

August 13, 2009

Ms. Laura Thielen, Chairman and Land Board Members
State Board of Land and Natural Resource
1151 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Agenda item H 1.1.b Parking/Entry Fees at Kaua'i State Parks

Aloha Laura,

The Kōke'e State Park Advisory Council (KSPAC) met on Thursday August 13, 2009 to discuss issues related to the Master Plan for Kōke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks. As part of our discussion we entertained testimony from Land Board member Ron Agor and discussed the Recreational Renaissance Plan B in particular the proposal to establish parking and entry fees at Kōke'e and Hā'ena State Parks on Kaua'i.

The Council voted unanimously to adopt the following motion:

The KSPAC requests that the BLNR defer actions affecting Kōke'e State Park until the BLNR Board has reviewed the KSPAC recommendations and Chairperson Thielen has had an opportunity to meet with the KSPAC Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) and the full KSPAC to discuss the impacts of this revenue generation proposal and how and where the money generated by this proposal will be used.

We acknowledge and understand the extreme financial situation the State is in and that the result is a chronically under funded, under staffed State Park system. While these factors are important we do not feel it is appropriate for the BLNR to undertake actions that make irrevocable commitments to revenue generating schemes that are very controversial and which a vocal majority of members of the public have testified against without first discussing with this legislatively mandated body (KSPAC).

We appreciate your consideration of the important work that we are undertaking and our request to be part of the dialogue related to this important action.

Aloha,



Canen Ho'okano, Chairman
Kōke'e State Park Advisory Council