



Friends of Maha'ulepu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE- May 13, 2021

Media Contact

Bridget Hammerquist, Friends of Maha'ulepu:

p: 808 742-1037 | e: friendsofmahaulepu@gmail.com

During the Land Use Commission (LUC) hearing today and at the end of evidence from the Petitioner, a motion was made by Commissioner Gary Okuda, to dismiss the District Boundary Amendment Petition filed by billionaire Robert Roche of Roche Enterprises, principle owner of HG Kauai Joint Ventures, who was requesting the District Boundary Amendment to change 97 acres of Kapaa Ag land to Urban but has, himself, only committed to fund \$15 million of his projected \$312 million development costs. The urban classification was sought to support Roche's plan to develop Hokua Place, a 769 unit home site on the hillside behind Kapaa Middle School and just mauka of the Kapaa Bypass. Mr. Okuda's motion was seconded by Kauai Commissioner Dan Giovanni. Each articulated a serious deficiency in the Petition's failure to address serious problems surrounding water, wastewater, traffic, cultural and traditional practices, also noting significant change in the development plan and cost since completion of its EIS. The Commissioners were joined by comments from Dawn Chang, all expressing the failure to comply with Petitioners burden of proof under the law when seeking a District Boundary Amendment. Prior to further deliberation or action on the pending Motion to Dismiss, all parties were permitted to offer input to the Commissioners motion. Oral proceedings on the motion are scheduled for June 10, 2021. If the pending Motion to Dismiss is granted, the decision by the LUC will be very welcomed by a community that filed hundreds of letters in opposition. Bottom line, the LUC motion today supports the public outcry, it's time to tell developers, enough is enough!