

GO MAUI INC. 2018 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

Go Maui was directly involved in advocating before the State Commission on Water Resources Management for an extension of A&B water leases for central Maui. That testimony supported a distribution of water to allow HC&S to continue make the transition from sugar to diversified agriculture and seek new agricultural partners.

Water issues and potential stream flow issues in West Maui were monitored and West Maui meetings on the issue were attended.

Go Maui, Inc. co-hosted a major election Candidate Forum with Tom Cook (Construction Industry of Maui) and Pamela Tumpap (Maui Chamber of Commerce). Nearly all 2018 candidates participated, and the event was taped and broadcast on AKAKU in two individual segments over several days prior to the election.

Go Maui also testified in support of development to meet Maui's growing needs before the Maui Planning Commission, the Board of Water Supply, the Urban Design Review Board, the Maui County Council and council committees on issues of budgeting, land use policy, water issues, agriculture and affordable housing.

It is important to note that Go Maui, Inc. was often the only voice on these issues for local values and a strong and balanced economy.

IN 2018 Go Maui continued to maintain the face book site "We Are Maui Nui" which highlighted local values and their importance to Maui. The non-political, non-partisan site could be found at <https://www.facebook.com/WeAreMauiNui/>. It contained short videos by local people speaking about local values. It reminded viewers of the site to register and to vote.

In 2018, our advocacy was to further our mission of supporting increasing affordable workforce housing, access to water, supporting agriculture and ranching, economic development and growth that provides good well-paying jobs for our local residents. The success of Go Maui, Inc. in this regard continues to be is due to our board, our supporters and our donors.

Go Maui's successful policy advocacy in 2018 included the following areas and activities.

WATER & AGRICULTURE ADVOCACY

- Provided written testimony at the request of A&B to State Water Commission hearing on the extension of the A&B water lease for third year. In previous years Go Maui, Inc. had gone to Oahu and testified in person.
- Go Maui, Inc's. well-received and produced Upcountry Water Source video continued to play on AKAKU channel 55. Most people Upcountry do not know their water comes mainly from stream flow and not primarily from wells. This video is an attempt to provide education on this subject.
- Attended Council Water Resources committee to monitor status of any committee action on status of quality and quantity of Upcountry water.
- Attended Cesspool water meeting at the Kula Community Center. 150 angry people attended. Issue put on hold for further study.
- Submitted testimony to State Legislature on HCR 111 requesting the Department of Health to convene a regional cesspool modernization task force within each county of the state.
- Attended Maui County Council Water Resources Committee on significant policy action. Issue on the table was well site protection of public and possibly private wells. Item deferred with questions for Department of Water Supply.
- Monitored Agriculture bill in Council Land Use Committee to cluster agricultural districts to promote farming and preserve open space. No adverse testimony but numerous and conflicting ideas on how to actually implement. Item deferred.
- Testified in favor of Council legislation to expand Kula agricultural park. Measure passed 8-1. Councilmember Cochran voted against it.
- Supported Gladys Baisa Council approval as Director of the Department of Water Supply.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVOCACY

- Advocated for all affordable housing programs in 2018 Mayor's Budget and Chairman's budget. FABMAC land purchase for placement of manufactured housing. Na Hale O Maui for support of 12-unit housing project in Kahoma, increase in First Time Homebuyers Fund from \$1 million to \$2 million for down payment and closing cost assistance. FABMC did not pass the B&F committee. All other advocacy efforts were successful through first reading of budget.

- 2018 Maui County Budget. Signed by Mayor. All affordable housing programs advocated for by Go Maui in Mayor's Budget and Chairman's budget maintained. Including, Homebuyers Fund increased from \$1 million to \$2 million for down payment and closing cost assistance.
- Testified at Housing, Human Services and Transportation Committee hearing re: amending chapter 2.96 MCC, relating to residential workforce housing fast track permitting, and to amendments to the residential work force housing policy proposed amendments relating to incentives and exemptions.
- Testified at Budget and Finance Committee in favor of affordable housing fund projects and first time homebuyers fund.
- Testified in opposition to proposal by Councilmember Elle Cochran to make all affordable housing projects funded by the housing set-aside fund be affordable in perpetuity. This would have eliminated all but one affordable housing provider, removing an organization such as Habitat for Humanity for the eligible funding list. Go Maui, Inc. opposed this as a one-size-fits-all strategy. Maui Tomorrow supported the bill. The bill was deferred.
- Wrote article for Maui News Real Estate Section and advocated for passage of first time homebuyers fund.

PLANNING AND LAND USE ADVOCACY

- Attended Maui Planning Commission and supported approval of the SMA application for a 164-unit affordable housing rental complex for low and very low-income seniors. The project is being built by Catholic Charities Go Maui, Inc. testified in support of the project which was greatly appreciated by the Catholic Charities Maui leadership and their lead project consultant Mike Munekiyo. The project was approved unanimously.
- Attended meeting of the Planning Commission and testified in favor of homeless camp in West Maui. It is a 1-year pilot project. Needed to go to council for conditional use permit. No one from Sierra Club or Maui Tomorrow attending. Project passed 5-0.

GOVERNANCE ADVOCACY

- Attended Maui County Council Land Use Committee and advocated returning Pi'ilani Promenade development of 250 units affordable housing (half rental, half owner occupied) back to Honolulu development (Wailea 670) site. Passed. Agreeing with us was the Sierra Club.

- Attended meeting of Parks, Recreation and Legal Affairs Committee on the issue of paying for the Mayor's legal fees in the matter of the firing of Water Director. The Council decided not to pay the legal fees after meeting in executive session.
- Attended Maui County Council regarding First Reading on a bill to require that a that an applicant for a Short-Term Rental Home("STRH") Permit own the dwelling unit to be used as an STRH for at least five years prior to the date of an application. Testified in opposition. Focused on the need better regulation of illegal dwellings. Measure passed with Guzman voting no.
- Submitted testimony to State Legislature on HCR 111 requesting the Department of Health to convene a regional cesspool modernization task force within each county of the state.
- Baked and distributed homemade lemon bars to all councilmembers and their staff and council budget and council staff to say thank you for all of their work on the budget, etc. They were well received!
- Monitored City Manager Charter Amendment before Council committee and Council B&B enforcement changes. Tom Croly testified on behalf of Go Maui.
- Monitored or attended Maui County Council Water Resources Committee for significant policy actions.
- Monitored or attended Board of Water Supply (BWS) meetings for significant policy actions.
- Monitored or attended Planning Commission meetings for significant policy actions.
- Monitored or attended all other council committees for same purpose.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Co-hosted major election Candidate Forum with Tom Cook (Construction Industry of Maui) and Pamela Tumpap (Maui Chamber of Commerce). Nearly all 2018 candidates participated, and the event was taped and broadcast on AKAKU in two individual segments over several days prior to the election.
- Continued Maui local-style tradition of delivering Holiday individual home-baked (mine) Christmas brownies, cookies and fudge to all councilmembers and their staff, the Mayor and his senior staff, planning department staff, Maui News publisher, City Desk, reporters and to all Maui County print, TV (AKAKU) and radio media. Well received. This was a very well received relationship-building project.

- Met with Willy Kennison, retired Maui division director of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 142 about current state of Maui politics and ILWU support in 2018.
- Made “Why Vote” videos encouraging people to vote.
- Made “16 Local Values videos for “We are Maui Nui” Face Book site.
- Joined “Maui Nonprofits Directors” Association. Began attending monthly meetings.
- Attended funeral for Freddy Rice and spoke with Upcountry families and cattle ranchers.
- Joined Maui Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce.
- Attended Mike Victorino campaign kick-off as observer. Carpenters Union was in the kitchen.
- Attended Governor Ige Talk Story in Kihei and Kihei Charter School.
- Attended Construction Industry of Maui (CIM) monthly meeting.
- Attended Maui Nonprofits Directors Association.
- Attended Sen. Baker and Rep. McKelvey community meeting in Lahaina.
- Attended Veterans of Foreign Wars Pancake Breakfast in Kihei.
- Attended St. Patrick’s Day Dinner at St. Theresa Church.
- Attended and testified at Council’s Kihei budget hearing.
- Met with Bill Kamai of Carpenters Union to discuss current affairs.
- Met with State Senator Roz Baker to discuss current south Maui affairs.
- Met with Councilmember Don Couch to discuss current events.
- Attended candidate information event set up by Queen Kaahumanu Center.
- Attended KCA South Maui candidate’s night.

- Co-hosted primary and general election night coverage for radio station KAOI. Interviewed almost all candidates. Go Maui, Inc. members were invited to be on the air for interviews.
- Met with Gwen Hiraga to expand earlier comments made a public meeting last year of Go Maui support for proposed DNLR development along Maui Veteran's Highway.
- Met Mike Victorino and discussed affordable housing.
- Attended Japanese Cultural Center Leadership Luncheon with former Gov. Abercrombie as speaker.
- As an observer attended all Maui County council race kick-offs.
- Attended Mayor's budget meeting in Kihei.
- Attended post-election Ohana all-candidate election celebration at Kihei VFW. About 100 people attended. Spoke with all winning candidates.