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Hawaii County Charter Commission
c/o Karen Eoff, Secretary
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Dear Commissioners,

In my testimony to you last Friday, I mentioned that I felt a slight change was called for in Section 6-7.5(c) of the Charter, relating to the duties and functions of the Windward and Leeward Planning Commissions.

Here is what I propose:

(c) Each planning commission shall review and take action upon applications for land use changes and community development plans involving only property within their respective jurisdictions, other than those involving the general plan. If an application for a land use change or a community development plan includes land within the jurisdiction of both the windward planning commission and the leeward planning commission, the application shall be considered by both commissions meeting jointly and action shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of ~~the combined membership~~ each of the two commissions. All amendments to the general plan or the adoption of a new general plan shall be considered by each planning commission, meeting separately, and each commission shall make its own recommendation to the council. Each planning commission, meeting separately, shall make its own recommendations to the council on changes to the subdivision and zoning codes and any other planning or land use matters which apply generally and not to a specific area. The planning director shall determine which commission shall take jurisdiction over any matters when not fully established by the charter.

As I mentioned on Friday, I feel there is a loophole here that should be closed. I see no reason to limit the power of each planning commission to decide on issues within its own jurisdiction, just because they also involve the other planning commission.

Thank you for you for considering this change.

Sincerely,

Kelly Pomeroy