maui County to have access to our beach and shoreline on PUBLIC LANDS. Taking away the parking area by awarding a lease to a foreign entity (Ruby & Sons) would essentially completely cut-off all public access to the beach there, since there is no other designated parking available for that beach in that highly developed area of South Maui.

Please help to preserve the public’s right to access our beach at “Mana Kai” by denying the lease.

Respectfully,

Anna L EckartDodd-Dodd

From: [Lani Eckart-Dodd](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item D-8 DENY LEASE
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:57:30 AM

State of Hawaii
Board of Land and Natural Resources

October 6, 2021

Regarding Agenda Item D-8, Lease of Public Lands to Ruby & Sons

Please **DENY THE LEASE** to this foreign corporation and instead, **ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH MAUI COUNTY**, to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Access to the beach at Keawakapu, also known as “Mana Kai” is an important part of our lifestyle and culture as residents of Maui. It is our right as residents of Maui County to have access to our beach and shoreline on PUBLIC LANDS. Taking away the parking area by awarding a lease to a foreign entity (Ruby & Sons) would essentially completely cut-off all public access to the beach there, since there is no other designated parking available for that beach in that highly developed area of South Maui.

Please help to preserve the public’s right to access our beach at “Mana Kai” by denying the lease.

Respectfully,

Lani Eckart-Dodd
Wailuku, Maui

--

Lani

From: [Arlene Emerson](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keep Public Lands in Public Hands!
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 6:57:23 AM

Please, please deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into an agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot and any surrounding areas the lease might encompass.

--

Arlene Emerson

From: [Chris Feleppa](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 7:18:46 AM

Aloha,

I would like to request the denial of Rudy & Sons lease to put a hotel on Keawakapu and instead enter into an agreement with Maui County to take care of the beach. We do not need any more hotels on this beautiful island. We need more affordable housing for locals. Median house prices are almost at 1 million, what locals can afford this. Priorities need to be changed into a more community minded way. Maui is special and shouldn't be sold off to the highest bidder!

Mahalo Nui Loa
Chris Feleppa
808-638-4874
chris@tropicalguides.com

From: [Dani Ferguson](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Regarding Beach Parking at Keawakapu
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 7:21:04 AM

I am a regular local beach goer & am appalled that we even have to fight international investors for our local parking. Please do not take away anymore public parking access. Next thing will be beach access. Just NO already

Mahalos in advance

Christine Ferguson

40 Neke Pl

Haiku, HI 96708

From: [Bill Giebink](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:28:05 PM

Aloha,

As a Maui resident, I ask that you deny the lease renewal to Ruby & Sons and engage with the County of Maui to manage the parking at Keawakapu. Access to our beaches is a critical part of life on our Island. Every time we are pushed away more of what makes Maui unique is lost. Please, do the right thing for us.

Bill Giebink

From: [Mark Goldberg](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8 - Keawakapu
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:06:26 AM

I am a canoe paddler and many of my friends are canoe paddlers. We have all used this beach for decades. In recent months and years access has been increasingly restricted by, I have come to learn, Ruby and Sons. Much of the parking has been fenced off and/or restricted with signage, but these spaces are very rarely occupied while the rest of the lot overflows with people parking dangerously on the street.

Access to use the public shower on the Day's Inn side of the public beach had been restricted at different times. Public access signs have been removed and access has been restricted to varying degrees at various times. Private security patrols public areas intimidating users of our public beach park. Fencing that is designed to be temporary has been left permanently on what I can only assume is the property line for Day's Inn - the unfinished and uncovered rough metal construction-area style poles encroaching very closely to the shower have damaged both boats and people as these showers have been used since they were installed for washing people and canoes.

Keawakapu beach is a beach we used more frequently before these changes. We now avoid use when possible in favor of Ulua Beach which is properly managed by the County due entirely to the increasing mismanagement of Keawakapu beach park.

Ulua Beach is less convenient and more risky to both our boats and to the swimmers we must avoid, however the access to Keawakapu has been degraded to the point that it is now far less used by us than we would otherwise prefer under proper stewardship.

Keawakapu is not being managed properly by a company that should not be permitted to manage our public beach parks and access. We would love to have our public park access fully restored so we could begin fully enjoying it again.

I am therefore asking that you please deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead seek to either enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot, or find another party who has the best interests of our community in mind.

Sincerely,

Mark Goldberg,
Resident of Haiku Maui

From: jag@urmaui.com
To: [Ferreira, Darlene S](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] D-8 Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 6:57:12 PM

Aloha Chair and Board Members,

My name is Jimmy Gomes past BLNR Maui Member and I would like for you to deny item D-8 to Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC., and instead enter into an agreement with County of Maui to manage our PUBLIC BEACH RESERVE PARKING LOT. I know this has come before the Board on different occasions and we said back then, let's give it to the County of Maui and have them negotiate to acquire this public asset in the best interest of our Community.

From what I understand in the past few years leasee hasn't been a good steward toward the use for public access for the Community and Visitors. You have testimonies before that list this behavior, so I won't go into it.

Mahalo,
Jimmy Gomes

From: jdgordon1975@gmail.com
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Cc: jdgordon1975@gmail.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8 Keawakaapu beach access
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:16:03 AM

Aloha,

I am contacting you regarding D-8 and the proposed lease to Ruby & Sons

Please do not allow this developer to have a 35-year lease on the land and block the public from the gravel parking lot between the hotel and the Mana Kai resort.

I was surprised to see all the parking stalls marked off especially when the hotel was closed due to the pandemic....why was this allowed?

Why not let local families like us, have parking and access to the beach reserve?

This plan is not Pono and should be stopped.

Jim and Debi Gordon

2691 Puu Hoolai ST, ,Kihei

From: [William Greenleaf](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:04:54 AM

Aloha BLNR

I am writing against offering a lease to Ruby & Sons for the parking lot at Keawakapu Beach.

The developer has taken numerous actions that reveal their unfriendly nature...such as blocking off stalls during pandemic, putting up cones to stop legal parking and more.

Maui County is willing to negotiate a lease. Public lands are part of public trust...if you give a lease to Maui County, the public can use their vote as part of the process of management...this would be a good solution to a terrible and ridiculous problem.

Regards,
Bill Greenleaf
Makawao

From: [Susan Halas](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Oct 8, 2021, Item D-8- Reject Proposal Ruby and Son Hospitality Kihei Maui
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:37:39 AM

PLEASE REJECT ITEM D-8 on your Agenda of Oct. 8, 2021.

I do not favor the lease of this parcel of public lands (Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004: 149) to Ruby & Sons Hospitality.

This developer is acting in bad faith, restricting access to public parking, being bad neighbors, taking parking that is designated for public use and in general acting like a bully. We Maui citizens we don't want to deal with them now or in the future. I urge you not only to reject leasing this property to this entity, but to open a detailed inquiry into their past actions and unacceptable ongoing behavior.

- ☐ bought oceanfront property at Keawakapu out of bankruptcy and wined and dined local officials to maximize hotel development by changing community plan from Single Family to Hotel designation
- ☐ colluded with the County to withdraw half of our public beach parking and mark it for hotel use only
- ☐ tried to illegally close the public beach parking lot on numerous occasions without permits
- ☐ put up cones to illegally block public beach access parking on S. Kihei Rd
- ☐ during the pandemic while the resort was closed they blocked off “their” stalls with orange fencing in the beach parking lot to prevent public use(see photo)
- ☐ called the police on local fishermen and our young people using the public beach reserve to try get rid of them so tourists at their hotel could watch the sunset(DLNR/police reports)
- ☐ caught on facebook live ripping down the “Public Beach Reserve” signage and telling our keiki and local fishermen they are revoking the public use of the beach reserve(hotel has no right to do so)
- ☐ have done nothing about an illegal revetment on our public beach in front of hotel

This international hotel developer is currently paying \$140 on a month-to-month lease with the State to bully and harass the public using our beach reserve and parking lot and now they want to be rewarded with a 35 year lease from the State of Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Please listen to public testimony from concerned Mauians and reject this lease.

The County of Maui is willing to negotiate with the State to acquire this valuable public asset, in the best interest of our community.

(Relating to Meeting of Oct. 8, 2021, Agenda item D-8:Evaluation Committee’s Recommendation for Selection of Proposal Submitted by Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC in Response to Request for Qualifications / Request for Proposals Lease of Public Lands; Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui, Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004: 149).

Sincerely,
Susan Halas

--

Susan Halas
1939A E. Vineyard St.
Wailuku, HI 96793
(808) 280-9205 cell
wailukusue@gmail.com

From: [Hatakeyama Ohana](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Regarding Item D-8, Lease of Public Lands to Ruby & Sons
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 5:10:11 PM

State of Hawaii

Board of Land and Natural Resources

October 6, 2021

Please DENY THE LEASE to this foreign corporation and instead, ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH MAUI COUNTY, to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Access to the beach at Keawakapu, also known as “Mana Kai” is an important part of our lifestyle and culture as residents of Maui. It is our right as residents of Maui County to have access to our beach and shoreline on PUBLIC LANDS. Taking away the parking area by awarding a lease to a foreign entity (Ruby & Sons) would essentially completely cut-off all public access to the beach there, since there is no other designated parking available for that beach in that highly developed area of South Maui.

Please help to preserve the public’s right to access our beach at “Mana Kai” by denying the lease.

Respectfully,
Laureen Hatakeyama
Wailuku, Maui

From: [M.Hendricks](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public beach parking
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 2:06:50 PM

Aloha,

I am asking the BLNR to deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot at Keawakapu.

Michelle Hendricks
62 Kuli Puu Street
Kihei

If you love Keawakapu, please make your voices heard! Our public beach parking Keawakapu north (by Mana Kai) is at risk!

A foreign developer is requesting a 30 year lease on public beach access lands at Keawakapu from the State of Hawai'i's Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR). This item is on Friday's BLNR meeting agenda and we must speak up if we want to keep public lands in public hands. Our public beach access is deeply important to the communities of Maui.

Please send a request to testify and/or send your email testimony to the BLNR at blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov by tomorrow morning, Thursday October 7th at 9:00am. If you request to testify during the event, a link to join the event will be sent to you. In your email, please reference Item D-8 and ask the BLNR to DENY the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

You can review the meeting agenda here: <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Agenda-211008.pdf>

From: [Douglas Hoffman](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Beach access and lease
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 3:23:45 PM

Please reference Item D-8 and ask the BLNR to deny lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

From: [Sarah Hofstadter](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Cc: [Representative Tina Wildberger](#); Kelly.King@mauicounty.us
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D.8, 10/8/21 BLNR meeting
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 12:13:14 PM

Aloha Board Members and staff:

My name is Sarah Hofstadter and I am a full time resident of Kihei. I am writing to OPPOSE the lease to ANY private party of the public lands adjacent to the north end of Keawakapu Beach in Kihei/Wailea (Item D.8, 10/8/21 BLNR Agenda).

Keawakapu Beach and the adjacent publicly owned lawn area south of the Mana Kai and makai of the Days Inn are essential recreational, fishing, and social resources for Maui residents. The area proposed to be leased includes the parking that provides access to these public facilities. The current lease applicant has done everything in its power, including illegal actions, to restrict residents' beach access. They have cordoned off parking spaces well in excess of their legal allotment, even when the Days Inn was closed earlier in the pandemic. They have intimidated beach users and people fishing from the shoreline.

The best lessee (or purchaser) for this property would be the County of Maui, which could manage these public lands in the interest of the public rather than attempting to expropriate them for private profit. Maui residents are tired of being treated as second class citizens while visitors and the visitor industry enjoy special privileges and exploit our natural resources.

Please disapprove this lease, and direct DNLR to negotiate with the County of Maui, and/or a private non-profit land trust, to arrive at terms for the lease or purchase of this land that will ensure its management in the public interest, with particular consideration for ensuring maximum public access in perpetuity. A parcel this important for public beach access should not be placed in the hands of a greedy foreign developer with no respect for the rights of Maui residents.

Respectfully - Sarah Hofstadter

From: [Carol Holland](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 3:58:54 PM

Aloha

I am writing to urge you to deny the beach lease to Ruby and Sons and to instead enter a lease with Maui county. Our island is slowly being stripped away and commercialized. It is time to stop keep our island and properties in local hands. This whole deal smacks of corruption starting with the wining and dining of county officials. The colonial business model and old way of doing things must end. So in closing do not allow Ruby and Sons to have a beach lease. Thank you

Carol Holland

From: [niles_james](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Regarding Item D-8, Lease of Public Lands to Ruby & Sons
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:30:07 AM

State of Hawaii
Board of Land and Natural Resources
October 6, 2021

To Whom It May Concern at BLNR,

Regarding Item D-8, Lease of Public Lands to Ruby & Sons

Please DENY THE LEASE to this foreign corporation and instead, ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH MAUI COUNTY, to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Access to the beach at Keawakapu, also known as “Mana Kai” is an important part of our lifestyle and culture as residents of Maui. It is our right as residents of Maui County to have access to our beach and shoreline on PUBLIC LANDS. Taking away the parking area by awarding a lease to a foreign entity (Ruby & Sons) would essentially completely cut-off all public access to the beach there, since there is no other designated parking available for that beach in that highly developed area of South Maui.

Please help to preserve the public’s right to access our beach at “Mana Kai” by denying the lease.

Respectfully with much aloha,
Niles C James
Co-Owner & Founder
Ho’omakua Farm
808-292-5142

From: [Donna Howard](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Parking for BeachGoers South Kihei
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 4:53:58 PM

We here by request the council deny extension of the Days Inn lease of what was once PUBLIC PARKING for locals and Kamaaina. This limited area with access to Keawakapu is often full. The leaser has cordon off access to too many of the parking spots and made it virtually impossible for local fishermen, paddlers, windsurfers and families to find a space.

A solution could/would be for hotel owner to buy the empty lot across the street and use it for hotel parking.

D. M. Howard
Kihei, Hi
808-988-1111

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Nicole Huguenin](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 12:33:24 PM

Aloha,

Thank you for your time BLNR members. My name is Nicole Huguenin and I am a resident of Kihei. I am writing today in regards to beach reserve parking at Keawakapu. I am requesting that the long term lease to Ruby & Sons is denied. I support the County of Maui managing the parking lot in perpetuity.

The actions of Ruby & Sons since they took over this lease in the past few years has greatly impacted those of us in the local community who access this beach on a daily basis. What used to be an easy and welcoming parking space now feels hard and confusing and even invasive at times. There have even been times I've watched people be turned around and told to leave to prioritize hotel guests. This is not in accordance with the plan for the community and not the time to give power to an outside company to make community decisions.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.
Nicole Huguenin
Kihei, Maui

From: [Lisa Husch](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:22:47 PM

Aloha,

I kindly request BLNR to deny the lease to Ruby & Sons. Please enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Precedence should be given to providing local residents with access to the beach and supporting cultural activities, not to providing more access to over tourism.

Mahalo,

Lisa H.

808-276-6380

From: [Spencer Hyde](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] DENY Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 1:33:39 PM

Dear BLNR,

I am writing to you as a citizen of South Maui to ask that you please deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot. We, the citizens of South Maui, want to have proper access to the beaches in our home.

Thank you,
Spencer Hyde
(808) 344-8299

From: [Sara Jelley](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8 Keawakapu
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 10:22:32 AM

Aloha,

I am writing as a Maui resident, asking you to please deny lease to Ruby & Sons at Keawakapu and instead please consider what we can do to work with the County of Maui to improve the land, beach and parking for all, not only the tourist coming in temporarily. Thank you for your consideration.

--

Sara Jelley
Singer/Songwriter, Vocal Coach
970-658-7437
sarajelleymusic.com

From: [Stephanie Jenison](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony in opposition to D-8
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 6:05:55 AM

I am writing today in regard to item D-8 on the agenda for the October 8 meeting.

Public beach access is one of the things that makes Maui great, and control of that access belongs with our own governing body, not a landowner serving the interests of hotels and tourism.

I ask the BLNR to deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stephanie Jenison
Kihei, Maui

stephaniemjenison@gmail.com
(808) 344-9835

From: [Mark Joiner](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Request to provide testimony, Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 3:34:17 PM

Good afternoon

In addition to my testimony below, please send me a link so I can attend the meeting and testify on Item D-8. Mahalos!

Testimony on Item D-8

Aloha,

I am in strong OPPOSITION to the approval of the Evaluation Committee's Recommendation for Selection of Proposal Submitted by Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC in Response to Request for Qualifications / Request for Proposals for Lease of Public Lands; Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui, Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004: 149.

It is definitely not okay for a foreign hotel developer to get a 35 year lease of public beach reserve parking.

Here's what we have been informed that this foreign hotel developer has done over the past few years.

- bought oceanfront property at Keawakapu out of bankruptcy and inappropriately influenced local officials to maximize hotel development by changing the community plan from Single Family to Hotel designation.
- utilized relationships with the County to gain half of the public beach parking and mark it for hotel use only.
- attempted to illegally close the public beach parking lot on numerous occasions without permits.
- put up cones to illegally block public beach access parking on S. Kihei Rd.
- during the pandemic while the resort was closed they blocked off "their" stalls with orange fencing in the beach parking lot to prevent public use. Photos of this have been provided by other testifiers.
- called the police on local fishermen and families with keiki using the public beach reserve to try get rid of them so tourists at their hotel could watch the sunset(per DLNR/police reports)
- caught on facebook live ripping down the "Public Beach Reserve" signage and telling keiki and local fishermen they are revoking the public use of the beach reserve(which hotel has no right to do)
- have done nothing about an illegal revetment on the public beach in front of hotel.

It is reported that this Chinese hotel developer is currently paying \$140 on a month-to-month lease with the State to bully and harass the public using a public beach reserve and parking lot. Now they are apparently asking to be rewarded with a 35 year lease from the State of Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources.

The County of Maui is reportedly willing to negotiate with the State to acquire this valuable

public asset, in the best interest of our community. We must keep public lands in public hands.

NO foreign developer should be given a long term lease for our beach reserve parking lot, especially when they have demonstrated clear disdain for our community and public beach access laws.

I therefore ask the BLNR to deny lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Mahalo nui loa,

Mark Joiner

Kihei, Maui

From: [Kaaz](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item D-8
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 7:52:01 AM

To whom this may concern,

My name is Joy Kaaz. I am a permanent Kihei resident who lives near and uses Keawakupu Beach regularly. I am writing to ask you to deny a lease to the developer Ruby and Sons, and instead enter into an agreement with the County of Maui to manage the public beach preserve parking lot.

Aloha and mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joy Kaaz

From: [Sandra Kaestle](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawakapu parking lot discussion item D8
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 8:39:20 AM

<https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Agenda-211008.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3pVG2zmabl839n1nFmrqstkgUrj2Ilx33s6kEmCn6q-ML2PYeB3UtTzdw>

Dear Board Members

I am writing to you to ask that you deny the request of Ruby & Sons and the actions they are asking for with regards to the public parking for Keawakapu Beach at the Mana Kai resort.

This is the time for the BLNR to support Maui and it's residents. You talk on one side of the need for change and return of the island to its community and citizens yet this is an example of the BLNR considering something so far removed from that premise that it sets a scary and disappointing precedent for future actions.

Do what is right and best for our community. Preserve 100% of the current parking lot for public beach parking.

Thank you for your consideration.

- Sandra Kaestle.

From: [carol.lee.kamekona](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 12:12:39 AM

Aloha no e BLNR Commissioners,

As a recognized Cultural descendant of the moku of Honua'ula by the Maui Lāna'i Island Burial Council, I implore you to deny the lease to Ruby & Sons. Much of Makena and Wailea is being desecrated by outside, off island investments to the detriment of our Cultural and Natural Resources and the identity of who we are as Kanaka Maoli. My kupuna is quoted as having built the loko 'ia of Keoneo'io, Oneuli and Onipa'a heiaus. He traversed the entire 'aina of Honua'ula. Therefore, I feel an obligation to fight and help protect what little we have left of our island home. For our future 7!

I would also request that you enter into an agreement with the County of Maui to manage our Public beach reserve parking lot and ensure unobstructed access of our beaches to our Local residents.

Mahalo for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony on this truly important issue.

'Oia'i'o!
Carol Lee Kamekona
Kahului, Maui

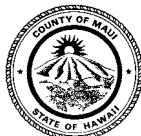
Sent from my iPhone

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Gabe Johnson
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

October 7, 2021

TO: State of Hawai'i Board of Land and Natural Resources

FROM: Kelly Takaya King
Councilmember

SUBJECT: **OPPOSITION TO EVALUATION COMMITTEE'S
RECOMMENDATION FOR SELECTION OF
PROPOSAL RUBY & SONS HOSPITALITY, LLC
IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR
QUALIFICATIONS/REQUEST FOR
PROPOSALS FOR LEASE OF PUBLIC LANDS;
KAMAOLE, WAILUKU, MAUI, TAX MAP KEY:
(2) 3-9-004:149**

Dear Chairperson Case,

I am writing to express my concerns about assigning a 35-year lease to the hotel for the following reasons:

- Based on conversations with our DLNR office on Maui, there is a need for a master plan for the area that includes this parking lot;
- The Kihei-Makena Community Plan is over 20-years old. It is currently being updated and will address the community's desires for the Keawakapu beach area and beach parking in general;
- Mayor Victorino recently promised to issue a letter of interest to acquire by Executive Order a portion of the adjacent lot to develop into additional parking due to overcrowded parking conditions in the current designated public parking area; and
- Relations between the hotel owners and the residents of Maui have continued to be contentious over the parking issue.

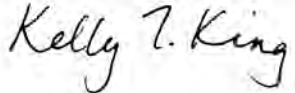
I have received numerous communications from community members opposing any resumption of the lease. I would support either a month-to-month lease or an annual lease at this point for the reasons set forth above. Once the

October 7, 2021
Page 2

South Maui Community Plan is completed and approved, there should be additional guidance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Kelly Takaya King
Maui County Council

From: [Monica Kelsey](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item: D8 Save Keawakapu from Chinese Hotel Developer Ruby & Sons
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 10:52:09 PM

Dear BLNR

I am not sure what your committee is thinking when you are about to sign an agreement with a company, Ruby & Sons, that is not local Hawaiian nor has the best interests in mind of our Maui fisherman and local people enjoying ocean activities.

Maui residents do not want a private money hungry third party involved in receiving a 35 year lease of our "public" beach reserve parking.

Tear up the agreement. Vote no.

Give the contract to the County of Maui so we can make decisions within our own qualified local council regarding OUR public beach reserve parking.

Please perform your responsibilities to what South Maui residents need and not what BLNR wants. You don't live in South Maui.

Please listen to local people that are more important than greedy Chinese developers. Keep Maui safe from developers.

Mahalo

Monica Kelsey

South Maui homeowner

96 Kulipuu Street

Kihei 96753

In case you weren't aware, Here's what this foreign hotel developer has done over the past few years.

bought oceanfront property at Keawakapu out of bankruptcy and wined and dined local officials to maximize hotel development by changing community plan from Single Family to Hotel designation

conspired with the County to steal half of our public beach parking and mark it for hotel use only

tried to illegally close the public beach parking lot on numerous occasions without permits

put up cones to illegally block public beach access parking on S. Kihei Rd

during the pandemic while the resort was closed they blocked off "their" stalls with orange fencing in the beach parking lot to prevent public use(see photo)

called the police on local fishermen and our keiki using the public beach reserve to try get rid of them so tourists at their hotel could watch the sunset(DLNR/police reports)

caught on facebook live ripping down the "Public Beach Reserve" signage and telling our keiki and local fishermen they are revoking the public use of the beach reserve(hotel has no right to do so)

have done nothing about an illegal revetment on our public beach in front of hotel

This Chinese hotel developer is currently paying \$140 on a month to month lease with the State to bully and harass the public using our beach reserve and parking lot and now they want to be rewarded with a 35 year lease from the State of Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources

The County of Maui is willing to negotiate with the State to acquire this valuable public asset, in the best interest of our community. We must keep public lands in public hands. #JustSayNO foreign Chinese developer should be given a long term lease for our beach reserve parking lot especially when they have demonstrated clear disdain for our community and public beach access laws.

From: [Connor Kihune](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:27:25 PM

In regards to item D-8, I ask the BLNR to deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot. There already isn't much public parking lots in the area to use when accessing the beach. I fear this will make it harder to access the beach and for families in the area to enjoy Keawakapu. Please keep public lands in public hands.

Thank you,
Connor Kihune

From: robin.s.knox@gmail.com
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on BLNR, Land Board Meeting Oct 8, 20201, Item D8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 10:07:01 AM

To: BLNR, Land Board Meeting Oct 8, 20201, Item D8

Subject: Please deny lease of Public Lands to Ruby and Sons Hospitality LLC.

Dear BLNR board members and all,

My name is Robin Knox. I am a South Maui resident, who swims 3-7 times per week at Keawekapu Beach for the last 16 years.

I respectfully ask that you deny the requested lease of Public Lands to Ruby and Sons Hospitality LLC.

There is already a chronic shortage of beach parking on Maui. This is because planners have repeatedly failed to add beach new access parking at a comparable pace with a rising population, increasing tourism, and development.

- This is especially true in South Maui and Wailea where hotels take up most of the shoreline and parking is restricted to very few remaining public access ways.
- I am disabled and frequent Keawekapu due to restricted parking at other beaches.
- Since the hotel closed off half the parking, I have not been able to find a space in this parking lot that is within the distance that I can walk without stressing myself physically
- The applicants are attempting to take away a large portion of the available parking spaces. Far in excess of their needed allotment.
- The applicants have very limited and inadequate parking at their hotel, yet were allowed to build it anyway, and now want to take public parking even though there was property mauka of S. Kihei directly across from the hotel that they could develop as parking.
- The applicant does not need all of these parking places to meet their legal requirements for parking
- This is not fair to the public who relies on this parking in order to be able to safely access the beach.
- Most of the public parking has been removed from the front of the Mana Kai hotel as well and puts more cars into the remaining public spaces.
- Local families are already having difficulties getting beach parking for recreation, because there are too many tourist cars parking there, and often too many hotel staff cars parking there as well.
- We need to have more beach parking spaces available for local residents. Especially for the local ohana's with keiki and kupuna who need to be close to the shoreline.
- Beach access is a quality of life issue for local residents.
- Having equitable access to the beaches and waters of Hawaii is a legal right.

- This lot has historically been available for public beach parking.
- This is state land being leased to a for profit business for a ridiculously low amount of money
- The County of Maui is willing to purchase this land from the state to ensure public beach access
- This hotel has historically NOT complied with shoreline regulations, allowing encroachment of vegetation onto the beach, narrowing beach available for residents.
- The hotel is hostile to residents and attempts to deny Native Hawaiians gathering/fishing rights and other residents of the right to shoreline access
- The hotel manager illegally removed public access signage

Please do not approve the lease of these public lands, and keep this land available to the public for public use as it was intended. This applicant has blatant disregard for State of Hawaii laws and administrative rules, is hostile to residents, is asking for more than what they need legally to operate, and does all of this for no reason other than to profit off of Hawaii's natural resources at the expense of residents and other visitors frequenting this beach.

Thank you for your attention to my testimony

Robin S. Knox
2796 Kauhale St
Kihei, HI 96753
(808)866-6659

From: [Mary Kok](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re Item D8 lease of public lands to Ruby & sons
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 10:00:04 AM

Please Deny the lease to this foreign corporation and instead enter into an agreement with Maui County to manage our public beach parking lot.

Access to the beach at Keawakapu is an important part of our lifestyle and culture. It is our right to have access to our beaches and shoreline on Public Lands. Don't forget you are working for the Public, not foreign entities. This needs to stop.

Please help to preserve the public's right of way to access the beach at Mana Kai by denying the lease.

Respectfully,
Mary Kok

Sent from my iPad

From: [Mirayam](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 1:57:22 PM

As a 42 year resident of Maui and a frequent visitor of our public beach parking at Keawakaou beach north, I ask that you deny Ruby & Sons any long term lease as an outsider who shows no aloha nor respect for the local population. Instead we the people of south Maui ask that we enter an agreement with the County Of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Mahalo,

Mirayam Licht

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Colin lindeman](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Concerning Item D-8 For the HI DLNR Meeting Oct 8, 2021
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 4:10:05 PM

Aloha Board of Land and Natural Resources of the State of Hawai'i,

I am writing to you concerning Item D-8 on the agenda.

I ask that you deny lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Since 2008 I've been using the public parking (gravel lot right of south kihei road) at Mana Kai Beach Parking between what was Sarentos restaurant and the Mana Kai Resort to walk the beach, meet with friends for sunset and load up/drop off my personal one man outrigger canoe for flat water paddle and for down wind paddles.

I've been frustrated by the reduction of free public parking by the beach for full time County of Maui residents with what appears island wide but now here at Keawakapu by Mana Kai, a place used by many residents for many uses.

I hope that you create more access to our natural environments, from Mauka to Makai, for all to enjoy especially those who call Hawaii home and to not cave to the interests of a limited few.

Thank you for listening to my concerns,
-Colin Lindeman

From: [Marilyn Lopes](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawakapu Beach public access Agenda(Item D-8)
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 10:04:47 AM

Please save our beaches for Maui people their families and children for generations to come!!
This is so wrong to allow outside investors who don't care about the land or the people of Hawai'i.
May God in Heaven bless our Aina our leaders to care more about the people than about profits!!!

#SaveManaKai #BeachParking #KeepPublicLandsInPublicHands

A horrible Chinese hotel developer is set to get a 35 year lease of our public beach reserve parking on Friday at the BLNR!!! #HewaHotel

Here's what this foreign hotel developer has done over the past few years.

bought oceanfront property at Keawakapu out of bankruptcy and wined and dined local officials to maximize hotel development by changing community plan from Single Family to Hotel designation
conspired with the County to steal half of our public beach parking and mark it for hotel use only
tried to illegally close the public beach parking lot on numerous occasions without permits
put up cones to illegally block public beach access parking on S. Kihei Rd
during the pandemic while the resort was closed they blocked off "their" stalls with orange fencing in the beach parking lot to prevent public use(see photo)
called the police on local fishermen and our keiki using the public beach reserve to try get rid of them so tourists at their hotel could watch the sunset(DLNR/police reports)
caught on facebook live ripping down the "Public Beach Reserve" signage and telling our keiki and local fishermen they are revoking the public use of the beach reserve(hotel has no right to do so)
have done nothing about an illegal revetment on our public beach in front of hotel

This Chinese hotel developer is currently paying \$140 on a month to month lease with the State to bully and harass the public using our beach reserve and parking lot and now they want to be rewarded with a 35 year lease from the State of Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources! #OhHellNo

The County of Maui is willing to negotiate with the State to acquire this valuable public asset, in the best interest of our community. We must keep public lands in public hands. #JustSayNO foreign Chinese developer should be given a long term lease for our beach reserve parking lot especially when they have demonstrated clear disdain for our community and public beach access laws.

Please send a quick email. Check comments section↓ below for details on how to take action!

If you love #Keawakapu we need you to #StandUpNow

Please reference Item D-8 and ask the BLNR to deny lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Please email your written testimony by Thursday morning.

If you want to offer video testimony please email and let the BLNR know you want to testify and they will send a link for the meeting.

Email: blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov

Agenda(Item D-8)

<https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Agenda-211008.pdf> — in Keawakapu, Hawaii.

Marilyn Jansen Lopes

Freedom Coach

Health and Wellness Coach

Paradise Makani Bnb

Facebook.com/paradisemakanibnb

Mauicountryfarmtours.com

From: [Mike Luque](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Oct 8 agenda - item D-8
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 7:58:51 AM

Aloha,

I request that you deny the lease to Ruby & Sons. Access to beaches is a public issue, not a private one. Please give control over this lot to the County of Maui.

Mahalo,
Mike Luque
Haiku, HI

--

A process cannot be understood by stopping it. Understanding must move with the flow of the process, must join it and flow with it. - Frank Herbert in "Dune"

From: [Terri Marino Best](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item D-8 - Keawakapu Parking Lease Proposal
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 2:46:34 PM

Aloha,

As a resident of South Kihei I am strongly opposed to Ruby & Sons Hospitality having control over the parking lot near The Mana Kai Hotel given their track record of not respecting our public beach access laws.

Access to the beach for all is something that makes Hawaii special compared to other developed shorelines in the world where access is largely controlled through parking. I believe the best way to maintain access for all to this beautiful beach is by keeping parking lot control in public hands.

Please vote to deny the long term lease of this parking lot to Ruby & Sons or any other private party.

Thank you,
Theresa Marino
3106 Akala Drive Unit A
Kihei, HI 96753

From: [Rita Massey](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Item D-8 35 year lease to Ruby & Sons
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 2:39:22 PM

Dear Members of the State of Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources,

Please do not extend the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot at Keawakapu Beach in Kihei.

This is a favorite local beach for many years that I love to go to and see my friends. The hotel has been harassing locals, discouraging parking - right now with the restaurant closed they still will not let us park in "their" stalls - making access difficult for local beachgoers and fishermen. This property, belonging to the public, should not be for exclusive private use. It is ironic that personal property tax on my modest family home is higher than what the hotel pays for the rights to this parking lot.

Please deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and negotiate with Maui County to manage the public beach reserve parking lot at Keawakapu.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rita Massey
613 Luana Place
Kihei, HI
808-633-1497

From: [Rosa McAllister](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 10/8/21 BLNR Hearing Testimony
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 11:01:52 AM

Please accept this as testimony against the proposed lease with Ruby & Sons (section D8).

Instead, please enter into an agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

The takeover of Hawaii's beaches & access to them must stop...especially by foreign investors.

Mahalo.

- Rosa C. McAllister
Honokowai, Maui

From: [ruth mcglumphy](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawakapu Beach access vs Ruby & Sons development
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 12:51:22 PM

I ask the BLNR to deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

The residents of Maui deserve to be treated with respect to our needs too.

Mahalo, Ruth McGlumphy
Haiku Resident

From: [Ashlie McGuire](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawekapu
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 12:29:51 PM

I ask that you please deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot. Public access to beaches is sooo important. I grew up in Kihei and this beach is very special to me. This is the beach my daughter first swam in the ocean, it is so so special. Please do not sell out the sacred spaces of Maui.

Mahalo
Ashlie McGuire resident of Keokea

From: [Jana McMahon](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 6:31:54 AM

Hello,

I am respectfully asking the BLNR to deny lease of the Keawekapu Beach parking lot to Ruby & Sons.

Please enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage the public beach reserve parking lot.

In the best interest of Maui County and its residents, I am hoping the County of Maui will negotiate with the State to acquire this valuable much used public asset.

Giving the lease to this Chinese hotel developer a 35 year lease is a travesty and will benefit the foreign developer not the people of Maui, especially when the Chinese developer has exhibited questionable behavior when it comes to the use of the lot.

They have tried to close the lot numerous times to the public without permits, put up cones to illegally block public beach access and have done nothing about an illegal revetment on our public beach in front of the hotel.

Access and parking to all Maui beaches is an essential right for all who reside on the island. Please side with the public on this one and keep Maui assets out of the hands of greedy foreign developers.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,
Jana McMahon

Chef Jana McMahon
www.chefjana.com
www.janaeats.com
808-281-8393
Follow me on:
FB: Jana Eats
Insta: @janaeats
YouTube: Jana Eats

From: [Stacey Moniz](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please DENY Ruby & Sons request on Maui - Agenda 10.7.21 item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 3:07:05 PM

Aloha BLNR,

Thank you so much for your hard work.

I'm writing today as a Maui resident in STRONG OPPOSITION to Item D-8 on your agenda:
8. Approve Evaluation Committee's Recommendation for Selection of Proposal Submitted by
Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC in Response to Request for Qualifications / Request for
Proposals for Lease of Public Lands; Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui, Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004:
149.

Please do not allow this outside interest, hotel developer from China to obtain a 35 year lease!
Please allow the County of Maui to acquire this land so that it will stay under local control as
it should.

Thank you for your consideration of my STRONG OPPOSITION to this request.

Peace and love,
Stacey

From: [Mariah Mossman](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawekapu Beach Access
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:15:08 PM

State of Hawaii
Board of Land and Natural Resources

October 6, 2021

Regarding Item D-8, Lease of Public Lands to Ruby & Sons

Please DENY THE LEASE to this foreign corporation and instead, ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH MAUI COUNTY, to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Access to the beach at Keawakapu, also known as "Mana Kai" is an important part of our lifestyle and culture as residents of Maui. It is our right as residents of Maui County to have access to our beach and shoreline on PUBLIC LANDS. Taking away the parking area by awarding a lease to a foreign entity (Ruby & Sons) would essentially completely cut-off all public access to the beach there, since there is no other designated parking available for that beach in that highly developed area of South Maui.

Please help to preserve the public's right to access our beach at "Mana Kai" by denying the lease.

Respectfully,

Mariah Mossman

Sent from my iPhone

From: [SH 77](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for item D-8, Oct 8, 2021
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 7:24:29 PM

Aloha Esteemed Board Members.

I **oppose** item D-8: "Approve Evaluation Committee's Recommendation for Selection of Proposal Submitted by Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC in Response to Request for Qualifications / Request for Proposals for Lease of Public Lands; Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui, Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004: 149"

Public lands should be kept in public hands. The community must have access to beaches. Private companies should not be allowed to reduce access through leasing. Leasing to this company reduces available parking and access. Please deny the lease of public lands.

Sincerely,

Anjanette Naganuma
Lahaina, Maui

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From: [Pamela Neswald](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: item D8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 3:42:58 PM

Aloha, I'm a private citizen speaking regarding the proposed 35 year lease (essentially for free) to Ruby and Sons.

Please DENY this theft of local resources and instead go forward with the county to acquire this property for public use.

Parking and access to this beach is used by everyone, including visitors and residents, tax payers and indigents, as intended by God. It's a very valuable public asset and such a ridiculous lease would be an affront to the community.

Thank you very much for your time, your service and your wisdom on this matter.

Pamela Neswald
Pukalani

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Irene Newhouse](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:48:01 PM

It's hard enough to find beach parking w/out the limited amount being reduced. Please do not let the Manakai parking be reduced in area!!!

It's bad enough that the previously free lot by Kam II is now parking for pay.

Irene Newhouse
129 Walua Place
Kihei HI 96753

From: [Jtokane2014](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawakapu public access parking
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 11:57:46 AM

Please deny lease to Ruby & Sons for our public reserve parking lot in reference to D-8 and instead enter into agreement with County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Thank you!

Joanne OKane

#Keawakapu #TakeBackTheBeach #TakeBackTheParking

love #Keawakapu

From: [jessie](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:32:52 PM

Aloha,

In reference to Item D-8. Please deny lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve lot. Please protect Keawakapu public beach reserve lot. We have been enjoying this beach for decades and locals deserve a place to park and spend time at the beach. It is not pono to allow foreign interests to take away this access from our Hawaiian keiki.

Sincerely,

Jessie O'Neill-Prest

Kihei resident and Mom to a 9 year old who loves Keawakapu with all his heart.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [autumn parker](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Written testimony for lease to Ruby & Sons/D8
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 7:53:57 AM

Aloha,

I am writing today in strong opposition to the 30 year lease of public lands and beach to D8 Ruby and Sons Hospitality LLC.

I ask that you DENY this request for leasing land to this company, 30 years is an incredibly long time and public parking is already so limited. It is a huge disservice for residents who try to enjoy our island at this special beach so many of us enjoy. It's frustrating to see money moving in and taking away our special places, we as residents pay taxes, elect officials, support economy this is really unfair to have more and more taken away.

I ask that instead enter into an agreement with Maui County to manage our public parking for the beach reserve.

Thank you for taking this request into serious consideration.

Autumn Parker
Resident of Haiku

From: [Cody Pata](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Agenda Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 12:13:21 PM
Attachments: [Huamakahikina Declaration 2021.pdf](#)

Aloha mai, e ka Papa Ho‘okō o DLNR~

I am Cody Pueo Pata, a Kumu Hula, as well as a Hawaiian language & culture educator and consultant, from the island of Maui. I respectfully request that you deny the lease of public lands to Ruby & Sons and, instead, enter into agreement with Maui County to manage this public beach reserve parking lot.

As an active practitioner of Hawaiian ceremony, access to this beachside is crucial for some of our practices. Although this region is contemporarily known by the superimposed name of "Mana Kai" in the region now broadly called "Kīhei," it is more specifically known as Keawakapu, in the ahupua‘a of Kama‘ole, on the boundary between the moku of Kula and Honua‘ula. For Kānaka Maoli (Native Hawaiians), inoa ‘āina (place names) have always served to encode and relay meaningful information across space and time, from one generation to the next. Inoa ‘āina continue to be revered as inseparable from genealogies, individual and collective narratives, mele (poetic verse), prayers, and spiritual practices.

Cutting off public access to this area will not only completely deprive the public of access to the beach, but will also disable Kanaka Maoli practitioners from accessing this area for ceremony. Although I have accessed this region dozens of times for ceremony in my lifetime, I will relay that the last time I accessed this region for ceremonial purposes was just a little over a month and a half ago, at sunset on August 19th, 2021, when a group of Kumu Hula convened in this spot for kapu kai (ceremonial ablution through bathing in the sea). Such a cleansing is a required practice in Hula before any type of ceremonial event. In this instance, the ablution was to purify us, the Leo Kāhoa Steering Committee of the Huamakahikina Coalition of Kumu Hula, for worship at our kuahu (altar) as well as for the Kupukalālā Kumu Hula Convention held on August 21-22, 2021.

This site was specifically chosen because of the auspicious nature of the inoa ‘āina of the area *AND* its accessibility. Because a kapu kai is performed for cleansing, this area was important because it is in Kama‘ole—which can mean "not tied/bound"—thus serving to ceremonially untie any haumia (defilement) that we may have accrued up to that point. Because the specific site name is Keawakapu ("The Tabooed Landing Beach"), we further capitalized on its kapu nature to sanctify ourselves. We walked a short distance toward Niukauila just across the border in the moku of Honua‘ula. The inoa ‘āina of Niukauila ("Coconut Used in the Kauila Consecration Ceremony") and Honua‘ula (which can mean "Sacred Land") serving to further consecrate us in preparation for the upcoming ceremonies and convention.

The sea name in that region is ‘Alalākeiki, which can mean “To Chant with Prolonged Vowels to the Children’s Generation.” Because the main purpose of the Kupukalālā Kumu Hula Convention was to modify and ratify the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula,” we wanted the intentions of the prayers we would chant during the convention’s ceremonies, as well as the words of the declaration, to reverberate into the next generations to come.

The islet that we faced within the channel is Molokini, the name of which can mean “Tied Securely to the Multitudes,” and represented our intentions that the Declaration’s content be bound to the multitudes of people that populate Hawai‘i nei. Beyond that is Kaho‘olawe,

which can mean “Cause to be Accepted (as a duty),” and thus represented our acceptance as the steering committee to competently accept the kuleana needed for successful ceremonies, convention, and declaration ratification.

As is habitual and predictable, the Nāulu cloud was reaching out from Honua‘ula uka, over Pu‘uōla‘i, toward Kaho‘olawe. The Nāulu is symbolic because the name can be broken up to mean “The Inspirations,” and was meant to expand our awareness to be able to observe the many hō‘ailona (signs) that would influence our actions moving forward. This auspicious cloud extended out over the prominent hill of Pu‘uōla‘i—which can phonologically be heard as “Hill of Tranquility”—and represented our prayers for peace and tranquility during the ensuing kuahu ceremonies, and over the course of the two-day convention. Also, the longer story (not told herein, but attached to the saga of Hi‘iakaikapoliopole) of the creation of Pu‘uola‘i, Molokini, and Inaina served to ceremonially remind us that any obstacles which might stand up before us could be effectively mitigated.

The sunset timing of that day was chosen because it was the transition between the moon phases of Mōhalu (to Bloom) and Hua (to Fruit). This was significant because all of our planning as the steering committee over the previous nine months was blooming and coming into fruition—and, the name of our coalition of Kumu Hula is Huamakahikina (“Fruiting in the East” [a line from an important Hula prayer]). The sun that evening, as predicted, set behind Lāna‘i, the name of which can be broken up to mean “Day of Striving to Obtain.” As such, it symbolized that the days to strive to obtain our goals were upon us. And, because the ceremony happened at sunset, it was fairly dark when we retreated back to the parking lot. Amongst this group of Kumu Hula were some kūpuna who had a hard time walking. For these reasons, as well as all of the reasons listed above, the nearby public parking was crucial for their required participation.

The “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula” was unanimously ratified at the Kupukalālā Kumu Hula Convention. Within this declaration, to which 200 Kumu Hula have affixed their names as ratifying signatories, our relationship as Hula practitioners to ‘āina is declared as such:

KE KAHUA: Background (Paragraph 5): . . . Huamakahikina is a contemporary manifestation of Hula community and advocacy. Kumu Hula regularly come together around Hula competitions, exhibitions, and other cultural activities. Kumu Hula have also established themselves within political movements and as some of the leading advocates for the wellbeing of ‘āina and Kanaka Maoli culture . . .

1.4: Hula is a unique and distinctive cultural expression of Hawai‘i and is important to Kānaka Maoli expression of worldview, mauli ola [physical, spiritual, mental health and wellbeing], ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i [Hawaiian language], relationship to ‘āina, and practices which include Mele, mo‘olelo [history], and ho‘omana [spiritual practices].

2.6: In 1997, Kumu Hula established the ‘Īlio‘ulaokalani Coalition to organize and advocate for the pono of Kānaka Maoli, Kanaka Maoli culture, and ‘āina.

4.4: Hula is innately and inextricably connected to ‘āina and reinforces humanity’s shared kuleana [responsibility] to aloha and mālama ‘āina.

Endnote 32: Kumu Hula utilize resources including but not limited to ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i, Mele, mo‘okū‘auhau [genealogy], ‘āina, the natural realm, a variety of other sources of inspiration, etc.

Through the examples listed above, my intention is to provide evidence that taking away the parking area by awarding a lease to a foreign entity (Ruby & Sons) would not only completely

cut-off all public access to the beach, but would also significantly disable Kumu Hula, Hula practitioners, as well as others who habitually access this site for Kanaka Maoli ceremonies and spiritual practices.

Again, I respectfully request that you deny the lease of public lands to Ruby & Sons and, instead, enter into agreement with Maui County to manage this public beach reserve parking lot.

For your reference, I will attach the “Huamakahikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula,” as well as photographic evidence of our latest ceremonial site access of Keawakapu (a.k.a. "Mana Kai").

Me ka ‘oia‘i‘o a me ka ha‘aha‘a,

Cody Pueo Pata

Hālau Hula ‘o Ka Malama Mahilani

808 281-0714

2843 Ipolani Street Makawao, HI 96768


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HUAMAKAHIKINA DECLARATION

on the Integrity, Stewardship, & Protection of Hula

with Ratifying Signatories



KE KAHUA¹: Background

Huamakahikina² is a coalition³ of Kumu Hula, open to all Kumu Hula and representing the breadth of Hula Lineages⁴, standing together for the purpose of organizing and advocating on behalf of Kumu Hula and the practice of Hula itself.


Huamakahikina was first convened on August 17, 2020, to develop a proactive cultural approach to the COVID-19 pandemic. Kumu Hula organized to bring the collective intellectual, spiritual, and physical practices of their Lineages together, in consultation with other cultural and medical practitioners⁵, to establish the Lāhui Kānaka Declaration⁶ and related support systems. Through these efforts, Kumu Hula promoted, strengthened, and maintained maui ola⁷ amongst themselves, their Haumāna⁸, and their ‘ohana⁹ to minimize the spread of COVID-19. Kumu Hula further adapted Lāhui Kānaka support systems for use by the public, broadcasting¹⁰ across social media networks and reaching tens of thousands of viewers from around the world.

Huamakahikina persists and expands beyond its initial charge, in recognition of the unique kuleana¹¹ that Kumu Hula have to the integrity, stewardship, and protection of Hula, Hula communities, and Kanaka Maoli¹² culture, more broadly. Huamakahikina is now an inclusive forum for Kumu Hula to discuss and collaborate on issues relevant to Hula.

Huamakahikina exists and Hula thrives despite historical challenges. In the 1830s, under the advice of Christian missionaries who sought to abolish Kanaka Maoli spiritual and cultural practices, leaders outlawed the practice of Hula in the Hawaiian Kingdom. However, given its importance to identity and wellbeing, Hula was maintained in private, in families and traditional institutions, along with other Kanaka Maoli spiritual and cultural practices. Years later, King David Kalākaua reinstated the public practice of Hula. Hula groups from across the Hawaiian Kingdom were assembled to perform at Kalākaua’s coronation in 1883, and again for his 50th birthday jubilee in 1886.


Huamakahikina is a contemporary manifestation of Hula community and advocacy. Kumu Hula regularly come together around Hula competitions, exhibitions, and other cultural activities. Kumu Hula have also established themselves within political movements and as some of the leading advocates for the wellbeing of ‘āina¹³ and Kanaka Maoli culture. Yet, through Huamakahikina, Kumu Hula aspire to come together, organize, and advocate in a manner and on a scale that is unprecedented.

Huamakahikina, assembled virtually on August 21-22, 2021, at the Kupukalālā Kumu Hula Convention, brought together 200 lineally acknowledged Kumu Hula from across the Pae‘āina o Hawai‘i¹⁴; 10 states of the United States of America; and the countries of Japan, New Zealand, French Polynesia, France, and Spain in order to discuss and ratify this Declaration to be a living expression of the views of the body thereby convened.



Huamakahikina unifies and amplifies the voices of Kumu Hula. This is needed now to address challenges, both old and new, that impact Kumu Hula and that threaten the integrity of Hula. It is with a sense of urgency that Kumu Hula gather in concern for the following:

1. Abuse. There is misrepresentation, cultural misappropriation, exploitation, and abuse of Hula. This includes misrepresentation by individuals who purport to teach Hula, but who are not lineally acknowledged Kumu Hula; misrepresentation by organizations and institutions that purport to present Hula, though not provided by a lineally acknowledged Kumu Hula; substandard performances and other misrepresentations of Hula in public, professional, and commercial spheres which diminish regard and respect for Hula, Kumu Hula, Haumāna Hula, Kānaka Maoli, and Kanaka Maoli culture; and the misappropriation of aspects of Hula, including choreography, designs, proper names, lexicons, and across the various mediums by which Hula is captured, including but not limited to photo, video, sound recording, printed media, digital media, and the like.
2. Ignorance. There is widespread ignorance and misunderstanding about the practice and performance of Hula, its functions within society, education and the transmission of knowledge through Hula, and Hula as a Kanaka Maoli traditional and customary practice. This includes ignorance in the marketplace for cultural performances resulting in economic harm for Kumu Hula that weakens the standards and expectations of Hula, deceives consumers of cultural performances, and perpetuates ignorance and misunderstanding around Hula; and a lack of respect for the practice of Hula, Hula Lineages, and the authority of Kumu Hula.
3. Protection. There is insufficient protection for the Kanaka Maoli culture and knowledge maintained within, and embodied by, Hula. This includes infringement of the intellectual property rights to which Kumu Hula are entitled with respect to the Hula resources they steward and create.
4. Recognition. There are disparities in how the rigors and highly specialized processes through which Kumu Hula are trained and acknowledged, along with their years of experience, are recognized and valued by institutions and within labor markets in relation to comparable conventional education and training pathways. This includes a lack of recognition of the traditional and cultural expertise of Kumu Hula within conventional education institutions and professional spheres; and inequity in pay for, and reduced consideration of, Kumu Hula in professional opportunities.
5. Access & Resourcing. There are challenges to engaging in the study and practice of Hula for a significant portion of the people of Hawai'i, most importantly Kānaka Maoli, due to a scarcity of resources and significant gaps and disparities in how Hula is recognized, treated, provisioned, housed, funded, and otherwise supported by local County and State governments. The result is that Hula is too often financially and/or geographically inaccessible.



KE KŪKALA¹⁵: Declaration


It is through pono¹⁶ and the kuleana of Kumu Hula that Huamakahikina proclaims this Declaration on the integrity, stewardship, and protection of Hula.

Ha'awina¹⁷ 1: Definitions of Hula

- 1.1. Hula¹⁸ is the multiplex of artistic, intellectual, and spiritual practices, perspectives, and products¹⁹ centered around the expression of Mele²⁰ through the bodies of formally trained dancers. The Mele, the dancers, and their dance may each be referred to as Hula.
- 1.2. Hula practices, perspectives, and products are unique and diverse. They include ceremonies, philosophies, scholarship, symbolism, hierarchies, protocols, procedures, lexicons²¹ of vocabulary and terms, methods of training, steps, motions, motifs, attire, adornments, styles of grooming, music, instrumentation, and beats.
- 1.3. Hula practices, perspectives, and products are among the great artistic, intellectual, and spiritual achievements of humanity.²²
- 1.4. Hula is a unique and distinctive cultural expression of Hawai'i and is important to Kānaka Maoli expression of worldview, maui ola, 'ōlelo Hawai'i, relationship to 'āina, and practices which include Mele, mo'olelo, and ho'omana.
- 1.5. Hula, as tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Kānaka Maoli, is under the exclusive stewardship of Kumu Hula.
- 1.6. Kumu Hula²³ are individuals who belong to Hula Lineages through which they were trained, who have been granted kuleana to steward Hula by a Kumu Hula, who are generally acknowledged and accepted by the broader Kumu Hula community, and who maintain enduring ties to Hawai'i.


Ha'awina 2: Origins & Historical Context of Hula

- 2.1. Hula originated in Hawai'i amongst the akua²⁴ and ali'i²⁵ of deep antiquity²⁶.
- 2.2. Hula thrives in the present day despite colonization, epidemics, pandemics, religious and political persecution, criminalization, the decline of the 'ōlelo Hawai'i²⁷, and various acts of abuse, misappropriation, and commercialization.
- 2.3. Prior to the influence of Christian missionaries, Hula flourished through ali'i patronage and community support.
- 2.4. Princess/Governor Ruth Ke'elikōlani (1826-1881), King Kamehameha V (1830-1872), Queen Emma (1836-1885), Queen Kapi'olani (1834-1899), and King Kalākaua (1836-1891) were some of the more well-known royal proponents of Hula, and their efforts, support, and patronages were crucial to the survival of Hula throughout their eras of governance.

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- 2.5. In 1959, forty Kumu Hula established the Hui Kumu Hula o Hawai'i with "[t]he desire to organize and stimulate all Instructors of the Hula throughout Hawai'i Nei to preserve and retain ancient and new customs to the art and beauty of its Dances and Music of Hawai'i, and to develop a finer appreciation of the culture of Hawaiiana for the good of our posterity."²⁸
 - 2.6. In 1997, Kumu Hula established the 'Īlio'ulaokalani Coalition to organize and advocate for the pono of Kānaka Maoli, Kanaka Maoli culture, and 'āina.
 - 2.7. In 1999, Hula was officially "adopted, established, and designated as the official dance of the State [of Hawai'i]"²⁹ and codified under HRS § 5-21.
 - 2.8. In 2003, the 'Īlio'ulaokalani Coalition organized Ka 'Aha Pono Native Hawaiian Intellectual Property Rights Conference at which Kumu Hula and other cultural practitioners created the Paoakalani Declaration and set forth statements against "exploitative use and commercialization of our traditional knowledge, cultural expressions and artforms [such as Hula], natural and biological resources, and intellectual properties."³⁰ The Paoakalani Declaration was acknowledged in House Concurrent Resolution 227 by the State of Hawai'i³¹.


Ha'awina 3: Transmission of Hula

- 3.1. Kumu Hula have maintained, cared for, created, and advanced the practices, perspectives, and products of Hula through space and time, transmitting Hula from one generation to the next, giving rise to what have become distinct Hula Lineages.
- 3.2. Kumu Hula are the exclusive sources of Hula³², as well as the incarnations of the Hula Lineages through which they were trained and lineally acknowledged as Kumu Hula to perpetuate the specific practices, perspectives, and products of their Hula Lineage(s).
- 3.3. Kumu Hula are masters of the art, practice, and profession of Hula, having attained expertise in their discipline that is commensurate with other forms of academic and professional credentialing³³.
- 3.4. Kumu Hula have the kuleana to maintain the integrity and sanctity of Hula.
- 3.5. Hula is defined and transmitted by Kumu Hula, as delineated in this Declaration.
- 3.6. Any individual who has not been lineally acknowledged as a Kumu Hula, consistent with this Declaration, is not a Kumu Hula.
- 3.7. Kumu Hula manifest Hula through choreography composed of formalized lower-body movements and expressive upper-body movements, all of which are inspired by and embody Mele while reflecting the Hula Lineage(s) of the Kumu Hula and their individual abilities, creativity, and proclivities.
- 3.8. Kumu Hula retain the exclusive authority to maintain, augment, enhance, and adapt their Hula practices, perspectives, and products.

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- 3.9. Kumu Hula retain the exclusive authority to define and transmit Hula, determine permissions regarding their Hula, and adapt and/or create Hula in response to the circumstances of their times.
 - 3.10. Kumu Hula retain the exclusive authority to choreograph and direct the presentation of Hula in public, professional, and commercial spaces.
 - 3.11. Unless specifically waived or conveyed to others, Kumu Hula retain and reserve all rights and protections, including but not limited to intellectual property, cultural, and commercial rights to which they are entitled over the aspects of Hula created through their own efforts or that have been passed down to them within their Hula Lineages. These rights relate to, as examples, rights in Hula choreography, designs, proper names, and lexicons, across all mediums in which Hula is captured.
 - 3.12. Kumu Hula may teach Hula through institutions of their own creation³⁴, other organizations, informal occasions, and/or other venues of their choosing³⁵.
 - 3.13. Kumu Hula reserve the right to retain the title of “Kumu Hula,” whether or not they maintain their own Hula institution or are otherwise teaching Hula.
 - 3.14. Kumu Hula retain the exclusive authority to substantiate new Kumu Hula through the rites of their Hula Lineage(s) in order to perpetuate the specific practices, perspectives, and products of their Hula Lineage(s) and those of their individual creation.
 - 3.15. Haumāna Hula are not themselves Kumu Hula unless lineally acknowledged according to the authority of their Kumu Hula and the rites of their Hula Lineage.

Ha’awina 4: Cultural, Social, & Economic Importance, Function, & Reach of Hula

- 4.1. As it has been for countless generations, Hula continues to serve as a means by which a wealth of Kanaka Maoli knowledge, practices³⁶, and the ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i exist into the present day, and through which this knowledge and these practices will be perpetuated into the future.³⁷
- 4.2. As recognized stewards of a wealth of knowledge and practice, Kumu Hula have long served as leaders, advisors, researchers, philosophers, and influencers for the people of Hawai‘i, as well as for the communities abroad wherein Hula is practiced.
- 4.3. Hula is essential to the overall health, wellbeing, and subsistence of Kumu Hula and is important to the health and wellbeing of Haumāna Hula and the broader community.
- 4.4. Hula is innately and inextricably connected to ‘āina and reinforces humanity’s shared kuleana to aloha³⁸ and mālama ‘āina³⁹.
- 4.5. Hula activities, presentations, and events nurture a deepened sense of Kanaka Maoli cultural and spiritual identity, as well as a deepened sense of community, amongst participants and audiences⁴⁰.

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- 4.6. Hula is practiced by people of all ages and backgrounds, particularly widespread and popular in Hawai'i, the West Coast of the United States, and Japan ⁴¹.
- 4.7. Hula is widely recognized, regarded, respected, enjoyed, and appreciated by audiences of Hawai'i and worldwide.
- 4.8. Hula contributes to the collective good of society in Hawai'i and in the communities abroad in which it is practiced.
- 4.9. Hula is an important source of le'ale'a⁴² for both Hula practitioners and audiences.
- 4.10. Hula serves as a nexus for a variety of traditional customs and practices⁴³, knowledge sets, disciplines, professions, and industries⁴⁴ external to Hula, and Hula provides crucial support and continuity for practitioners and professionals, their lineages, their expertise, and their businesses and/or livelihoods.
- 4.11. Hula events, such as public exhibitions, competitions, and festivals, provide important economic benefits for the venues and communities in which events are hosted, the tourism and media industries, as well as for a variety of other businesses⁴⁵.
- 4.12. Hula needs to be accessible to Kānaka Maoli as a critical component of Kanaka Maoli culture.
- 4.13. Hula is a traditional and customary practice protected under Article XII, section 7 of the Hawai'i State Constitution⁴⁶.
- 4.14. The State of Hawai'i, through House Resolution 24⁴⁷, declared the period from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2004, the "Year of the Hula".
- 4.15. The County of Maui, through Maui County Resolution 08-52⁴⁸, declared 2008 the "Year of the Hula".

Ha'awina 5: Misuse of Hula

- 5.1. Kumu Hula object to and oppose the intentional and unintentional misuse, misrepresentation, exploitation, and/or abuse of Hula in any form or fashion.
- 5.2. Kumu Hula object to and oppose the intentional and unintentional appropriation and misappropriation of any aspect of Hula, including choreography, designs, proper names, lexicons, and across the various mediums by which their Hula is captured, including but not limited to photo, video, sound recording, printed media, digital media, and the like.
- 5.3. Any dance performance that is not transmitted by Kumu Hula and presented by permission of Kumu Hula, or does not otherwise conform with the letter and intent of this Declaration, is not and should not be labeled as Hula or otherwise presented as the Indigenous dance of Hawai'i.



HO‘ĀLA⁴⁹: Call to Action

In accordance with pono and the kuleana of Kumu Hula, and as is consistent with this Declaration, Huamakahikina is determined to take action to uphold the integrity of Hula; to build strategic relationships and networks for the advancement of Hula, Kumu Hula, and Huamakahikina; to organize and advocate for the pono stewardship and protection of Hula within public, professional, and commercial spheres; to organize and advocate for access, recognition, public funding, facilities, and other resources in support of Hula; to cultivate Hula as a source of wellbeing; and to ensure that Hula flourishes for countless generations to come.

Recognizing that existing laws and policies are inadequate for the protection and support of Hula, Huamakahikina calls upon policymakers to develop and implement policies and practices consistent with this Declaration, in full consultation with Kumu Hula. We also call upon government and the private sector to resource Hula to the fullest extent possible.

Recognizing that actualization of this Declaration occurs through the persistent and pono actions of individuals, Huamakahikina calls upon Hula practitioners, Hula communities worldwide, Kānaka Maoli, and all of Hawai‘i to embrace the letter and intent of this Declaration and to support actions by Huamakahikina to protect and advance Hula, as is consistent with this Declaration.

KA ‘ĀPONO HO‘OKUMU: Ratification

The undersigned Kumu Hula, in expression of their kuleana to Hula, do hereby ratify this, the Huamakāhikina Declaration on the Integrity, Stewardship, and Protection of Hula, for it to be known by all.

Ainsley K. Halemanu, Ka Liko O Ka Palai
Akiko Colton, Hālau Hula o Nā Pua o Hawai‘i Nei
‘Ālika Guerrero, Kani‘oika‘ohuleihiwa
Alva Kaipoleimanu Kamalani, Hālau Manu Le‘a Hawai‘i
Analu Akao, Hālau Hula ‘O Kupukalau‘ie‘ie
Ann Lokeokaluapeleonālani Parker, Hālau Hula o Malulani
Ann-Gaylin Kaleiwohiokalani Kamalani, Hālau Manu Lea Hawai‘i
Annette Nettie Kekaikuihala Armitage-Lapilio, Hula O Kekaikuihala
‘Auli‘i L. Heine Hirahara, Nā Pua ‘Āhihi Lehua mai Pihanakalani
Aulii Mitchell, Halau o Kahiwhiwa & Halau o Moana-nui-a-Kiwa
Aureana Kamali‘ioiwalani Tseu, Hui ‘Iwa Academy
Brad Lum, Hula Halau O Ikemanu
C. Henohea Kāne, Hālau Ke‘alaokamaile
C. Malina Kaulukukui, Halau Hula Kamaluokukui
C. Pomaika‘i Gauī, Kehaulani Hula Studio & Halau Keahiokamalulani
Carole Lanialoha Lee
Carolee Kapuamae‘ole Nishi, Hui Hula o Kapunahala
Charlani Kalama, Hālau Ha‘a Hula O Kekau‘ilani Nā Pua Hala O Kailua
Chinky Māhoe, Kawailūlā
Christina Nani Aiu-Quezada, Hālau Hula Moani‘a‘ala Anuheā
Cody Kapueola‘ākeanui Pata, Hālau Hula ‘o Ka Malama Mahilani
Daniel "Bulla" Kailiwai, III, Ku Ka Wai Kane O Kona
Daniel Kaleo Kahoonei, Hālau Kiawekūpono O Ka Ua
Darcey Moniz, Hālau Hula ‘O Puka‘ikapuaokalani
Deanie Wailani Lum-Villados, Kaulana Na Pua ‘O Hawai‘i
Dennis Keli‘i Pu‘ukū O Ke Ao Imamura, Hālau Hula Keli‘i Pu‘ukū O Ke Ao
Devin Kamealoha Forrest, Hālau Hula ‘o Ke‘alalaua‘eomakana
Dietrix Jon Ulukoa Duhaylonsod, Hālau Kiawekūpono O Ka Ua
Ehulani Stephany, Hālau Hula Ka Makani Hali ‘Ala O Puna
Elsie Ryder, Hālau Hula o Kukunaokalā
Esther Ku‘uleinani Kekapa‘i Tripp Correa
Etua Lopes, Hālau Hula Nā Pua U‘i O Hawai‘i
F. E. Ka‘iuokalani Damas
Francine "Mopsy" Mapuana Kekahuna Aarona
Francis Kapuaoiokepamemaile Francisco, Hālau Nā Mamo O Ka Liko Maile O Kohala
G Lehua Gaison-Tyler, Ka Pā Kui Lei Lehua
Greg Lontayao, Hālau Kawaihoa
Hau‘oli Akaka, Hālau Hi‘ilaniwaialoha
Hi‘ilei Maxwell-Juan, Pukalani Hula Hale
Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu/Kumu Hina
Hökūlani Holt, Pā‘ū O Hi‘iaka

HUAMAKAHIKINA DECLARATION
on the Integrity, Stewardship, & Protection of Hula

KA ‘ĀPONO HO‘OKUMU: Ratification (continued)

Honey Takaki
Hope Keawe, Hula Halau o Mana‘olana o Kohala
Howard Ai, Hālau Hula Olana
Inger Kanoelani Hojfeldt
Iolani Kamaau, Hula ‘Īlaniwai
Ivalee Lilinoe Puaali‘i Kamalu
Iwalani Kalima, Hula Hālau o Kou Lima Nani e
Iwalani Wahinekapu Walsh Tseu, Iwalani’s School of Dance & Hui ‘Iwa Academy
J. Hau‘olimaikalani Keli‘i, Hālau Kūliaikapono
J. Leimomi Ho, Keali‘ika‘apunihonua Ke‘ena A‘o Hula
J. Moanikeala Whittle-Wagner, Hālau Nā Maile Kū Honua
James Dela Cruz, Na Opio O Ko‘olau
James Luluhiwalani Awai III
John Ku‘uhoamele Cuban, Nā Mōhai Aloha o Ka Laua‘e Pā Ola Kapu
John Wai‘ale‘ale ‘Aiwohi, Hālau Hula O Wai‘ale‘ale
Joy Keōpūolani Salvador, Hālau Ke‘ala Kahinano O Puna
Julie Tehani Bugarin, Hula Halau O Kahealani
K. Holoaumoku Ralar, Nā Pua O Kapi‘olani Hula Studio & Napili Kai Foundation
Ka‘anohiokalā Kalama-Macomber, Hālau Ha‘a Hula O Kekau‘ilani Nā Pua Hala O Kailua
Kaeo Bradford, Halau Ka Pa Kanaenae O Kaua‘iiki
Kahealani Faatuarai, Halau O Kahealani O Kahiki
Kāhealani K. Wilcox, Kaiāunu
Kahealani Ohumukini Blackmon, Halau Ku Pono I Kamalani
Kahikina Ah Sing, Ke Ala O Ke Ao Cultural Arts Studio
Kahulu Maluo-Pearson, Hālau Kamaluokaleihulu
Ka‘iulani Blankenfeld, Hālau Hula Kaleihuluokealohalani
Ka‘ohu Cazinha, Hālau Ke Ao o ‘Anolani
Kainoa Kaili-Kramer, Hālau Nā Lei Kaumaka o Uka
Kaiulani Odom
Kalama Pastor, Hālau Hula Nā Lama I Ka Uluwehi O Laka
Kalani Ah Sing, Ke Ala O Ke Ao Cultural Arts Studio
Kalani Akana, Ka Pā Hula ‘o Kāheakūlani
Kalei Aarona-Lorenzo
Kaleinanikauikawēkiu Seiko Okamoto, Nā Mamo O Kaleinani
Kaleo Trinidad, Kaleoolakaikahikinaokālā
Kalimakuhilani Southard, Hālau I Ka Lima Kuhi Lani
Kamaka Kukona, Hālau o ka Hanu Lehua
Kanani Cadaoas - Ka Pā Hula O Ke Ola Nani
Kanoenani Cargo-Kamaunu, Hālau Mānaiakalani
Kapena Malulani Perez, Halau Hula O Malulani
Kaponu Kamaunu, Hālau Mānaiakalani
Kaponu‘aikaulikeikeao Molitau, Hālau Nā Hanona Kūlike ‘O Pi‘ilani
Kapua Dalire-Moe, Hālau Ka Liko Pua O Kalaniākea
Kapuaokalani Ka‘au‘a
Kau‘i Wright, Hālau ‘o Kawainuhi
Kau‘i Dalire, Hālau Ka Lihilihilehua ‘O Hōpoe Kūikanani & Kūikanani Association

HUAMAKAHIKINA DECLARATION
on the Integrity, Stewardship, & Protection of Hula

KA ‘ĀPONO HO‘OKUMU: Ratification (continued)

Kau‘i Isa-Kahaku, Hālau Nā Wai Ola
Kau‘i Lopes
Kauilanuimakehaikalani Keali‘ikanaka‘oleohaililani, Tiny Kuahu
Kawika Alfiche, Hālau o Keikiali‘i
Dr. Kēhaulani Enos, Hālau ‘Ilima Kū Kahakai
Ke‘ala Ching, Ka Pā Hula Nā Wai Iwi Ola
Kealii Reichel, Halau Ke‘alaokamaile
Kehani Guerrero, Kani‘oika‘ohuleihiwa
Kēhaulani Kaneholani-Santiago, Hālau Hula I Kona Mau Lima
Kehaulani Kekua, Halau Palaihiwa O Kaipuwai
Kekaiokalani Naone, Unuhi‘a
kekuhi kealiikanakaole, Ulu Ka ‘Ōhi‘a-Hula Consciousness
Keli‘iho‘omalu Puchalski, Hālau Kawai‘ulaokalā
Keolaulani Dalire, Keolaulani Halau Olapa O Laka
Keone Nunes, Kapuwailani‘ōnohinohi‘ula
Keoni Napueokia‘iokalehuakuikalani Chang, Halau Na Pua Lehua I Ka Ua Noe
Kū Koanui-Souza, Hālau Hula ‘O Kawaiho‘omalu
Kuni Ishibashi, Hālau Hula O Ishibashi
Ku‘uleilanimekealohamau "Leilani" Kupahu-Marino Kahoano, Halau Hula o Namamoakeakua
Ku‘umomialoha Kuahiwinui, Nā Pua o Keko‘olani
Kūwalu Anakalea, WaikāUnu
La‘akea Perry, Ke Kai O Kahiki
Lāhapa Doroen, Ka Waikahe Lani Mālie a me Kahulaliwai
Lahela Igarta, Hālau Nā Mamo o ka ‘Upa‘iaka‘uaua
Lahela Spencer, Kaleiokaulupalai
Lanakila Mangauil, KuaUNU
Laua‘e Yamasaki, Hālau Nā Maka o ka Laua‘e
Lehua Kaulukukui, Unuehu & Kuamoo Foundation
Lei-Ann Stender Durant
Leihī‘ilani Kirkpatrick, Hālau Ka Lei Kukui Hi‘ilani
Leimomi Khan, Pohai Na Pua O Laka
Leinā‘ala Pavao Jardin, Hālau Ka Lei Mokihana o Leinā‘ala
Lilinoe Kaio, Halau o Lilinoe
Lilinoe Lindsey, Ka Pa Nani ‘O Lilinoe
Lisa Pua Saunders, Hālau Hula O Manu Ō‘ō
Lono ‘Ikuwā, Hālau Nāmanuho‘ola‘iolononuiākea
Lono Padilla, Hālau Hi‘iakaināmakalehua
Lorna Kapualiko Lim, Hālau Kawehileimamoikawēkiu‘oKohala
Luana Kawa‘a, Hālau Hula Ka Makani Kili‘o‘opu
Luana Rivera Palacio, Hālau Nāpuaokamokihanaoha
Maelia Loebenstein Carter, Ka Pā Hula O Kauano O Wa‘ahila
Māhealani Uchiyama, Hālau Ka Ua Tuahine
Maile Loo-Ching, Hālau Hula ‘o Kaho‘oilina Aloha
Makakii Chaves, Hoi Hoi Pa Hula
Makana Kuahiwinui, Nā Pua O Keko‘olani
Malia Haumschild, Hālau Hula o Malia & Nā Pua o Malia

KA ‘ĀPONO HO‘OKUMU: Ratification (continued)

Mālia Ko‘i‘ulaokawaolehua Helelā, Nā Hula Ola Aloha
Malia Nobrega-Olivera
Malu Dudoit
Manu Boyd, Hālau o ke ‘A‘ali‘i Kū Makani
Manulani Birkmire, Ka Pā Hula O Manulani
Maunalei Love, Halau O Ku‘ulei Aloha
Mehanaokala Hind
Melanie Heakeakamai Pānui, Hālau Hula Pūlamahiaikalikolehua
Meleana Manuel, Ke ‘Olu Makani O Mauna Loa
Michael Dela Cruz, Na Opio O Ko‘olau
Michelle Kaulumahiehie Amaral, Kaulualoha
Miki‘ala M. Lidstone, Halau ‘O Kaululaua‘e
Mokihana Melendez, Hālau Hula Ka Lei Mokihana I Ka Ua Noe
Momi Akana, Hālau Hula O Nā Momi Makamae
Nahokuokalani Gaspang, Hālau Hula ‘O Kahikilaulani
Na‘aupono Galisa, Hālau Hula Keauhou O Ka Ua
Nani Dudoit, Kaleilehuaikaloonālani
Nani Lim Yap, Hālau Manaola
Naomi "Sissy" Lake-Farm, Hālau Makana Aloha O Ka Laua‘e
Naomi L. Kalama, Ka Pa Hula Kanoelehuaokahalema‘uma‘u ‘o Kalama
Natalie Ai Kamauu, Hālau Hula Olana & Hula ‘Īlaniwai
Nawahine Kuraoka, Halau Hula ‘O Nawahine
Niuli‘i Heine, Na Pualei o Likolehua
No‘eau Kahakalau-Kalima
Olana M. Ai, Hālau Hula Olana
‘Ōlapaonālani Atsuko Ishibashi, Hālau Hula O Ishibashi
Patrick Kapuawehi Choy, Hālau Hula Kalehua‘apapaneoka‘au
Patty Kealohalani Kapualokeokalaniākea Wright, Hālau Nā Puakea o Ko‘olaupoko
Pele Kaio, Unulau
Pelena Keeling, Kaulana Nā Pua
Phyllis Uluwehi Ross, Kapi‘olani Hula Studio
Pi‘ilani Lua
Piilani Kaawaloa, Hālau Ka Hīnano o Puna
Pōhai Souza, Hālau Hula Kamamolikolehua
Pōlanimakamae K. Kahakalau-Kalima
Pualalea Cabacungan, Nā Pua O Kapi‘olani Hula Studio
Dr. Pualani Kanaka‘ole Kanahele
Pualani Muraki, Unuehu
Puamohala Moniz, Halau Lei Hulu O Kealohalani & Halau Lei Hulu O Ke Aloha Lani
Puanani Jung, Hālau Hula Lani Ola
Pumehana Silva, Nā Pua O Keko‘olani
Punahele Andrade, Hālau Nā Lei Punahele
Renee Ku‘uleinani Kekapa‘i Paio Price, Hālau Hula ‘O Ku‘uleinani
Rick No‘eau Smith, Hālau Hula Nā Mamo No‘eau
Robert Keano Kaupu IV, Hālau Hi‘iakaināmakalehua

KA ‘ĀPONO HO‘OKUMU: Ratification (continued)

Rona Pualanina‘auali‘ioha Koe, Hālau Hula O Pualanina‘auali‘ioha
Sallie Yoza, Hālau ‘o Nāpuala‘ikauika‘iu
Sammye Kuualoha Young, Hālau Nā Lei Hiwahiwa ‘O Ku‘ualoha
Sandii Manumele Suzuki, Hālau Hula Halihali ke ao
Shane Kamakaokalani Herrod, Na Hui o Kamakaokalani
Shelsea Lilia Ai, Hālau Lilia Makanoe
Sherri Kawaiho‘onani "Puni" Patrick, The Kupuna Klub
Sky Gora, Halau Na Kilipohe Na Lei Lehua
Snowbird Puananiopaoakalani Bento, Ka Pā Hula O Ka Lei Lehua
Sonny Preston, Halau Kiuwailehua
Stephanie Naomi Apolo, Halau Hula O Kalaulani O Pu‘uanahulu
Takako Piliialoha Ishibashi, Hālau Hula O Ishibashi
Tatiana Kawehiokalani Tseu Fox, Hui ‘Iwa Academy & Nā Lei O Ka ‘Iwa Ha‘a I Ka Lani
Dr. Taupōuri Tangarō, Unukupukupu
Tina Marie Momilani Eggert, Hālau Ho‘ohiwahiwa I Ka Pu‘uwai
Trina Purdy, Hālau Nā Lei Kaumaka o Uka
Troy Allen Hinano Lazaro, Hālau Ka Pā Hula o Hīnano
Twyla Ululani Mendez, Halau Na Pua A Lei
Ulalia Kaai Berman
Ulalia Woodside, Kapākūlani
Uluwehi Guerrero, Hālau Hula Kauluokalā
Wendi Pa‘ahana Roehrig, Hālau Ka ‘Ōpu‘u

NOTES

¹ “Kahua n. 1. ... background ... *fig.*, declaration of principles or policy, doctrine, platform” Pukui & Elbert, *Hawaiian Dictionary*, 1986.

² The name “Huamakahikina” comes from a line of a common Hula prayer: “Kupu ka lālā, hua ma ka hikina. The branch sprouts, and fruits in the east.” We, the Kumu Hula, are the fruits from branches of the same tree. “Hua” means “message/word,” “product,” and “fruitful.”

³ Huamakahikina is open to all Kumu Hula, and participation is voluntary. Dozens of Kumu Hula originally convened in August 2020, and Huamakahikina has continued to grow. Participants are vetted through the criteria for Kumu Hula found within the Declaration.

⁴ Hula Lineage is synonymous with Lineage. A Hula Lineage is a historically established line of descent through which Hula has been formally passed from one generation to the next, Kumu Hula to formal haumāna, from extreme antiquity until the present. Key to the formal Kumu Hula-Haumāna relationship is the clarity and strength not only with which the Haumāna acknowledges the Kumu Hula as their master, but also the clarity and strength with which the Kumu Hula acknowledges and claims the Haumāna as their own.

⁵ Including one makāula, one authority in lā‘au lapa‘au, one authority on akua, as well as three Native Hawaiian medical doctors.

⁶ <https://kawaiola.news/mauliola/hui-of-kumu-hula-declare-a-kapu-to-combat-covid-19/>; <https://www.oha.org/lahuikanaka>

⁷ Collective physical, spiritual, and mental wellbeing.

⁸ Pupils. Synonymous with Haumāna Hula, *lit.*, pupils of Hula.

⁹ Family, and extended family.

¹⁰ Also found at <https://www.oha.org/lahuikanaka>; broadcasted between September 11 - November 8, 2020.

¹¹ “Kule.ana nvt. nvt. Right, privilege, concern, responsibility, title ... jurisdiction, authority, liability, interest, claim, ownership, tenure, affair, province ...” Pukui & Elbert, *Hawaiian Dictionary*, 1986.

¹² Kanaka Maoli - synonymous with Native Hawaiian (singular and adjective form), the plural form of which is Kānaka Maoli.

¹³ “Aina (‘āina). 1. Land (JC) (PE). 2. The exposed surface of the earth as opposed to the oceans and seas, i.e. land; a county or district, large or small, i.e. a pasture, farm or field; land surrounded by water, i.e. an island; a continent or mainland, as distinguished from an island (AP). 3. A farm or field (‘I). 4. Tract (HRH)” Lucas, *A Dictionary of Hawaiian Legal Land-Terms*, 1995.

¹⁴ *Lit.*, Archipelago of Hawai‘i.

¹⁵ “Kū.kala n.v. To proclaim publicly, tell abroad, announce; herald” Pukui & Elbert, *Hawaiian Dictionary*, 1986.

¹⁶ “Pono nvs. 1. ... moral, fitting, proper, righteous, right, upright, just, virtuous, fair, beneficial, successful, in perfect order ...” Pukui & Elbert, *Hawaiian Dictionary*, 1986

¹⁷ “Ha‘a.wina n. ... article (section in a law)” Pukui & Elbert, *Hawaiian Dictionary*, 1986.

¹⁸ A rudimentary definition of Hula is also: “1. nvt. The hula, a hula dancer; to dance the hula . . . 2. nvt. Song or chant used for the hula; to sing or chant for a hula” Pukui & Elbert, *Hawaiian Dictionary*, 1986.

¹⁹ The multiplex of artistic, intellectual, and spiritual practices, perspectives, and products includes a wide breadth of knowledge of Hawaiian history, the Hawaiian language, traditional lore, aspects of poetry, idioms, etiquette, values, discipline, the natural environment, hana no‘eau (traditional crafts and skills), and spirituality as only acquired through detailed, formal education in Hula.

²⁰ “Mele 1. nvt. Song, anthem, or chant of any kind; poem, poetry; to sing, chant ...” Pukui & Elbert, *Hawaiian Dictionary*, 1986. Mele are poetic compositions which consist of stylized lyrics that are most commonly vocalized as chants, songs, and prayers, and through which are conveyed information including but not limited to: ‘ike ku‘una (traditional knowledge), wahi pana (legendary/famed places) & place names, sea & ocean current names, wind & rain names, personal names, history, experiences, mo‘okū‘auhau, worldviews, and values of Kānaka Maoli. Mele are traditionally and customarily composed by, or channeled through, Haku Mele (composers of Mele) in the ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i (Hawaiian language). However, in contemporary times, Mele hapa haole (Mele composed in part or wholly with/in languages foreign to Hawai‘i) have gained in popularity. Because Hula cannot be performed absent of Mele, Mele are therefore central to Hula.

²¹ There exists in the Hula community a broad lexicon of generally accepted vocabulary words and terms, as well as lexicons specific to individual Lineages.

²² See e.g., United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf

²³ Other terms by which Kumu Hula are known and addressed include, but are not limited to, Kumu, Aunt, Uncle, Loea, ‘Ōlohe, Lehua, Kahu, and Kahuna.

²⁴ “Akua 1. vs. God, goddess, spirit ...” Pukui & Elbert, *Hawaiian Dictionary*, 1986.

²⁵ “Ali‘i nvs. Chief, chiefess, officer, ruler, monarch, peer, headman, noble, aristocrat, king, queen, commander ...” /Pukui & Elbert, *Hawaiian Dictionary*, 1986/.

²⁶ Examples of the origins of Hula include accounts passed down through formal Hula Lineages, those chronicled in various narratives such as those of Pele, Hi‘iakaikapoliopole, Pelekeahi‘āloa, Kapo‘ulakīna‘u, La‘amaikahiki, & etc., in the writings of 19th and 20th century newspaper Kanaka Maoli contributors, as well as in the writings of historic scholars such as Pukui, Barrere, Kelly, Stillman, Kaeppler, Emerson, Fornander, Thrum, & etc.

²⁷ *Lit.*, Hawaiian language.

²⁸ Archival documentation and information provided by Kumu Hula Leimomi Khan.

²⁹ Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Volume 1, Chapter 5, Section 5-21.

³⁰ Article 22, Paoakalani Declaration.

³¹ https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2004/bills/HCR227_.htm

³² Kumu Hula utilize resources including but not limited to 'ōlelo Hawai'i, Mele, mo'okū'auhau, 'āina, the natural realm, a variety of other sources of inspiration, etc.

³³ Accomplished through the consensus of the members of each Hula Lineage.

³⁴ These formal institutions are unique to the Hawaiian culture. They are autonomous pedagogical systems under the authority of a Kumu Hula, and founded in culture-based forms of traditional and contemporary scholarship and spirituality, and include *balau hula*, *pā hula*, *hui*, studios, academies, schools, foundations, centers, etc. These institutions may also be charity-based, nonprofit, or for-profit.

³⁵ Inclusive of various other mediums, as well as digital and virtual platforms.

³⁶ Such as the traditional and customary practices of Haku Mele (lyrical composition), Mele, Hawaiian language, chant, interpretation of narratives and poetical lyrics, forms of environmental stewardship, etc.

³⁷ See also Footnotes 17-19.

³⁸ "Aloha nvt. ... to show kindness, mercy, pity, charity, affection; to venerate ..." Pukui & Elbert, *Hawaiian Dictionary*, 1986.

³⁹ Mālama 'āina - *Lit.*, protect, administer to, and maintain land. From "malama (mālama). Administer; maintain" Lucas, *A Dictionary of Hawaiian Legal Land-Terms*, 1995; and 'āina see *f.n.* 13.

⁴⁰ "Audiences" may include intended and unintended, as well as in-person and virtual viewers of Hula activities and presentations.

⁴¹ See e.g., U. Tanigawa, *The Hula Industry: Understanding the Commodification of Hula in Japan and Culturally Grounded Hula* (2017).

⁴² "Le'a.le'a 1. ... to have a good time; fun, gaiety ... amusement" Pukui & Elbert, *Hawaiian Dictionary*, 1986.

⁴³ Such as traditional and customary practices of kapa making, lei making, hunting, fishing, gathering, pule, etc.

⁴⁴ Such as the Hawai'i music industry, the entertainment industry, fashion and design, woodworking, farming, "hula supply" outlets, adornment makers, etc.

⁴⁵ Such as florists, clothing retailers, fabric outlets, apparel printers, etc.

⁴⁶ See Haw. Const. Art. XII, § 7 (amended 1978); David M. Forman & Susan K. Serrano, *Traditional and Customary Access and Gathering Rights*, in NATIVE HAWAIIAN LAW: A TREATISE 786 (Melody Kapilialoha MacKenzie, Susan K. Serrano & D. Kapua‘ala Sproat, eds., 2015).

⁴⁷ https://capitol.hawaii.gov/session2003/commreports/HR24_HSCR887_.htm & https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2003/referralsheets/HREF_02-03-03_1_.htm

⁴⁸ <https://www.mauicounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8377/Reso-08-052?bidId>

⁴⁹ “Hō‘āla. to arouse, stir up, incite; renew, restore, revive, to restore, as a building; raise; summons ... ho‘āla i ke kumu hana - to bring up a subject” Pukui & Elbert, *Hawaiian Dictionary*, 1986. However, ho‘āla also pertains to: ho‘āla kuahu - to raise and awaken a kuahu, and the chants done in that process.

From: [Lynn Calvello-Perez](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:09:23 AM

Aloha,

I'm against renewing the foreign company named Ruby & Son, from obtaining and or renewing the fee for public reserve beach parking lot. It would be a much better plan to award the lease to the County of Maui and let them manage the parking lot for beach patrons/public. Please take our requests and concerns seriously, as we tire of foreigners being given these ridiculously low leases!

Mahalo,

Lynn Perez

From: [Lisa Schattenburg-Raymond](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda(Item D-8)
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 7:22:01 AM

Testimony against the lease of public beach reserve parking to a private company Ruby & Sons.

I am a frequent user of the Keawakapu Beach. Beach access parking is essential for local families to access the beach. There are so few beach access left. I am against turning over any to private control. Please consider having the Country of Maui negotiate with the State to acquire and manage this valuable community asset.

Lisa Schattenburg Raymond
740 Copp Road
Kula, Hi 96790



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

October 06, 2021

Board of Land and Natural Resources
1151 Punchbowl St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson
Christopher Yuen, Hawai'i Member
Doreen Nāpua Canto, Maui Member

Thomas Oi, Kaua'i Member
Samuel "'Ohu" Gon III, O'ahu Member
Vernon Char, At-Large Member
Wesley "Kaiwi" Yoon, At-Large Member

Re: Opposition to Agenda Item D.8. Approve Evaluation Committee's Recommendation for Selection of Proposal Submitted by Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC in Response to Request for Qualifications / Request for Proposals for Lease of Public Lands; Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui, Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004:149

Aloha Chair Case and Honorable Members of the Board,

Thank you for the chance to weigh in on the application for long term lease of South Maui's shoreline access parking at the north end of Keawakapu.

Since their purchase of the hotel and restaurant south of Mana Kai, Ruby & Sons has been and bad actor and inconsiderate neighbor. Their selfish uncooperative behavior should not be rewarded with a long-term lease of the state parcel which has created strife for residents for years. Instead, Maui County should take over this parking parcel and manage it equitably for the public and commercial users.

The County should not have given as many spaces it assigned to the hotel. This created a division of parking allocation where shared parking used to exist. The arrivals and departures at the beach are fluid. Same is true to the hotel. Most hotel guests with vehicles leave property during the day leaving assigned spaces vacant, yet unavailable for public access. At night, public cars are absent, and hotel vehicles occupy the lot.

Right now, the restaurant is vacant, and with the bad reputation Ruby & Sons has established, perhaps no tenant will ever consider a business arrangement and reopen that prime spot. For two years now, parking remains sequestered and available for restaurant patrons who don't exist and no parking for beach users.

Office of Representative Tina Wildberger

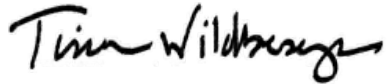
Proudly serving the 11th House District

415 S. Beretania St. Honolulu, HI 96813, Room 327

Phone: 808.586.8525 | Fax: 808.586.8529 | email: repwildberger@capitol.hawaii.gov

Please do not issue this way-too-long lease. This hotelier has not proven to be a good manager of our state assets.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tina Wildberger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tina" being more prominent than the last name "Wildberger".

Representative Tina Wildberger
House District 11 - South Maui
Kīhei · Wailea · Mākena

Office of Representative Tina Wildberger

Proudly serving the 11th House District

415 S. Beretania St. Honolulu, HI 96813, Room 327

Phone: 808.586.8525 | Fax: 808.586.8529 | email: repwildberger@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: [Tara Ridge](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Deny
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:31:38 PM

I ask the BLNR to deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Tara Ridge

From: [Kekai Robinson](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Regarding Item D-8, Lease of Public Lands to Ruby & Sons
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 10:55:52 AM

State of Hawaii
Board of Land and Natural Resources

October 6, 2021

Regarding Item D-8, Lease of Public Lands to Ruby & Sons

Please DENY THE LEASE to this foreign corporation and instead, ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH MAUI COUNTY, to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Access to the beach at Keawakapu, also known as “Mana Kai” is an important part of our lifestyle and culture as residents of Maui. It is our right as residents of Maui County to have access to our beach and shoreline on PUBLIC LANDS. Taking away the parking area by awarding a lease to a foreign entity (Ruby & Sons) would essentially completely cut-off all public access to the beach there since there is no other designated parking available for that beach in that highly developed area of South Maui.

Please help to preserve the public’s right to access our beach at “Mana Kai” by denying the lease.

Kekai Robinson

From: [Nima Rosepiper, ND](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item D-8
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 7:46:36 AM

Aloha.

I am a former resident of Maui, who has just learned of this attempt to lease the beach at Keawakapu.

Please, rather than lease to Ruby & Sons, instead enter into an agreement with the County of Maui to manage the public beach reserve parking lot.

Mahalo
Nima Rosepiper

nimarosepiper@yahoo.com

From: [Judy Ma](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:21:19 PM

aloha,
regarding upcoming Agenda item D-8, please deny lease to Ruby & Sons of public beach reserve access at Keawakapu in South Maui, and instead enter into a contract with Maui County to assure the continuation of the current public beach reserve parking to guarantee the public ready access for enjoyment of our wonderful sandy beaches and shore access. this is in the best interest of the public community; we need to keep public lands in the public hands!

Mahalo
Judy Sacks
ljudyma@gmail.com

From: [Annie Schultz](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 3:45:10 PM

Aloha BLNR Members,

Our public beach access is deeply important to the residents of Maui. I ask the BLNR to please DENY the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into an agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Mahalo,
Ann Schultz

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Callie Schultz](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawakapu public beach parking
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 6:08:42 PM

I ask the BLNR to deny the lease to Ruby and Sons and instead enter into agreement with the Count of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Keawakapu is a local beach that many people in the surrounding neighborhoods use. Please do not allow a private developer make this beach difficult for the people that live here year round to use.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [eve black](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Cc: [Ron W](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] agenda item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 6:37:51 AM

To whom it may concern,

please deny lease of the Keawakapu beach parking lot to the private entity requesting it. As a local resident of South Maui who frequents this beach daily, I was appalled at their obstruction of beach parking and access even while their hotel property was CLOSED for months. This has always been a public beach parking lot and should not be used for hotel parking. South Maui / Wailea has an extremely low amount of beach parking stalls for residents and this was the last one with more than a handful of spots. Us residents are being pushed out of our recreation zones in favor of tourist development since decades and it urgent to stop this from happening even more! Please allow Maui County to manage our public beach reserve parking at Keawakapu!

Thank you!

Eva Schwarz
140 Uwapo Rd.
Kihei, HI 96753

From: [Teri Sherrow](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Cc: [WorldTraveling Realtor](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda D-8 Vote to deny Ruby & Sons request 35 yr lease parking
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 5:27:12 PM

To Whom This may concern:

We need our public parking now more than ever. During the pandemic, going to the beach is one of the few places that we, the local community can go for entertainment and the need for parking for us has increased. The huge numbers of tourists have taken much of the available parking as well!

Why has the Oceanside Inn Wyndham Hotels, been allowed to charge rentals that include parking when they do not own the lot adjacent to them. Were they granted a "favor" in years past in order to even have a hotel there without adequate parking for their guests? I doubt if they could build now with the little space they have. Perhaps they need to tear down the vacant restaurant for their additional parking needs? They are charging extremely high rates for what one can consider a cubby hole. They could provide shuttle service to their guests in order to have that many rooms in an "Special Management Area". We do not need more cars clogging up the streets.

By giving them a lease on this land, you will continue the fiasco, the problem and take valuable Ohana parking from locals, fisherman, residents and continue to perpetuate the islands dependence upon tourism. It's time to correct the problem, not exacerbate it.

There has been a lot of "coconut wireless chat" about how this action of their gaining any type of access to public came about and I wonder if, before taking any action, that an investigative committee can be set up to determine if any type of illegal action has taken place to gain favor by the developer?

In regard to D-8, I ask the BLNR to deny lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

Sincerely,
Teri Sherrow

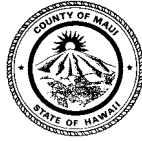
Permanent resident since 1989.
Owner of Kihei property since 1994

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Gabe Johnson
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

October 7, 2021

Board of Land & Natural Resources
blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov

SUBJECT: Testimony for Item D-8

Aloha,

I am in strong OPPOSITION to the approval of the Evaluation Committee's Recommendation for Selection of Proposal Submitted by Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC in Response to Request for Qualifications / Request for Proposals for Lease of Public Lands; Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui, Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004: 149.

Maui County is working hard to manage over-tourism, so that we can deliver a quality of life for our local residents rather than just cater to our visitors. We have even gone to the extent of considering no more hotel construction permits until we can better manage the tourism industry. Traffic congestion on rural roads, illegal parking and trespassing on private property are just some of the issues we are currently dealing with.

Another main issue has been parking at our local beaches. South Maui has seen a shortage of parking stalls for local residents who frequent the beach, due to additional visitor traffic. Residents even staged a 'Take Back the Beach' protest to inform hoteliers that Maui beaches are NOT just for our visitors.

Before we dedicate any more state open space lands to the visitor industry for profit, let's first consider the people who live here and who are tax-paying residents. Maui County is willing to apply for this lease so that we can provide much-needed public parking for our local residents.

Mahalo for your consideration of this letter,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane M. Sinenci".

Shane M. Sinenci, Councilmember
East Maui District

October 7, 2021
Page 2

From: [Sarah Sisco](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimonial for Extended Horizons
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:18:47 AM

Aloha!

I wanted to take a few minutes to address the current petition concerns regarding mala wharf and commercial boating activities.

Ironically, I think both sides of this issue want the same thing- access to a clean, healthy, bio diverse ocean site. It is sad that we currently believe we are on opposing sides.

Extended horizons takes extra care to ensure their clientele are properly educated in reef conservation. Efforts like seminars/briefings on the local wildlife and regulations, operating on biodiesel, and the provision of reef safe sunscreen are all actions that go above and beyond to preserve our precious maui reefs.

Due to the biodiversity and density of fish life at these sites, they are also popular fishing grounds which does generate large amounts of debris in the form of fishing line. Extended horizon regularly organizes clean ups to remove this debris to ensure the site can continue to be enjoyed by all.

It is still possible for us to work together to find better solutions so this site can continue to be protected and enjoyed in the community.

Mahalo,
Sarah Sisco

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Cheryl Sloan](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Cc: cheryl@focusmaui.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawakapu Parking Lot Testimony for Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 9:34:18 AM

Aloha,

Item D-8

Please BLNR deny the 35 year lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

This is our favorite beach because there is parking on fairly level land and it is an easy walk for us older folks to be able to enjoy the beach. We can sit in the shade on the grass and be safe from walking on the soft sand if we chose.

To allow this company to take over our comfort beach access would be very wrong. Please let the County of Maui step in and preserve this special place.

Thank you,
Cheryl & Richard Sloan
Kahului, HI

Cheryl Sloan, Compliance Officer
Maui Clinic Pharmacy
Makawao Town Pharmacy
Cell: 808-298-5609
Fax: 808-442-0019

From: [Nicole Spalding Smith](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda(Item D-8)
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 2:52:15 PM

Aloha Board of Land and Natural Resources,

I am emailing to ask that you deny the lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage our public beach reserve parking lot.

this parking lot is not only a parking lot but a way for local families who have been using Keawakapu for fishing, gathering, surfing and spending time with their ohana since it became the only piece of land not purchased by outsiders and developers. It is crucial that we keep the small amount of lands the state still owns for the Maui publics use. Our island is small and growing fast this is an unnecessary development that would only hurt our island, its people, and our resources.

Mahalo,

Nicole N. Smith -

From: [Deva Smith-Gunter](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawekapu 3-9-004: 149
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:08:19 AM

Aloha,

As someone who has gone to Keawekapu beach since I was a child, I do not want to see beach turned into a tourist only spot. Beaches are for public use, and the way Ruby and Sons has been acting toward locals using this beach has been disgraceful. Blocking public beach parking, taking down the public beach signs, and calling the police on locals fishing and using this PUBLIC beach is just wrong. I would like to see this public beach and the beach parking I'm Maui County hands, not in the hands of a private developer from China or anywhere else. Public local lands need to stay in the hands of the public.

I want to be able to take my son to this beach, and have him be able to take his keiki in the future.

Please deny this:

8. Approve Evaluation Committee's Recommendation for Selection of Proposal Submitted by Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC in Response to Request for Qualifications / Request for Proposals for Lease of Public Lands; Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui, Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004: 149

This proposal for lease of public lands is not in the best interest of our community.

Mahalo for your time,

Deva Smith-Gunter

From: [cee s-s](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 10:28:46 AM

Aloha,

In regards to Keawakapu Beach/parking it just isn't right that the parking spaces for our PUBLIC Beach have been banned off by the adjoining hotel property.

The property in front of that hotel is public land yet it's my understanding people have been harassed and bullied for using it. The signage has been removed off of their fencing etc.

I understand the hotel owner only pays \$140 a month on a monthly basis. Why even allow that?

Please deny any and all parking and or land use leases to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into an agreement for the County of Maui to manage our public beach parking and the fronting ocean access.

Also, I believe there are two handicap spaces currently (?) and since this is such a popular shoreline access I feel there should be a couple more added.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Celia Stewart-Scott

(503) 440-3024

480 Kenolio Rd #26-101, Kihei, HI 96753

From: [Ane Takaha](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item d-8 on the agenda
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:12:45 AM

Aloha

I do not want to testify via video but I would like to send an e mail is strong support of NOT allowing this lease to a private developer, but having county manage these parking spaces at Mana Kai reserve lot.

Please direct me if I need to send to another e address.

Thank you

Ane Takaha

Maui Meadows.

PS we swim and park there most every day.

From: [Laulani Teale](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Cc: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Item D-8: Please do NOT grant lease to Ruby and Sons at Keawakapu (Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui)
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 11:50:04 AM

Aloha,

I am in strong OPPOSITION to the approval of the Evaluation Committee's Recommendation for Selection of Proposal Submitted by Ruby & Sons Hospitality, LLC in Response to Request for Qualifications / Request for Proposals for Lease of Public Lands; Kamaole, Wailuku, Maui, Tax Map Keys: (2) 3-9-004: 149.

It is definitely not okay for a foreign hotel developer to get a 35 year lease of public beach reserve parking.

Here's what we have been informed that this foreign hotel developer has done over the past few years.

- bought oceanfront property at Keawakapu out of bankruptcy and inappropriately influenced local officials to maximize hotel development by changing the community plan from Single Family to Hotel designation.
- utilized relationships with the County to gain half of the public beach parking and mark it for hotel use only.
- attempted to illegally close the public beach parking lot on numerous occasions without permits.
- put up cones to illegally block public beach access parking on S. Kihei Rd.
- during the pandemic while the resort was closed they blocked off "their" stalls with orange fencing in the beach parking lot to prevent public use. Photos of this have been provided by other testifiers.
- called the police on local fishermen and families with keiki using the public beach reserve to try get rid of them so tourists at their hotel could watch the sunset(per DLNR/police reports)
- been caught on facebook live ripping down the "Public Beach Reserve" signage and telling keiki and local fishermen they are revoking the public use of the beach reserve(which hotel has no right to do)
- done nothing about an illegal revetment on the public beach in front of hotel.

This hotel developer is reportedly currently paying \$140 on a month-to-month lease with the State to bully and harass the public using a public beach reserve and parking lot. Now, they are apparently asking to be rewarded with a 35 year lease from the State of Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources.

The County of Maui is willing to negotiate with the State to acquire this valuable public asset, in the best interest of our community. We must keep public lands in public hands.

NO foreign developer should be given a long term lease for a beach reserve parking lot, especially when they have demonstrated clear disdain for the community and public beach access laws.

It is strongly detrimental to community health and well being to be displaced by the tourist industry.

I therefore ask the BLNR to deny lease to Ruby & Sons and instead enter into agreement with the County of Maui to manage this public beach reserve parking lot.

Mahalo nui loa,

Laulani Teale, MPH

blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov

Agenda(Item D-8)

<https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Agenda-211008.pdf>

From: [Barry Toroni](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please reject item D-8 on docket!
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 4:31:06 PM

Aloha,
I'm a Kupuna that lives near by. I can't believe anyone would agree to such a negative impact on our neighborhood!

My O'hana and I have struggled to even get to the beach let alone have the public access to it taken away!

Please make an agreement with our County of Maui to preserve what we only have left after this pandemic..

Vote NO on D-8..

God Bless you!

Mahalo,
Barry Toroni

From: [Crystal Johnson](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public testimony - deny lease to Ruby & Sons
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 7:04:42 AM

Aloha,

I'd like to submit Public testimony re: item D-8 asking to deny lease to Ruby & Sons and instead ask the BLNR to enter into agreement with Maui county to manage our public beach and reserve parking lot.

Kind Regards,
Crystal Johnson
Uncles Fish Market
808-281-9962

Live Longer ~ Eat Fish!
www.unclesfishmarket.com

From: [Laura Vo](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keawakapu North Parking, No Development! Testimony Request for 10/8/21
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 8:07:17 AM

Good morning. I am against having development at the current public beach parking at Keawakapu. Please keep it a public access parking lot. Sometime last year, Day's Inn took half those spaces already making an already limited parking situation even worse. Now those Day's Inn spaces mostly sit empty while the rest of us who live here and want access to the beaches can barely manage. There are many beaches one can go to on Maui, it's true. But I particularly love Keawakapu. It's one of the more accessible beaches from parking lot to lawn/beach area. In that, it's also accessible for families and those with disabilities more so than other beaches. I believe the port-a-potty is handicap accessible and extra large which accommodates parents with kids. The walk from the parking lot is flat and easy to navigate with no busy road to cross to get to the lawn/beach. To take away the parking access is more than taking away parking--it's also taking away one of the more accessible beaches. Do you really want to do that to our keiki, kapuna, and other residents?

My understanding is that beaches are public and require public access. How is that possible if we don't have anywhere to park? It's time that residents are prioritized over developers and the interests of tourists.

Most sincerely,
Laura Vo
Kula

From: [Jenn Welch](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda(Item D-8)
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 12:55:26 AM

Aloha,

I am writing regarding Agenda(Item D-8). Due to many factors, I urge you to deny the lease to Ruby & Sons. Ruby and Sons has not demonstrated an ability to work with the community regarding parking. I feel that entering into an agreement with the County of Maui would be a better solution to ensure that the public beach reserve parking lot accommodates local people utilizing the beach and is not blocked off and reserved only for visitors.

Thank You,
Jenny Welch
Kihei, HI

From: [Rob Weltman](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda Item D-8, parking at Keawekapu, Maui
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:00:41 AM

Please do not grant a lease to Ruby & Sons for the parking area used by Keawekapu beach-goers in South Maui. They have been hostile to beach-goers throughout. A better solution would be to have the County of Maui manage the land for the benefit of Maui residents and visitors.

--

Me ke aloha,
Rob

From: [Kainoa Wilson](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda (item D-8)
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 12:07:02 AM

Gentlemen

Why are we even considering leasing to a foreign company like Ruby and Sons when we cannot even take care of our local citizenry first? Especially ones who blatantly lie and use bullying tactics like kids on an elementary school playground. Not to mention the fact that another hotel/resort in an area already inundated by an overabundance of tourist and traffic and woefully inadequate parking is like trying to stick your foot into a shoe 3 x smaller than usual and expecting it to fit comfortably. Wouldn't it be better to be a hero to the people who live here and consider negotiating with the County to bring some much needed relief to the people who just want to be able to go to the beach and enjoy the day and watch the sunsets too? Please, be a part of the solution, not the problem.

Mahalo

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [mimi wolin](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item D-8
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 11:20:01 AM

Keep public land public!! No to resort!
We need more parking and access to our beaches.
No to the resorts!

Mimi Wolin
550 Awalau Road
Haiku

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Off da Grid](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item d-8 deny lease Rudy and sons
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 7:27:38 PM

My name is Princeton Yamaguchi in regards to item d-8 I asked that you deny lease To Rudy and sons and instead enter agreement with Maui county to preserve public beach access reserve parking lot at keawekapu