

SUNSET DRIVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
5181 Napo'okala Circle, Princeville, HI 96722-5106

November 18, 2024

Aloha,

On behalf of the 26 homeowners of the Sunset Drive Community Association, we are reaching out to express our strong opposition to the proposed development of the Woods Course in Princeville by Starwood Capital Group (SCG.) In their own public statements, SCG has announced they want to be “shovel ready” to begin construction on the Woods Course, starting March 1, 2026.

We voice two primary concerns regarding this development plan:

- Destruction of the **zoned Open Space**, as protected by the County approved Princeville 1 Master Plan.
- Release of **anthrax** that has been historically documented to be buried in multiple sites on the Woods Course.

Starwood Capital Group provided the proof of the presence of anthrax in its own Ka Pa'akai Study, required as part of its failed glamping permit application. In 1917 as many as 500 head of cattle, horses and mules in Princeville died of anthrax, many of which were buried where they fell on the Woods Course.

If left undisturbed, anthrax remains in a dormant condition and poses no threat to public health. On the other hand, if spores are released during the proposed construction on the golf course, it obviously poses a significant risk of harm to the public, the businesses and ranchers of the North Shore, and the entire Hanalei Watershed.

We strongly object to relying on the results of recent soil samples to make informed decisions. SCG hired contractors to bore fifty-eight (58) six-inch wide holes on the Woods Course. **This effort only tested one-tenth of one percent of the golf course land proposed for development.**

Ground Penetrating Radar Scans also tested only a tiny fragment of the land. There has been no federal, state, or county oversight of this testing for anthrax (designated a Level 3 Bio-safety Hazardous Waste), no warning to local residents of this soil disturbance activity prior to drilling on the land, and no disclosure of possible anthrax presence to workers conducting the tests without appropriate protective gear.

Why would anyone dig up an anthrax graveyard and risk the release of deadly spores? We can only conclude the developer's greed for investor profits outweighs their responsibility for public safety and the environment.

We urge you to oppose any development of the Woods Course in Princeville to both preserve the zoned Open Space and protect the Princeville community from the risk of releasing deadly anthrax spores which would have a significant impact on public health, the economy, the environment and the Hanalei Watershed.

Mahalo nui loa,

Board of Directors, Sunset Drive Community Association

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