

WEST MAUI TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Advocating For You!

email: wmta@maui.net home page: www.westmaui.org
mailing address: PO Box 10338, Lahaina, HI 96761 phone: 808-661-7990 fax: 808-661-7992

A'ohe Hana Nui Ke Alu 'ia (No task is too large when we work together)

THE VOICE

Newsletter of the West Maui Taxpayers Association – June 2018

VICE-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE – Joseph D. Pluta



We acknowledge with enthusiasm, the decision by our Past President, Rick Nava, to become an Official candidate for the West Maui County Council Seat. As per the WMTA bylaws, if any director becomes an official candidate for political office, that board seat becomes vacant automatically. As V.P., I will be assuming the duties of President of WMTA which I am very familiar with having served in that capacity before. We have 4 vacancies on the WMTA board at this time and we urge any West Maui Resident interested in serving with us to contact any board member or our office at 808-661-7990. See www.westmaui.org for more information.

We have an ambitious agenda of activities in process at this time. For example, we are now working on the final touches being proposed for our West Maui Community All Hazard Emergency Disaster Plan as part of the HHARP meetings we've held the past 12 months. In addition, we have a couple of voter information events planned for Political Candidates Primary and General Election Community Forums.

Your WMTA board is actively seeking candidates for nomination to the West Maui Community Plan Advisory Committee. ("CPAC"). Section 2.80B.080, Maui County Code, states that the CPAC shall be composed of 134 members, 9 appointed by the Council and 4 appointed by the Mayor. The community plan was last revised in 1996 and includes the area from Ukumehame to Honokohau.

We will be urging our board members to offer their services to the Council and Mayor for CPAC as they have already demonstrated a keen interest in our community serving our WMTA members and our community. How about you? Are you interested in serving on the CPAC? Contact the Council's CPAC for more information at pea.committee@mauicounty.us or via phone at 270-7134. For more information on the Process, you can also contact the Department of Planning, Long Range Division, at 270-7214 or refer to the Department's web site at <https://wearemaui.org>

If there ever was a time when your financial support to the WMTA was needed, now would be the time. Your investments in West Maui are valuable to you and your family. We urge you to put some monetary support behind that fact. Please note the financial donation information form and return envelope in this mailing to you. Do not delay. Do it today! Mahalo nui loa.

Aloha,



Joseph D. Pluta – Vice-President/President Emeritus/Treasurer

MY VOICE – MY VOTE!



**LAHAINA CIVIC CENTER SOCIAL HALL
WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 2018**

A MODERATED FORUM FOR CANDIDATES OF

- STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DIST 10
- STATE SENATOR, DIST 06
- MAUI MAYOR
- WEST MAUI COUNCILMEMEBER

**DINNER AND REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 5:00 PM
FORUM BEGINS AT 5:30 PM
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

VISIT WWW.WESTMAUI.ORG FOR DETAILS AND UPDATES



It is an honor and privilege for the West Maui Taxpayers Association (WMTA) to invite you to participate in the WMTA 2018 Primary Candidates Night. on **Wednesday, July 25, 2018, at 5:00 PM** and will be at the Lahaina Civic Center.

The **WMTA Primary Candidates Night** is the only forum of its kind in West Maui – and will only feature the Candidates for the following: Maui Mayor, West Maui County Council, State Representative District 10, State Senator District 06. West Maui is a unique and vibrant community that provides employment opportunities and generates significant tax revenues for the all levels of government. WMTA is also unique in that our mission is to promote efficient use of the taxes generated to invest in infrastructure, services and amenities that help ensure that West Maui remains one of the best places to live, work and visit in the world.

As the WMTA Primary Candidates Night is for West Maui voter education, we ask that any candidate attending please refrain from bringing a large contingent of supporters.

No signs, banners or other campaign materials will be allowed inside the Civic Center, and all election activities must be conducted outside. Anyone displaying disruptive or disrespectful behavior will be asked to leave. There will be a dinner service provided by local businesses and restaurants.

As of this printing, the following candidates have filed their paperwork with the Office of Elections, and have been invited to participate in this Forum:

State Representative, District 10	Jennifer	Mather
State Representative, District 10	Angus	McKelvey
State Representative, District 10	Chayne	Marten
State Senator, District 06	Rosalyn	Baker
State Senator, District 06	Terez	Lindsey
State Senator, District 06	Melissah	Shishido
Maui Mayor	Eleanora	Cochran
Maui Mayor	Donald	Guzman
Maui Mayor	Beau	Hawkes
Maui Mayor	Alec	Hawley
Maui Mayor	Orion	Kopelman
Maui Mayor	Michael	Victorino
Maui Mayor	Laurent	Zahnd
Maui Councilmember (West Maui)	Ernest	Balinbin
Maui Councilmember (West Maui)	Frederick	Nava
Maui Councilmember (West Maui)	Tamara	Paltin

Also, please save the date - General Candidates Night will be October 18.

For any questions, please email wmta@maui.net or call 808-661-7990.

IMPORTANT DATES AND LINK FOR ELECTION YEAR:



Register to Vote Online at: <https://olvr.hawaii.gov/> or visit State of Hawaii Office of Elections: <http://elections.hawaii.gov/>

Primary: Saturday, August 11, 2018 (Last day to register is July 12, 2018)

General: Tuesday, November 6, 2018 (Last Day to register is October 8, 2018)

WMTA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMUNITY MEETINGS CONTINUES

WMTA is now working on the final touches being proposed for our West Maui Community All Hazard Emergency Disaster Plan as part of the HHARP meetings we've held the past 12 months.

If you wish to be part of these final steps and have time and availability to meet, please contact Joe Pluta at 808-661-7990.

More Information on WMTA and Disaster Preparedness can be found at www.westmaui.org.



LAHAINA BY PASS – SOME PERSPECTIVES AND INFORMATION

THE WMTA started the whole discussion about a need for a Lahaina Bypass over 39 years ago. We have come a long way but it's also taken a long time. Too Long. And there's much more to be done. Has it resulted in some improvements in the drive time to and from "the other side?" – Yes, and that's been the most welcomed result so far. We have an economic engine in West Maui that deserves more proper consideration to continue to benefit our community and the State and local government.

We have learned that the MPO, Metropolitan Planning Organization, has specifically excluded the Lahaina Bypass from its deliberations and mission. We are very disappointed in that. Who made that decision? Not the people who commute to West Maui, you can be sure that they were not asked. There are thousands of cars commuting to and from West Maui daily by workers who have no choice as there is no place for them to rent in West Maui. They are coming to Kaanapali Hotels, but the Bypass does not go to Kaanapali!

We need a Governor and State Representatives, a Mayor and a County Council that recognizes what we all know. Especially and primarily, that the extension of the Bypass North to beyond Puukoolii Road, hopefully to Kakaalaneo at least, will be on the urgent priority for the State DOT.

We now have a controversial situation whereby a connector roadway at Keawe Street is being used as the Northern Terminus for the Bypass. The attempts to make the Keawe Street safe have been on going and in our opinion, there is much more to be done! Walking across the street between the Walgreens's area and the Lahaina Gateway shopping center is very dangerous. The cars attempting to get across have a real challenge, with frequent horn beeping and many near-accidents.

MHLA CHARITY WALK RECAP

Congratulations to the Maui Hotel Lodging Association on a successful Maui Visitor Industry Charity Walk. Maui County (Maui, Molokai, and Lanai) raised over \$1.35 million, breaking their record, and surpassing their goal!

West Maui Improvement Foundation (and West Maui Taxpayers Association) participated in the Charity Walk as walkers. WMIF also applied for a grant offered via the Charity Walk, which we hope will be awarded to help WMIF & WMTA continue to work towards its goals & mission!

Pictures: (Left) Joseph Pluta (WMTA Vice-President/President Emeritus/Treasurer) and wife, Carole, showing off their special edition t-shirt as a WMIF supporter in the Charity Walk. (Bottom): Former President of WMTA, Rick Nava with Brian McCafferty of Teens on Call.

We look forward to the Charity Walk every year as it helps many non-profits across the island (including us!) with grants for the very important work we all do!

We hope to see you all there next year 😊



RICK NAVA FARWELL & MAHALO

Aloha Kakou,

It is bittersweet for me to resign as the President of the West Maui Taxpayers Association to become a candidate for the West Maui Council seat.

For the last four years that I've served as a Board Member of WMTA and President the last two years, it was an honor for me and a privilege to take on the leadership. We did our best to improve our community and way of life on West Maui. However, there is so much more that can be done, and I will do my utmost to ensure that West Maui will receive the attention it needs to continue to be the economic engine of Maui and for our community and our lifestyle to not be compromised.

As I seek the office of one of the Councilmembers of the County of Maui, I will be very mindful of the West Maui Taxpayers Association's Goals and Objectives and will ensure that they are at the forefront, not only for us here on West Maui, but the entire County of Maui.

Once again, thank you for allowing me to serve as the President of the West Maui Taxpayers Association.

A hui hou,



Rick Nava

SOME IMPORTANT QUESTIONS FOR YOU!

DID YOU VOTE IN THE LAST HAWAII ELECTIONS?

DO YOU THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO VOTE?

DO YOU KNOW WHICH CANDIDATES SUPPORT POSITIONS YOU BELIEVE ARE ESSENTIAL TO PROTECTING YOUR INVESTMENT AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE ON MAUI?

The WMTA has diligently been informing our members and residents of Maui via Candidate Forums for the past 40 years! No other organization comes close.

The WMTA pays Akaku TV to tape and rebroadcast these events. We feed our attendees with delicious meals to encourage their participation and attendance as the time typically impacts dinner hours.

This costs us approximately \$2,000 for each event and we need your help to offset these expenses.

PLEASE MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO THE WMTA TODAY TO HELP US CONTINUE TO HELP YOU! MAHALO!

West Maui Taxpayers Association
MEMBERSHIP FORM - IRS EIN 99-0160368 - NON PROFIT 501C (4)
You can also pay online at www.westmaui.org/joinnow.html

Member Name: _____ Email: _____

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

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____ Fax: _____

- 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

- Community Supporter \$25/year
- Community Leader \$50.00/year
- Families \$100/year
- Businesses \$100/year
- AOA - email wmta@maui.net

\$ _____ ADDITIONAL DONATION WMTA is a 501-c-4 Non-Profit Organization. "Contributions to civic leagues or other section 501(c)(4) organizations generally are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. They may be deductible as trade or business expenses, if ordinary and necessary in the conduct of the taxpayer's business." (Source: IRS.Gov). Please check with your tax adviser.

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

NWS2018-06

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June 2018

***"Bringing the West Maui
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Advocating for You"***
A 501-C-4 Community Organization

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Look for us on



(www.WestMaui.org has links)