

WINDWARD PLANNING COMMISSION
COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

HEARING TRANSCRIPT
DECEMBER 4, 2009

A regularly advertised hearing on the COUNTY COUNCIL INITIATED AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 25 OF THE ZONING CODE RELATING TO CONCURRENCY STANDARDS was called to order at 12:15 p.m. in the County of Hawai'i, Aupuni Center Conference Room, 101 Pauahi Street, Hilo, Hawai'i, with Chairman Rell Woodward presiding.

PRESENT: Rell Woodward
Takashi Domingo
Andrew Iwashita
Zendo Kern
Wallace Ishibashi

Brandon Gonzalez, Deputy Corporation Counsel
BJ Leithead Todd, Planning Director
Warren Lee, Director of Public Works
Norman Hayashi, Planning Program Manager
Phyllis Fujimoto, Staff Planner
Jeff Darrow, Staff Planner
Maija Cottle, Staff Planner

And two people from the public in attendance.

INITIATOR: COUNTY COUNCIL

Amendment to Chapter 25, Article 2, Division 4, Hawai'i County Code 1983 (2005 Edition, as amended) relating to concurrency standards for parks and recreational facilities and firefighting facilities in change of zone actions.

WOODWARD: Okay, we have one other agenda item; and that's this retreat. Agenda Item No. 8 initiated by County Council, Amendment to Chapter 25, Article 2, Division 4, relating to concurrency standards for parks and recreational facilities and firefighting facilities in change of zone actions. Maija.

COTTLE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This item was continued from the last hearing and I believe it was sent back to Council because there was an incorrect roll call vote sheet attached to the resolution. So you should have the new resolution with the correct roll call sheet. And, as you know, this is a County Council initiated amendment to the Zoning Code to create new concurrency standards for parks and recreation facilities and fire fighting facilities. And the Director is recommending an unfavorable recommendation.

WOODWARD: All right. Like I said this is the third time we've addressed this, once last year, once last month and now again. Does anybody have any questions? Okay, I'll make my usual comment that I made when we addressed this last month. And that is essentially this is going to be a moratorium on zoning county-wide because this concurrency standard is going to require that any little mom and pop rezoning is going to have to bring that area up to County imposed standards that it can't currently meet. And so it is essentially just a moratorium on zoning throughout the County. And it's poorly conceived; and I think that's basically what the Director said last time. Does anybody else have comments or -? Okay, Commissioner Kern.

KERN: I agree with what you said and what the Director had to say from the last time, so I support that.

WOODWARD: All right. Do we have a motion?

DOMINGO: Mr. Chairman?

WOODWARD: Commissioner Domingo.

DOMINGO: I move for the Planning Director's recommendation, sending an unfavorable recommendation to the Council.

WOODWARD: All right.

KERN: You said unfavorable, right?

DOMINGO: Unfavorable, yes.

KERN: Second.

WOODWARD: Okay. All right. Any discussion? Okay, Majia, can we have the vote, please.

COTTLE: Thank you. Commissioner Domingo?

DOMINGO: Aye.

COTTLE: Commissioner Kern?

KERN: Aye.

COTTLE: Commissioner Ishibashi?

ISHIBASHI: Aye.

COTTLE: Commissioner Iwashita?

IWASHITA: Yes.

COTTLE: And Mr. Chair?

WOODWARD: Aye.

COTTLE: Okay, the motion passes, five to zero.

WOODWARD: Right. There is nobody from the public signed up to testify, just for purposes to completeness.

The discussion ended at 12:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon M. Nomura, Secretary
Windward Planning Commission