

Councilmember Michael J. Molina



**Community Update
Makawao, Ha'iku, Pa'ia
Residency Council District**



Community Clean Ups



Hamakualoa/Peahi Open Space Preserve

Thank you to the Haiku Community Association/Malama Hamakua and the Sierra Club for efforts to clean the Hamakualoa/Peahi Open Space. On two recent occasions community volunteers worked together to remove trash, vehicles, illegally dumped materials and recycling from our open space region in Haiku.

This effort has involved hundreds of volunteers to care for the 267 acres of open space acquired by the County in 2016. On February 7, 2020, over 25 volunteers came together to remove two 30-yard dumpsters full of garbage, recyclables, scrap metal and tires from the Open Space. Many thanks to the residents and community groups for coordinating this effort.

In the 2020 Fiscal Year Budget, I appropriated funding to start the master planning process for the open space in an effort to preserve a vitally important and pristine portion of our north shore. The open space has been sitting nearly dormant for over 4 years without any direction of what is to become of this amazing property. With the help of the community we can make the Hamakualoa/Peahi Open Space preserve a place to enjoy and be proud to maintain as a place of history, culture and beauty. **The next clean-up for this area is Saturday, March 21, 2020.**

WORKING ON

Haiku/Kokomo Road stop sign:

Residents have been asking for a 4th stop sign at the intersection of Haiku and Kokomo Road intersection adjacent to the Haiku Cannery. I have been working with the Department of Public Works to determine the feasibility of the installation of the stop sign. I have invited a representative from Public Works to attend the next Haiku Community Association Meeting to discuss the issue with the community.



Baldwin Avenue Parking Lot Needs Attention

As we all know parking is an issue in the Paia and even the parking we have can be somewhat problematic. The County parking lot on Baldwin Avenue needs attention, lighting, signage and new fencing. At the request of community members, I have requested of the Department of Public Works to review the lighting, signage and fencing surrounding the lot and provide necessary attention to the lot to make it more user friendly.



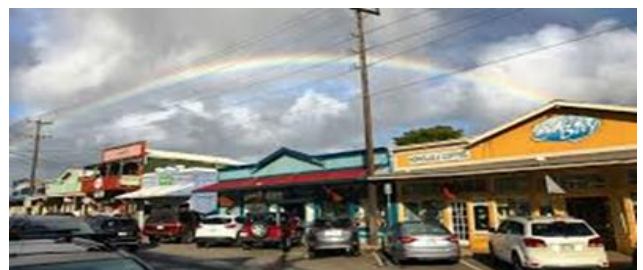
Haiku Fire Station

During my first tenure on the Council we purchased land to build a Haiku Fire Station. Unfortunately, to date the Station has not been built. We ran into concerns from the community that the Station was too big and consisted of activities such as a helicopter landing pad that might impact the tranquil nature of the community. So, we have re-ignited the discussion, no pun intended, to start the process to determine the feasibility of the Haiku Fire Station. The Department of Fire has prepared a scope of work for the consultants to assess the land and determine the feasibility of building the in the existing land owned by the county or determine if there are other potential sites in the Haiku region would be appropriate.



Paia needs more PARKING!

I've heard the cries and the pleas for more parking in Paia. I realize space is limited and parking is at a premium, we need to create more parking in Paia. However, there is potential help over the horizon. There is an opportunity for the County to acquire a 3-acre parcel of land in the Paia Courtyard area between Baldwin Avenue and the Mini Paia-Bypass. This land acquisition could result in approximately 200 new parking stalls in Paia town. Please stay tuned we are working with the landowner and the county departments to try to make this a reality.





Makawao Town Party Third Friday

I have been working with community leaders to try to bring back the Makawao Town Party. During the Fiscal Year 2020 budget review, I provided funding for the effort, but unfortunately, there was a discontinuation of the event. After meeting with community members, we were able to revitalize the event and we're hoping that we can continue to maintain some form of the Makawao Town Party into the future. Many thanks to the community, Ground Transportation, Enterprise Holdings, first Hawaiian Bank and KPOA for assistance with support and coordination of the event.



Beach Clean Ups

May 16 | [Hands Across the Sand](#) | Baldwin Beach Cleanup
July 18 | [Paddle Imua](#), Imua Family Services | Maliko Bay Beach Cleanup
October 17 | [Paia Bay Coffee](#) | North Shore Beach Cleanup



HA'IKŪ HO'OLAULE'A & FLOWER FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

9:00AM-4:00PM

Ha'ikū Community Center

Visit haikuhoolaulea.org or haikumaui.org for more information

The 27th Annual Haiku Ho'olaule'a and Flower Festival will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2020, at the Haiku Community Center. Come enjoy live entertainment, an artisan marketplace, the Haiku Living Legacy and a new HCA community mapping project, book sale, farmers market, silent auction, various keiki activities and more!

The Ha'iku Community Association is proud to bring new aspects to this beloved event. Visit our website for new offerings, including our first annual island wide song and poetry contest for private and public student's grades K-12.

There will also be Hawaiian Cultural Tent, offering free hands on experiences. Our Community Living Tent will host over 16 non-profit and community organizations for the public to visit. The event is free. I'm proud to have requested funding to help support an incredible community event as the Ho'olaule'a.

Makawao Ave./Haleakala Hwy Roadwork

This project consists of widening Makawao Ave. to increase the right turn lane onto Haleakala Hwy. The improvement will increase the ability for more vehicles to que for a right turn heading south on Haleakala Hwy, which should also enhance capacity on Makawao Ave.



LEGISLATIVE

Community Advisory Committee

I introduced a proposed bill to give our community more say in reviewing development projects within the Paia-Haiku Community Plan area. In a time of good governance and transparency, I believe the time has come for more public participation in the future growth of our community. The proposed advisory committees will consist of members from the Paia-Haiku community, which will review projects and provide valuable community input on proposed projects within their district. I realize that this added layer of review may add costs, but I believe it's worth the cost to have residents influence the landscape of their community.



North Shore Green Way Bike Path

Phase IV of the Bike Path is nearly completed. Accordingly, I requested additional funding in this Fiscal Year 2020 to explore expansion of the Bike Path to Ho`okipa Beach Park. We are hopeful the initial work of hiring a consult will be completed soon. Then we will look to the community for input for potential routes.



INITIATIVES

Creating a Department of Housing

I also introduced legislation to bifurcate the Department of Housing and Human Concerns to the Department of Housing and a separate Department of Human Concerns. My main concern is that our affordable housing demand has reached crisis stage. We are over 10,000 units behind the need for affordable housing units and we see very little relief in sight. Therefore, by establishing a department with the sole focus of creating affordable housing, it will allow the county to become a co-developer for the housing we need. The proposed County of Maui Charter Amendment is within the Council's Governance, Ethics and Transparency Committee for review and consideration. It's my hope that we can move this legislation forward to allow the voters to decide if the creation of a Department of Housing will help address our affordable housing demands.



Makawao Equestrian Facility

At the request of members of the equestrian community I have transmitted a request to the administration to consider negotiations with Maui Land and Pineapple Company to acquire land near the Makawao and Veterans Cemetery in Makawao along Baldwin Avenue. I am hopeful to have a public equestrian facility that can be used for riding, roping and rodeo events.

QUESTIONS

I NEED YOUR GUIDANCE

Below are some questions I'm hopeful you can help me address.

1. Should Spreckelsville be included in the Paia-Haiku Community Plan area or remain in Kahului-Wailuku Community Plan area?
2. For the creation of a Paia By-Pass, do you believe that Sunnyside Road is an appropriate route to use?
3. Where should the Paia By-Pass terminate?
 - a. Before Maliko Bay
 - b. Near Ho`okipa Beach Park
 - c. At Holomua Road
 - d. Other: _____
4. Do we need more affordable rental units or more affordable purchase housing?
5. Do you support the County acquiring the Maliko Bay area to enhance beach and coastal access?
6. Should the Department of Housing and Human Concerns be split to create a separate Department of Housing?

Please feel free to email your responses to the address provided, thank you in advance for your time.



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