



Dear Don Couch
Maui Mayor Victorino Liaison

Aloha,

We wish to introduce ourselves. We are the newly formed Community Association for Paia.

During this time of Covid pandemic we are focused on doing all we can to help save the small businesses, local jobs, and to help diversify the economy of our fragile small town.

In doing this these are the major areas we wish to work with the County of Maui:

- Address security issues like homelessness and vandalism. We have seen an increase and we will be sending suggestions on what the county can be doing right now to assist
- Establish an improved relationship with a small-town planner at the County in order to streamline the permitting process for repairs and maintenance and improvements. Many property owners in the town consider the County to be punitive and makes things challenging for the small businesses. This is having a direct effect on the closing of stores and restaurants and landlord/Tenant relationships. We are requesting a point of contact for immediate changes during Covid to use this time to improve the town and make needed repairs. We will be sending our suggestions. At present the process for getting permits is too egregious and time consuming and we seek to streamline this process.
- Assist our restaurants and cafes by allowing an immediate or streamlined approval for open air patio dining in order to allow for social distancing, health and safety, and for restaurants to reopen.
- Assist with adding Parking. This may include immediate parking reductions for small business to expand in order to survive during this pandemic. There are also proposals that are coming and there needs to be a streamline process to encourage more parking if offered by the private sector



- Permitted vacation rentals are a necessary part of the success of the small town and we are requesting a point of contact help remedy any issues related to this. We have seen recently a trend by the county to “phase out” this necessary industry for Paia. We will be sending our suggestions.
- Improved agriculture business. We are requesting a point of contact to help bring more of this industry to the town.
- Beautification of Paia. We are looking for innovative ways to bring more Trees, lighting, trash collection and all way to improve the look and feel of the town as well as address security. We request a point person for these matters.
- Surf competitions and events. We believe an important part of the diversification of Paia is to continue to bring awareness of the benefits of all ocean actives like the Menehune surf contest, Aloha Classic, WSL, Butterfly event and all other ocean activities. We wish to have to have a point of contact for these.
- Environmental protection of our lands and ocean including turtle actives and others.
- Finding ways to bring more Spiritual, Cultural, Arts, Music, Education, Non-Profit events and other areas to enhance the local residents experience of Paia.
- We are in full support of the Paia Youth and Cultural Center and wish to assist them in any way possible

We look forward to a positive relationship moving forward with the Mayor’s office and the Council to better enhance Paia town. Most of Paia was built in the 1920s and 1930s long before Hawaii became a state in 1959. As such, this greatly effects both the properties and residents. We seek to streamline the process during Covid to encourage doing all we can to save the town and to assist small businesses and local residents.

Mahalo,

Michael Baskin

Co-Director

Designer

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