

1/16/2022

Maui County Council
200 S. High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

Re: Grant of 18 Lots in Central Maui to Housing and Land Enterprise of Maui, dba Na Hale O Maui

Dear Honorable Council,

We are writing to you today with a plea to support Na Hale O Maui's request for affordable housing. Honorable Council, this letter truly is a plea, a plea for a place to live and grow a family dedicated to the community.

I was born and raised on the beautiful island of Maui, my Papa was a firefighter for Maui County, my father is currently a captain in the fire department and it was my dream to one day also become a firefighter. That dream became reality in 2020 when I was accepted into the 36th recruit class. I am now a 3rd generation firefighter, out serving my community and putting my life on the line.

My wife is a teacher. She works at Maui Waena Intermediate working with many students, especially those whose English is not their native language. She loves her job and comes home everyday with stories of the amazing students she gets to work with. She does after school tutoring and is involved in after school clubs to further give students opportunities to grow and learn.

Honorable Council, we work hard. We give the community our all, but we cannot afford to continue to live here. Our current living situation is quickly coming to an end due to our landlord's return to Hawaii and we are at a loss of where to go next. The steep rental prices and lack of affordable housing continue to force us to consider moving to the Mainland.

We beg that you will listen to the hard working people of your community and support movements towards affordable housing. All we want is to continue to serve and grow our beautiful island. We desperately want to settle down and begin our family, raising them with my Hawaiian culture and teaching them to care for the land.

Please, do not turn a blind eye to the needs of the community. Please give this young firefighter and teacher a chance at a life on Maui, with a home to raise a new generation of community leaders. Please support Na Hale O Maui's new housing proposal.

Mahalo for your consideration and time,

Mahonri and Abigail Aiwohi
57 One Malia Way
Wailuku, HI 96793