



24 March 2021

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
133 Elgin Avenue
Government Administration Building
GEORGE TOWN, Grand Cayman

Attn: Mr. Haroon Pandohie

Via email: planning.dept@gov.ky

Dear Mr. Pandohie:

Planning Objection to Crymble Landholdings Limited Application

WE are writing in connection with the publication of a Planning Announcement in the Cayman Compass dated 5th March 2021. Crymble Landholdings Limited have applied for planning permission for a 157 acre Planned Area Development on Block 10E.

WE understand that this parcel includes SMB oceanfront land which currently contains 10 time established beach accesses. Apparently the same developer has blocked beach accesses nearby and cases about these blockages are still ongoing.

OUR objections are that planning should not be granted at this time for such a large and sensitively located development:

1. which will block further beach accesses while a case to unblock other beach accesses blocked in similar developments by the same developer are still ongoing;
2. which will be prior to the implementation of our National Planning Framework which considers such projects in the larger context of the district. This framework is essential to ensure that all future development projects are sustainable, acceptable to those who live in the district and in the best interests of the Caymanian people and the overall environmental health of our island;
3. which makes no mention of a sustainability framework such as those supported by the United Nations SDGs or the Bioregional One Planet Living principles;
4. which makes no mention of climate change considerations for rising sea level within the canal system that almost dissects the Western peninsular and resulting neighbourhood effects which can affect hurricane insurance policies;



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5. which lacks an overall capacity study for both land and sea eg what is the boating capacity for North Sound? Such a study is to determine the number of individuals who can be supported in a given area within natural resource limits, and without degrading the natural, social, cultural and economic environment for present and future generations;
6. which will remove critical mangrove habitat in an area that has suffered catastrophic de-forestation (replanting of mangroves is encouraged in all water canals and buffer zone areas);
7. which refers to a stormwater management system which is inconsistent with failing deepwells, natural resource infrastructure and lack of an island wide approach to stormwater management;
8. which is weeks prior to an election which may bring in a government with a better understanding of the need to employ a far greater environmentally responsible approach to development, especially in light of the current global movement towards protecting our environment and planning for the effects of climate change on low lying islands such as ours.

Attempts were made by our group to receive a presentation of the proposed application which were denied. Our aim is to communicate overall concerns with the view to balancing effective solutions and improvements for all and we kindly ask that this letter be added to the hearing minutes for record purposes.

We wish to remind the authority that our Cayman Islands Constitution Sections 18 & 19 bestow stewardship of these Islands to all decisions and acts of public officials. A beautiful and clean environment is key to our quality of life. Yet our current government system of planning and development has led to the widespread destruction of our cultural and natural heritage, such as: beach erosion, accessible beaches and 72% loss of Grand Cayman's western mangrove forests. Successive governments have failed to implement development plans for all three Islands and fully utilise the National Conservation Law, which allows for both fair and sustainable development in accordance with our Constitution.

Globally leaders agree that Covid-19 has given decision makers the opportunity to rethink the way they do things and make wiser decisions - the future of these Islands are in your hands.

Yours faithfully
AMPLIFY CAYMAN

cc: caymanbeachwatch@gmail.com



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