

WEST MAUI TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION'S

THE VOICE

"Coming together, uniting West Maui as ONE Voice"

PO Box 10338 ♦ Lahaina, HI 96761 ♦ www.WestMaui.org ♦ WMTA@maui.net

Newsletter of the West Maui Taxpayers Association, December 2012

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE By Don Lehman

CONGRATULATIONS to all the successful candidates in the recent election. THANK YOU to all the candidates who were willing to face the rigors of a campaign in an unselfish desire to serve the public good. With political campaigns demanding so much of the candidates, it is really a shame that voter participation remains so low.

WMTA addresses voter apathy by conducting a WMTA CANDIDATES NIGHT in election years. Our objectives are to showcase candidates appearing on the ballot in West Maui, and to inform and motivate voters. This year's WMTA Candidates Night was a spirited evening with a good number of candidates and a large crowd. The 2012 WMTA Candidates Night was broadcast live on Akaku Public Television, and rebroadcast at least six times before the election.

The 2013 WMTA ANNUAL MEETING is scheduled for January 10, 2013, at the Lahaina Civic Center. WMTA will invite all of the winning candidates on the West Maui ballot in the recent election, and the Mayor, to present their visions for the coming year. WMTA will also have presentations on the key West Maui issues (see below). Please plan to attend this very popular event.

UWE SCHULZ, long time WMTA board member, lost his long and courageous battle with cancer on November 9, 2012. WMTA members may remember that at the 2012 WMTA Annual Meeting there were proclamations from the Governor and the Mayor honoring Uwe for his 50+ years of service to West Maui. Those proclamations are available on the WMTA web site (WestMaui.org). Uwe is best known for designing Whalers Village, restoring many historic buildings, and promoting a West Maui hospital. West Maui has lost a true hero.

WMTA 2013 ANNUAL MEETING ISSUES:

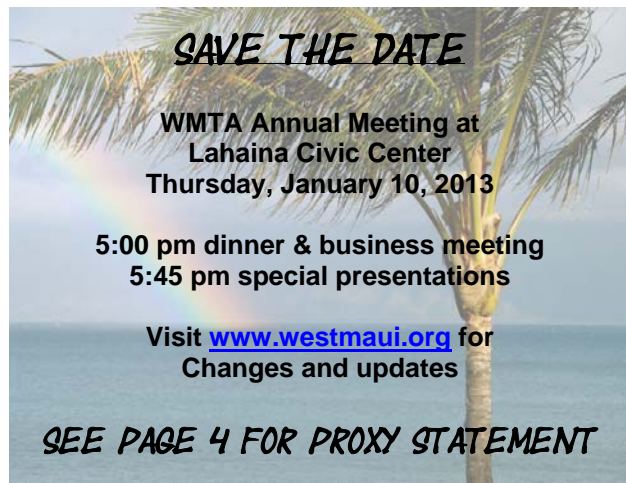
TRAFFIC: Please note Bob Pure's report with very good news on the Lahaina Bypass. WMTA thanks Bob for his efforts as President of Lahaina Bypass Now!(LBN) to keep this project on track. Bob has announced that LBN will be dissolving, but has assured WMTA he will continue to promote LBN issues as Vice President of WMTA. Thanks again, Bob.

HEALTH: WMTA and West Maui Improvement Foundation energizer bunny, Joe Pluta, will have the latest on the proposed West Maui hospital. The news is encouraging, but so fluid that projecting what might be in Joe's presentation is impossible at this time.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: WMTA is inviting the developers of Kahoma Village to talk about their recently released environmental impact statement. If they are not available we will find another presentation of interest to attendees.

FYI: This is the time of year that seasonal visitors and residents frequently contact WMTA to see why the SEWER ODORS at Kaanapali and Honokowai have not been addressed. WMTA understands that there are several diverse factors complicating this issue, but the major problem remains funding of improvements. With construction costs at historic lows, and bond interest even lower, WMTA feels this is the time for the County to "think big" when looking at capital improvement projects.

Sewer odor has become an economic issue in the competitive environment the West Maui visitor industry is facing. Competing is very tough when the first and lasting impression of West Maui is hydrogen sulfide! Property owners, who sustain 1,000's of jobs, pay \$100,000's in waste water fees and generate \$1,000,000's in tax revenue, deserve better. WMTA pledges to pursue investment to reduce odor and build facilities for greater reuse of West Maui waste water.



SAVE THE DATE

**WMTA Annual Meeting at
Lahaina Civic Center
Thursday, January 10, 2013**

**5:00 pm dinner & business meeting
5:45 pm special presentations**

Visit www.westmaui.org for
Changes and updates

SEE PAGE 4 FOR PROXY STATEMENT

For a complete description of WMTA Goals and objectives, please visit www.WestMaui.org. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!


President, WMTA

WMTA GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
APPROVED & UPDATED: September 11, 2012

HEALTH AND SAFETY



- 1) Promote the development and construction of a critical access medical facility in West Maui with associated facilities.
- 2) Support emergency preparedness programs for West Maui.
- 3) Support budget requests for MEO projects and improved police and fire fighting facilities in West Maui.

EDUCATION

- 1) Lobby for funding for the Lahaina Complex After School Tutoring Program.

TRAFFIC AND ROADWAYS

- 1) Promote the completion of the Lahaina Bypass and other traffic mitigation projects in West Maui.
- 2) Pursue completion of the upgrades and paving of lower Honoapiilani Road from Kahana to Napili
- 3) Promote improvements to Honoapiilani Highway from the Pali to Lahaina Town to protect the single access in and out of West Maui.
- 4) Spur County to complete Shaw Street sidewalk from Front Street to Honoapiilani Highway as promised.
- 5) Promote implementation of the Maui County Complete Streets Ordinance on all West Maui projects.
- 6) Support expansion and improvement of County public transit service in West Maui.
- 7) Support moving the southern terminus of the Lahaina Bypass to Cut



AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- 1) Continue to support well planned housing projects in West Maui that include both affordable and work force elements. (ie: Waiee Village, Kaanapali 2020, Kohoma Stream infill, Villages at Leialii, Puukolii Village Mauka, Pulelehua, 'Kahoma Village, etc.)
- 2) Support the expansion of the Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Center to address the homeless encampment problems in West Maui.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

- 1) Press for improvements to the pump station at Honoapiilani Highway and Ka'anapali Parkway to address the sewer odor problem.
- 2) Pursue funding for improvements to the Honokowai sewage treatment plant, including completion of the ultraviolet canal, to provide treatment, storage and distribution systems to reuse treated waste water instead of using injection wells, and to address odor problems.
- 3) Support the operation/preservation of the new West Maui skate park.
- 4) Support development of an off-highway bicycle greenway for West Maui.
- 5) Urge the County to aggressively develop under-utilized water resources to ensure adequate supply for current and future needs
- 6) Support purchase of land at Makila for the creation of a new park.



VOTER/TAXPAYER REPRESENTATION

- 1) Press for reform of the County employee pension system so it is fair to taxpayers and more equivalent to the private sector.
- 2) Support effort to reform the permitting process and change the Planning Department focus more to customer service with fewer bureaucratic hurdles.
- 3) Represent taxpayers in the budgeting process, with an emphasis on right-sizing government and greater efficiency in government programs.
- 4) Promote business friendly regulatory and tax policies for enhanced job creation, especially in the hospitality industry.
- 5) Support fairness and certainty in real property taxation.
- 6) Support the effort to bring fairness and true voter representation to the Maui County election process for Council seats.
- 7) Promote communication between West Maui taxpayers and their government with the annual WMTA meetings, the WMTA Candidates Night (the only such forum on the West side), and aggressive get-out-the-vote efforts.
- 8) Build awareness for West Maui harbor needs.

CULTURAL PROTECTION

- 1) Preserve and promote Hawaiian culture efforts, such as:
 - a. Support the efforts of the Royal Hawaiian Guard and its efforts with Na Kia'i O Waiee to honor the monarchs at Wai Ola Cemetery.
 - b. Support funding for the Lahaina Honolua Senior Citizens Club.
 - c. Support the creation of a new cemetery in West Maui
 - d. Support restoration of Moku'ula

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE By Bob Pure

The State Dept. of Transportation held a Dedication Ceremony for the topping off of the Kahoma Stream Bridge as part of the first Phase of the Lahaina Bypass. The unique architecture of this bridge sets it apart from any other bridge in the country.

The Ceremony was attended by Governor Neil Abercrombie, Glenn Okimoto, the Director of the DOT and Representative Angus McKelvey and Senator Roz Baker our local legislators. As the only community representative and the Vice President of West Maui Taxpayers and the President of Lahaina Bypass Now (LBN), I was privileged to be included as one of the speakers.

The DOT and the Governor recognized the important role that local community groups have played in making the Lahaina Bypass a reality.

The first Phase of the Bypass will open by the end of this year and the second Phase will open by the end of March.

We are now in discussion with the DOT on what impact the added traffic will have to the Keawe Street/Highway intersection. There is also ongoing discussion about the possibility of a second in/out for the Gateway Center in order to mitigate the additional traffic.

We will keep you posted on future transportation developments.

WEST MAUI HOSPITAL UPDATE By Joe Pluta, President, West Maui Improvement Foundation

Since our last update, there have been some encouraging developments on our West Maui Hospital Development Plans. Final Subdivision submittals by Kaanapali Land Management Corp for subdivision for the proposed hospital site have been completed. That will enable the purchase of this subdivided parcel accordingly. In addition to purchasing this parcel, we will have to initiate and pay for the environmental assessment and zoning land entitlements and complete agreements with contractors and consultants. Along those lines, we are very grateful for those who are responding to our request for additional financial donations/contributions to our efforts. A special Mahalo to the Diane Lynn Family Foundation and the Makana Aloha Foundation in that regard. We are counting on you to add your contribution as well to help to make up the difference. Tax Deductible Contributions can be sent to "West Maui Improvement Foundation, Inc." PO Box 10338, Lahaina, HI 96761. Our U.S. Tax I.D. is EIN 99-0275775 - Public Charity Status 170 (b) (1)(A)(vi) Any amount you send will help. Time is of the essence. Malama Pono ame Mahalo!

The level of current political support solicited and requested for our hospital in conjunction with our USDA loan application has also been excellent. Our West Maui Representative Angus McKelvey flew to Washington DC and met personally with US Senator Daniel Inouye on our West Maui Hospital. State Senator Roz Baker pledged to send a letter of support as did Representative, Angus McKelvey. Maui Mayor Alan Arakawa also sent in a support letter as did County Council members Mike Victorino, Mike White, Don Couch, and Gladys Baisa. There may be others that we have not been copied with, and we are extremely grateful with the overwhelming support in that regard. In this newsletter, WMTA President Don Lehman's report stated that I would be making a West Maui Hospital presentation at our upcoming Annual Meeting on January 10th, however, that details were "so fluid...that projecting what might be in our presentation, was impossible at this time." We agree and hopefully we will have excellent news to share with all those present on January 10th. We look forward to seeing you there!

**West Maui Improvement Foundation Donation
IRS EIN 99-0275775 NON PROFIT 501C (3)**

West Maui Taxpayers Association continues to collaborate with the West Maui Improvement Foundation in its efforts to bring a hospital to West Maui. Please read the hospital update above by Joe Pluta, WMTA Treasurer/President Emeritus, as well as President of the West Maui Improvement Foundation. If you can give a gift, no matter the amount, it would be greatly appreciated.

Donor Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Check here to have your name kept private in publications and acknowledgements.

Check here to have your e-mail address added to our "WMIF E-Alerts" List

Payment Info:

\$_____ Check Enclosed
Payable to **West Maui Improvement Foundation**
Amount: \$25 \$50 \$365 Other \$_____

Credit Card (fill out information to the right.)

Mail Checks, and Send Comments to:

West Maui Improvement Foundation
PO Box 158 • Lahaina, HI 96761
Phone: 808-661-7990
Visit www.WestMauiHospital.org

NWS2012.12

CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD –

ALL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR CREDIT CARD DONATIONS:

CARD TYPE Visa MasterCard

Amount: \$25 \$50 \$365 Other \$_____

Card # _____

Expiration Date: _____ Phone Number: _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Signature _____

WEST MAUI TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION - PROXY

The undersigned does hereby constitute and appoint the West Maui Taxpayers Association Board of Directors as attorney or agent, with full power of substitution, to act in the undersigned's name, place and stead, to represent that member for quorum purposes only so that the business that properly comes before the meeting can be conducted by those present. It is valid only for the ANNUAL MEETING of the WEST MAUI TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION to be held on **Thursday, January 10, 2013**, at The Lahaina Civic Center Main Meeting Room, Lahaina, Hawaii. Any WMTA member present in person may elect to vote upon such business that may properly come before the meeting, including the election of Directors. This Proxy will be valid only for the above-cited meeting and adjournments thereof, may be revoked prior to its exercise and shall be returned upon request if the undersigned attends the meeting and desires to vote in person.

DATE SIGNED: _____ (Required by law)

NAME OF MEMBER (PRINTED-required by law) _____ SIGNATURE OF MEMBER _____

- Please sign your name as it appears in YOUR WMTA MEMBERSHIP records. Executors, Administrators, trustees, guardians, conservators, and corporate officers are to add their Titles and, if not already done. Submit a copy of their appointment.
- For this proxy to be valid:
 - The proxy giver must provide his or her printed name, signature, and the date that this proxy was signed.
 - This proxy must be received by the Association's Secretary at 181 Lahainaluna Road, Suite I, Lahaina, Maui, HI 96761, **no later than 2:00 p.m. on Monday, January 7, 2013**
 - The Board of Directors requests that a unanimous ballot be cast in favor of the Board Members to be elected as listed below.

Yes (Check this box to vote unanimous in favor for the Slate of Directors)

PROXY: Please Use Return Envelope and Return the Portion Above to WMTA, PO Box 10338, Lahaina, HI 96761 or 181 Lahainaluna Road, Suite I, Lahaina, HI 96761.

WEST MAUI TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION, 2013 ANNUAL MEETING- ELECTION OF DIRECTORS - SLATE OF DIRECTORS

Paul Brown	Jim Hentz	Ezekiela "Zeke" Kalua	Donald Lehman	Joseph Pluta	Richard Starkweather
Pam English	Richard Jarman	Byron "Pat" Kelly	Gregg Nelson	Bob Pure	

The WMTA Bylaws state: "There shall be a total of 12 Directors, including the Officers. No person shall be empowered to vote or be eligible for election to any office in the Organization whose membership dues have not been paid in full."

REMINDER: ONLY ACTIVE DUES PAYING MEMBERS ARE ALLOWED TO VOTE!

MEMBERSHIP & TREASURERS REPORT By Joe Pluta

If you are a property owner in West Maui, we respectfully suggest that membership in the WMTA is perhaps the wisest investment you can make. Absentee owners especially benefit from WMTA membership as we bring attention to issues and testimony which they physically are unable to do themselves as efficiently as we can on their behalf. Please check out our website at www.westmaui.org and click on the top Accomplishments Tab on the home page. It's easy to see why membership makes sense. The WMTA is unlike many other non-profits who receive County, State and Federal support. The WMTA is one of the only Non-profit community organizations that rely solely on the financial support of members like you! We have an ambitious schedule of goals and objectives contained in this newsletter. How important are they to you and your investment in West Maui? Our success is in your hands. Membership dues alone simply are not enough to get the job done. Please send us an added donation today! What we can do as your Board of Community volunteers is directly related to our financial resources. The WMTA Board of Directors are very excited about our role and being able to see the significant accomplishments we have initiated being brought into reality. Thank you for your part in this and your continued outstanding support!

**West Maui Taxpayers Association
MEMBERSHIP FORM - IRS EIN 99-0160368 NON PROFIT 501C (4)**

Member Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

- Please correct my information as noted above.
- Check here to have your name kept private in publications and acknowledgements.
- Check here to have your e-mail address added to our "WMTA E-Alerts" List

\$ _____ **MEMBERSHIP**

I am a member and renewing my dues

I am not a member but would like to join

Membership Levels

- Individuals \$50.00/year Families \$100/year
- Businesses \$100/year
- AOA – email wmta@maui.net

\$ _____ **DONATION: In addition to my membership, here is an ADDITIONAL DONATION**

Memberships effective for one year upon receipt of membership dues payment.

Mail Checks, payable to "West Maui Taxpayers Association, to:

West Maui Taxpayers Association
PO Box 158 • Lahaina, HI 96761 • Phone: 808-661-7990 • Visit www.WestMaui.org

Dec-2012 NWS

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for links