



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII®  
**HILO**

Office of the Chancellor

May 25, 2016

Susan Maddox  
Friends of the Future  
64-1032 Mamalahoa Highway  
Kamuela, Hawai'i 96743

Gregory Chun, Ph.D.  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
2424 Maile Way  
Saunders Hall, Rm. 711  
Honolulu HI 96822-2217

Dear Ms. Maddox and Dr. Chun,

Mahalo for the thoughtful and comprehensive community engagement proposal the EnVision Maunakea Working Group (EMWG) and Friends of the Future (FOF) have submitted for my consideration.

I am writing to express my support for the project and to request that the EMWG and FOF proceed expeditiously to convene and facilitate the series of cross-sector focus groups to gather community input on a vision for the future of Maunakea outlined in your proposal. Maunakea is an important cultural, environmental, scientific, and recreational resource the future of which holds profound implications for the Native Hawaiian community, Hawaii Island community, University, State and the world.

The controversy surrounding its future represents an opportunity for careful consideration of diverse interests including social, environmental, educational, economic, cultural, and scientific issues. I am aware of the strong relationships that the EMWG has established across Hawai'i Island communities and the history of your professional work, and that of FOF in convening diverse groups and facilitating difficult conversations around complex and controversial issues. I see an opportunity to facilitate a productive information exchange that can build consensus for a new approach to the complex policy challenges that Maunakea represents.

As you know, others are actively working on a plan to address some of the concerns that have been raised in recent legal challenges. Impartial community input is critical to those efforts. In that regard, I strongly endorse your proposal to convene a Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) composed of individuals who (a) represent diverse industry, NGO, and agency perspectives; (b) have standing and recognition among the interest groups they broadly represent; (c) believe that new and creative thinking is needed at this time; and (d) are willing to engage in a disciplined give-and-take round of listening sessions with focus groups to reveal what the broader community envisions for the future of this treasured resource. I will work to ensure that the feedback gathered informs all current and future planning and policy efforts concerning Maunakea.

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I specifically ask that the EMWG, FOF and the CAG work diligently towards the plan's stated objectives:

1. Engage the community in respectful discussions concerning the future of Maunakea with the goal of articulating a Vision for the mauna inclusive of all uses.
2. Solicit a wide range of viewpoints by creating environments and/or mechanisms for people to safely and comfortably express their opinions.
3. Explore the historical and contemporary uses of Maunakea, the plans, policies, protocols and conditions governing those uses, and the impacts of those uses as we seek to clarify information that has emerged to date.
4. Provide your reflection of the community's vision for Maunakea and your best consensual guidance on the policy and practical implications of their feedback to Governor Ige's Ten Point Maunakea Plan, and other policy and decision-making by the various agencies responsible for stewarding and managing lands on the mountain.

I request the EMWG, FOF, and the CAG engage the community around these questions, explore the possibility of finding new common ground and provide me with a preliminary report by September 30, 2016, and a final report soon thereafter but no later than the end of 2016. Mahalo a nui for your commitment and attentive response to my request and support for EnVision Maunakea.

Sincerely,



Donald Straney  
Chancellor