

STATE ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR THE WAIKOLOA REGIONAL LIBRARY

Dear Honorable Legislator,

I am writing in **support** of the state acquisition of land for the Waikoloa Regional Library.

According to the Hawai'i County Community Development Plan, the area known as Waikoloa Village is a "rapidly growing community". In 2017, the US Census Bureau estimated the population to be at 6,362-- a population increase of 132% since 2000. Hawai'i County expects this rapid increase in population to persist in the years to come.

At this time a planned shopping center has been approved for development. The proposed library land location is adjacent to the shopping center and the U.S. Post Office. The estimated land acquisition required for the Waikoloa Regional Library is between 1.5 and 2 acres at an acquisition cost of \$1.6 million.

The conceptual phase of this project has been completed and our community has expressed what they want to the State Librarian.

Due to the rural nature of Waikoloa Village, this library will provide our community with a much needed intergenerational gathering place that will offer our and nearby residents access to: computers, books, newspapers, meeting/conference spaces, movies/documentaries, distance learning opportunities, an event venue, and access to government programs and services.

Furthermore, libraries have provided a wealth of knowledge within communities and civilizations for centuries and can be credited, in part, with the overall advancement of modern society.

A public library located in Waikoloa Village will benefit our children, families, and kūpuna as well as connect us to the small communities in our region.

Sincerely,

Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

Zip code: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Additional Comments: _____

Please email this letter to Representative Cindy Evans at repevans@capitol.hawaii.gov or mail it to her office at Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 438, Honolulu, HI 96813.