

**GO MAUI, INC.
2019 ANNUAL REPORT**

The mission of Go Maui, Inc., is to empower local residents to obtain housing, educational opportunities, and employment in a healthy environment and vibrant economy while respecting our diverse cultures.

INTRODUCTION

Under the leadership of Go Maui, Inc.'s President, Officers, Board of Directors, and supporters, Go Maui, Inc. was able to achieve a successful presence and advocacy agenda during 2019. This encompassed being able to effectively navigate through a changing Maui County Council and Mayoral leadership. Go Maui, Inc. supported water for farming and ranching, and affordable housing funding that included new housing projects that faced strong NIMBY opposition. We continued to be a strong voice for civil and respectful dialogue between people with different points of view. Additional success included Planning and Land Use Advocacy to support a vibrant and healthy economy that performs for local residents. We did not support the new tax categories adopted by the Maui County Council. Finally, Go Maui, Inc. continued to be actively visible within the community and maintained excellent relationships with key Maui and local decision makers to carry our message forward. As we move onward into 2020 with a potentially new and changing Maui economy, Go Maui, Inc.'s voice becomes even more important.

Go Maui, Inc.'s successful and focused policy advocacy in 2019 included the following areas and activities.

WATER AND AGRICULTURE ADVOCACY TO ENSURE A FARMING AND RANCHING FUTURE ON MAUI

- Held Mahi Pono presentation with Shan Tsutsui at Go Maui, Inc.'s Board meeting
- Helped organize testimony in favor of A&B water settlement legislation and submitted testimony at two critical hearings
- Organized testimony in favor of HB 1326 water settlement legislation
- Successfully advocated with DLNR on A&B water lease decision
- Supported Warren Watanabe's appointment to the Agribusiness Development Corporation State Agriculture Board (which was confirmed)
- Attended Board of Water Supply meeting to observe debate on Temporary Investigative Group (TIG) study on possible EMI purchase
- Monitored agriculture development legislation proposed by Councilmember Kelly King

PLANNING AND LAND USE ADVOCACY LAYS THE FOUNDATION FOR A VIBRANT ECONOMY

- Attended Maui County Office of Economic Development Grant Workshop
- Attended Hawaii Tourism Authority Grant Workshop
- Met with Hannah Werth of Maui United Way to seek Go Maui, Inc. funding
- Attended opening meeting of West Maui Community Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC)
- Attended West Maui CPAC meeting. Spoke against letter attempting to limit affordable housing until the community plan is adopted by Council (which was an anti-Makila Farms Project effort).
- Attended Council's Planning Committee to speak against West Maui CPAC letter
- Attended State HHARP meetings to plan disaster relief coordination and mitigating climate change impacts in South Maui, representing Kelly King and temporarily appointed by Rep. Tina Wildberger
- Attended Kihei Sea Rise zoning and building proposed rules meeting held by Maui County Planning Department in Kihei

AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVOCACY SUPPORTS FUNDING AND NEW HOUSING PROJECTS

- Successfully testified before State Land Use Board in support of Waikapu Development Venture, 100% affordable, 201-H project with 80 units at 70-140% of median income
- Explored County bond funding for affordable housing with various Councilmembers
- Testified before Economic Development & Budget Committee in support of Mayor's proposed increase of Affordable Housing Fund real property tax set-aside from current 2% to 3%. Ultimately supported increase to 4%.
- Testified before Economic Development & Budget Committee public hearing held in Kihei primarily for affordable housing
- Go Maui, Inc. testified before Economic Development and Budget Committee on the following measures which were passed:
 1. Increase to 4% of real property taxes funding for Affordable Housing Fund
 2. Experimental Housing Fund of \$1 million
 3. Increase in Affordable Rental Housing Program to \$1.4 million
 4. Homeless programs to \$2.1 million
 5. First Time Homebuyers Fund to \$2 million
 6. Central Maui Homeless Respite Unit (food, water, hygiene)
 7. Invited by Councilmember Kelly King to speak about affordable housing funding representing all affordable housing advocates.
 8. Supported Councilmember Keani-Rawlins to increase set-aside of real property taxes to the Affordable Housing Fund to 4% from Mayor's proposed 3%
- Attended Makila Project presentation at Lahaina United Methodist Church; and invited developers to conduct project presentation at Go Maui, Inc.'s Board meeting
- Attended hearings on Makila Farms Project before Maui County Council's Affordable Housing Committee (3 meetings); and testified on behalf of Go Maui, Inc. in support of Makila Farms project at first Committee meeting. Eventually passed by Committee with a 5-2 vote.
- Met with Makila Farms developers to assist with Committee meeting strategy
- Recruited people to testify in favor of the Makila Farms Project
- Met with Committee member allies to secure Makila Farms Project support by Council
- Attended "Leaders with Vision" breakfast; met with President of LISC to discuss housing funding options such as leveraging funds and issuing housing bonds
- Appeared on Maui Nonprofit radio show to discuss Go Maui, Inc. and need for affordable housing
- Attended Maui Nonprofit Director's meeting with Mayor Victorino on affordable housing funding
- Attended Chamber of Commerce and Maui County Accessible Housing Symposium
- Attended Pulehua West Maui project presentation on affordable rentals, attended DLNR meeting on project, and testified in favor at Maui County Council.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH HELPS GO MAUI, INC. TO VOICE CITIZEN CONCERNS

- Observed Council Inauguration and Organizational meeting/events
- Attended West Maui Taxpayers Annual Meeting at Lahaina Civic Center
- Maintain activity in Maui Nonprofit Directors Association
- Volunteered and supported Hale Kau Kau fundraising dinner
- Joined as member of Maui Nonprofit Directors Association
- Attended Wailuku Community Association meeting
- Attended Hui No'eau 2019 Annual Fundraiser
- Attended Opportunity Zone (LISC Foundation) and Blue Zone Project activity planning
- Attended MEO Annual Fundraiser
- Attended St. Patrick's Day Dinner at St. Theresa's Catholic Church
- Attended Kihei Community Association meetings
- Attended annual meeting of Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce
- Attended Historic Hawaii Foundation reception at Hui No 'eau (invited by Wendy Rice Peterson)
- Met with new Maui United Way Executive Director
- Attended Palaka Golf Ball Drop honoring Chubby Vicens and Chad Goodfellow
- Attended Home Show at War Memorial Complex
- Attended Mayor Victorino's Birthday Party
- Initiated discussion and planning for Go Maui, Inc. fundraising advisory committee with Chubby Vicens
- Met with Peter Martin to discuss support for Go Maui, Inc.
- Attended Maui Nonprofit Directors Annual Awards Dinner
- Maintained membership in Sierra Club

GOVERNANCE ADVOCACY SUPPORTS AND MAINTAINS KEY DECISION MAKER RELATIONSHIPS

- Thanks to Tom Croly's tax reform testimony that was submitted on behalf of Go Maui, Inc., significant changes were made to avoid condo owners paying the short-term tax rate if they only did long-term rental in a building that also had short-term rentals.
- Monitored water, agriculture, housing, and land use issues before the Council and its Committees. Monitored the Planning Committee, Board of Water Supply, and Planning Commission. Developed Go Maui, Inc. positions as directed by Board of Directors.
- Observed Maui County Council Department Directors nomination & appointment hearings
- Testified in favor of confirming Mayor's Department Director nominations
- Attended Mayor's FY 2020 Budget presentation to Council
- Attended Kula Community Association meeting on pending tax reform legislation before the Council
- Attended Kahului Community Association meeting on pending tax reform legislation before the Council
- Appeared before Maui County Council to testify on tax reform proposed in TIG report at First Reading
- Appeared before Maui County Council to testify and oppose tax reform from TIG report at Second and Final Reading
- Met with Rep. Tina Wildberger
- Met with Councilmember Tasha Kama
- Attended Rep. Troy Hashimoto legislative update with Maui legislators, Councilmembers, and legislative leadership, including Speaker of the House
- Maintained open communication and relationships with Mayor Victorino, Managing Director, and Senior staff
- Maintained open communication and relationships with Maui County Councilmembers and their respective staff
- Made home-made fudge, wrote individual cards, and delivered to all Councilmembers, their staff, and Council Services Office to express appreciation for their work on the annual budget (specifically, on affordable housing)
- Made and delivered homemade holiday lemon bars to Councilmembers, their staff, and Maui media members (i.e., AKAKU, Maui News, Lahaina News, Maui Time, MauiNow.com, and Mana'o Radio)