

Mori, Ashley

From: generalplan@hawaiicounty.gov
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2019 7:24 PM
To: General Plan
Subject: Contact from the GP website...

The following contact message has been sent:

Name: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

District: Hamakua

Message: I work in Kukuihaele and have seen firsthand the financial devastation caused by the closing of the Ride the Rim ATV and horse tours. These tours kept a lot of people from ascending to Waipio Valley. There are about 2800 acres involved and it is a nice vision to plant native trees, but a couple hundred or so acres could have been left to tour companies. I think the recently purchased Rice property by the county needs to be rescheduled for a visitor center with some extra parking. It could be landscaped with taro patches-(Hamakua ditch is right behind) with state of the art photos to give the feeling of being in Waipio without having to go down. Refreshments and gift shop could pay for expenses. Or if not there-perhaps a visitor center could be built at the Hi'ilawe lookout. Waipio is the second most visited place on the Big Island. We could make it a comfortable and exciting destination with a low impact on the valley itself. I feel like some people want to keep it all to themselves and not share the wondrous beauty that I have come to know. By the way, I lived in the valley for 3 and 1/2 years 40 years ago. I was a taro farmer. I am more than willing to talk about my visions and what would be good for the community and jobs and the welfare of Waipio.

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PLANNING DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF HAWAII