

THE MAUI NEWS

MAUI'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1900

[Print this Page](#)

[←--back to story](#)

Alberta de Jetley

County Council, Lanai residency

POSTED: August 9, 2008

Question 1. In updating the Maui County General Plan and the accompanying land-use maps, should the focus be on accommodating projected growth in population and how can it be accomplished? Or should the plans seek to establish a preferred rate of growth and how can that be accomplished?

ANSWER: As a Lanai Planning Commissioner, my focus has been centered on this island only and I cannot give you an informed opinion for future growth on Maui or Molokai at this time. However, speaking as a mother, I would like to be able to see my children and grandchildren have homes of their own in Maui County. I don't like the term "affordable homes", I think we should start planning affordable communities, communities with homes in every price range, a place where children can ride their bicycles to school and where neighbors are truly neighbors and not strangers.

Question 2. Explain what steps the county must take to meet water needs on Maui.

ANSWER: We must stop passing the buck. The county needs to develop more sources of water and build the infrastructure it needs to fulfill this basic service to our residents. I would also support tiered water rates.

Question 3. Enforcement actions taken by the county administration have shut down vacation rentals. What limitations, if any, should the county set on where vacation rentals are allowed and how many are permitted?

ANSWER: Each community must decide for themselves how they want to deal with this issue. On Lanai, I support our vacation rentals, transient rentals and bed and breakfast accommodations. They are a vital part of our economy; where would our hunters from the rest of the state, relatives, and our former residents stay if we closed them down?

We have two beautiful luxury resorts and a wonderful small hotel on Lanai but we need accommodations to fit a variety of budgets.

Question 4. With the national economic slowdown cutting visitor arrivals and spending, what steps, if any, should the county take to maintain the health of the county economy?

ANSWER: Start work projects and hire the unemployed and the high school graduates who are struggling to enter the job market. The jobs we create would help to upgrade our existing facilities and parks and we would all benefit. We need to start thinking about our residents and not focus exclusively on tourists. Bring back the aloha spirit to our own families, then we'll all be more willing to share it with our visitors.

Question 5. What do you consider the single most important issue that the County Council must address in 2009-10 and how would you handle the issue to make the islands a better place to live and work?

ANSWER: Housing! I don't like the term, "affordable housing." Let's start thinking about how we can build affordable communities, a community with a mix of housing for all income levels. We need multi-generation homes, apartments for singles, assisted living units for the elderly and disabled, and starter homes for young families that can be expanded as their income grows. We need communities for rich people, poor people and in-between people, and pets too!

We don't need more houses gobbling up land between our existing towns.

Article Photos



Fact Box

Name: Alberta S. de Jetley

Office: County Council, Lanai residency

Residence: Lanai

Occupation/profession/business: Farmer and Journalist

Education: Lanai High & Elementary School Class of 1963

Family: Widowed; two sons

Community affiliations:

- Lanai Cancer Fund Advisory Committee Member
- Coalition for A Drug Free Lanai-Vice President
- Lanai Animal Rescue Center, Board Member
- Na Pu'uwai Native Hawaiian Health System, Board Member
- Service/professional/social clubs or organizations:
 - Maui Farm Bureau
 - Hawaii Agri-Tourism Association
- Boards/commissions:
 - Lanai Planning Commission
 - Maui County Liquor Commission, former member
 - Cost of Government Commission, former member

Let's plan new towns, places where everybody can find a neighborhood they love with parks and pathways to ride bicycles and skateboards or sit under tall trees to watch the world rush by.

I love Lanai. Our community was designed in 1923 but it has all of the elements I describe above. One of its key elements is Dole Park, open space in the middle of the town where community events can take place. It's the heart of our community. . . .and every new town should have a "heart".

Business interests:

Alberta de Jetley Limited Liability Co.
dba Bennie's Farm; 100 percent Sole
Member (18 acre farm)

Alberta de Jetley's Lanai Limited Liability
Co.; 100 percent Sole Member (Free
Lance Journalist and Artists' Agent)

Contact information:

e-mail: sopdej@yahoo.com

phone: 565-9331

cell phone: 649-0808

[Subscribe to Maui News](#)