

From: [Rebecca Melendez](#)
To: [LPCtestimony](#); [WPCtestimony](#)
Subject: General Plan Opposing Testimony
Date: Monday, November 25, 2024 7:41:55 PM

Dear Council Members,

I ask you to please sincerely look at and ask why the Hawai'i Planning Department is changing Land Titles all over the Big Island in their General Plan because this will affect the people who own these lands and their families' futures, as well please look for high-end developers Land Title changes from agriculture to urban because this will cause serious issues on the Big Island and high-end developers land titles should NOT be changed in a General Plan.

The Big Island has a lot of resource issues and high-end developer's land should NOT have their Land Titles changed in the General Plan.

Here are a few resource News Articles that prove my point about Big Island resources:

[Hawaiian Electric Customers On Big Island Urged To Conserve Power - Honolulu Civil Beat](#)

[Microsoft Word - Unit Blueprint - Hawaii's Freshwater Ecosystems.doc](#)

Here is a petition that will give you more information on Big Island resources with 530 signatures asking for no more developments because the island's resources need to be addressed [Petition · Help Big Island Resources and Infrastructure Stay Safe For ALL Who Live Here and Visit - United States · Change.org](#)

This General Plan is extremely vague at times and it could mean more than one thing in many different areas. They need to make this plan extremely clear for all of us to understand their true intentions.

This General Plan's map is very challenging to understand, and CANNOT be understood by the average resident. They need a map that will show simple photos of what they want to change and why, with who made all these changes and where is their research on why these changes are a good idea. <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/f073ef273f054cea97b12bf658def023/page/Land-Use/>

Why are they not using any of the past General Plan's? This is a good question to ask to learn why they want to completely change Big Island.

I was sent this information. Please watch for this kind of information in their General Plan.

I just saw the new plans for Kona by SmartCode which was published by New Urban Publications Inc. A guide line used for other communities. Basically expect more apartment buildings, smaller communities within walking distance to transits. Also more lower income apartments instead of houses. The Civic center that will be built will stand out above all other buildings. It will be the gathering place for communities. Skimming through these plans I see no need for vehicles, churches or homes. 1.3.3 Block and Building- f.ThatCIVIC BUILDINGS and public gathering places be provided as locations that reinforce community

identity and support self-government. g. That CIVIC BUILDINGS be distinctive and appropriate to a role more important than the other buildings that constitute fabric of village. Kind of reminds me of hunger games and a 15min city combined.

PLEASE STAND AND STOP THIS GENERAL PLAN FROM CREATING A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT KIND OF COMMUNITY ON THE ISLAND THAT WILL FAVOR HIGH-END DEVELOPERS. PLEASE KEEP THE BIG ISLAND'S LAND AND COMMUNITY SAFE FOR ALL WHO LIVE HERE. PLEASE PROTECT PERSONAL PRIVATE LANDS FROM LAND USE TITLE CHANGES AND OTHER CHANGES STATED IN THIS PLAN THAT WILL AFFECT THEIR LAND FOREVER.

Thank you for hearing our voices.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Melendez

P.S.

Please watch for the above issues in this General Plan because the Hawai'i Planning Director Zendo Kern is NOT for the preservation of the land, is NOT for community voices, is NOT for the protection of marine life and island resources, and IS for high-end developers:

[Hundreds Of Hawaii Island Residents Protest Proposed Housing Project In Punaluu - Honolulu Civil Beat](#) and the Hawai'i Planning Director didn't listen to community voices and favored this developer.

[petition: All Who Oppose the Resort in Punalu'u Ka'u](#) This petition has almost 19,000 signatures trying to SAVE Punalu'u from development and still Zendo Kern gave the "green light" for this development.

[Polluted runoff in Hawaii endangers green sea turtles](#)[Chemservice News](#) This article was written 10 years ago saying harmful pollution has come from developments and Zendo Kern still favored high-end developments for years after.

[New Directors of Housing, Planning In Hawai'i County Tied to Developers](#)

[Conflict of interest? Kern signs off on approval of project he represented as a planning consultant - West Hawaii Today](#)