

**To: Maui County Council Disaster Recovery, International
Affairs, and Planning Committee**

From: Mark G. Hyde
markghyde@gmail.com
(808) 344-3358

Re: South Maui Community Plan
Committee Hearing Date: 9:00 AM, September 17, 2026
AGENDA Item: Bill 1081 (2026)

A September 16 article in *Maui Now* highlights \$600 million in transportation funding available for improvement of West Maui's roadway infrastructure. <https://mauinow.com/?p=538135>

Contrast this to the draft South Maui Community Plan that doesn't anticipate or adequately address probable near term loss of South Kihei Road due to climate change driven sea level rise, more intense storms causing severe coastal erosion and persistent area flooding as a result of poor ranch land management and county approved development on pre-existing wet lands.

When, not if, South Kihei Road become untenable as means of ingress and egress, what then? What's the plan?

When must an alternate route be in place?

Once South Kihei Road fails, how will that impact Pi'ilani Highway, which would then become the sole means of ingress and egress for the community?

How do you square adding more development to the area with this critical roadway infrastructure deficit overhang?

Is the plan to wait for South Kihei Road to fail then do something? That's not a plan.

A credible long term plan would delve into this question in depth and suggest specific roadway actions to be taken in anticipation of loss. This plan does not. Rather, it focuses on continued development as if we are in a steady state, which we are not.