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COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

April 4, 2025

Mr. Jordan Molina, Director
Department of Public Works
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mr. Molina:

SUBJECT: **FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET** (BFED-1) (PW-02)

May I please request you be prepared to answer the following questions at the BFED Committee meeting on **April 14, 2025**.^{*} This will enable the Committee to comprehensively review the FY 2026 Budget.

May I further request that, after approval by the Office of the Mayor, you transmit your answer to bfed.committee@mauicounty.us by the end of the day on **April 14, 2025**. **Date subject to change without notice.*

Overall

1. Relating to the DSA – Building Permit Program, Goal #1, item 1:
 - a. What is included in the FY 2026 Budget that will enable the Department to achieve its goal of increasing the percentage of building permit applications reviewed within 30 calendar days from six to 70 percent? (Page 737, Program Budget) (NUH)
2. Have your Department personnel received training to identify invasive species, such as coconut rhinoceros beetles, on County properties? (TP)
3. Has the Department completed the Vegetation Management Plan to pursue exemptions under Chapter 2.50, “Pesticide and Fertilizer Use on Country Property,” Maui County Code? If the Plan has been completed, please provide a link. (TP)

4. Please provide a status update on the resurfacing and paving of Unahiole Street and Ala Moana Street in Lahaina. Resurfacing was anticipated to be completed before the August 8, 2023, wildfires. Now that debris removal is complete, the roads need to be paved. (TP)
 - a. How does the Department coordinate with other County departments' utility repair work in Lahaina? (TP)

Salaries and Wages (Category "A")

1. Does the Department have funding for retention or recruitment incentives, such as tuition reimbursement, similar to what other departments are beginning to implement? (GJ)
2. The Department is requesting a full year's salary for several expansion positions. Have the following positions been filled:
 - a. P-33955 Secretary III, Index Code 916015A;
 - b. P-00506 Fleet Mechanic I, Index Code 916114A;
 - c. P-00507 Fleet Technician, Index Code 916114A;
 - d. P-00508 Equipment Operator Trainer, Index Code 916369A;
 - e. P-33962 Public Works Highway Utility Worker, Index Code 916389A;
 - f. P-00510 Laborer II, Index Code 916544A;
 - g. P-00511 Laborer II, Index Code 916544A;
 - h. P-00512 Highway Construction & Maintenance Supervisor II, Index Code 916544A; and
 - i. P-00513 Traffic Signs & Markings Supervisor II, Index Code 916601A. (Pages 22-3, 22-17, 22-19, 22-46, 22-51, and 22-74, Budget Details) (TP)

Operations and Equipment (Category “B”)

1. For Laboratory Services, Index Code 916015B:
 - a. Please explain why this is an expansion request for FY 2026. Is the Department just beginning drug testing, or is random drug testing already being conducted Department-wide? (Page 720, Program Budget, and Page 22-6, Budget Details) (TP)
2. For Physical Examinations, Index Code 916015B: (Page 720, Program Budget, and Page 22-6, Budget Details)
 - a. Please provide details on the Pre-Employment Physical Reimbursement. (NUH)
 - b. If an applicant requires an OccuMed exam before being hired, does the Department pay the recruitment incentive upon hire? Please clarify when the reimbursement is issued. (TP)
3. For Professional Services, Index Code: 916023B: (Page 724, Program Budget, and Page 22-13, Budget Details)
 - a. Please explain how the Department currently tracks permit and certificates for the Flood Program and ensures compliance with National Flood Insurance Program and Community Rating System requirements. (YLS)
 - b. How much surveying was completed in Lahaina over the past year and what needs to be completed in FY 2026? (TP)
 - c. The consultant completes subdivision reviews, road ownership research, and field surveys. In the future, does the Department anticipate completing the consultant’s work internally? (NUH)
4. For the following Index Code 916157B items, what future costs or spending trends does the Department anticipate will be needed “due to additional facilities being added over the last several years?”
 - a. Electricity;

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- b. R & M – Services/Contracts;
 - c. Sewer charges; and
 - d. Water delivery charges. (Page 725, Program Budget, and Page 22-15, Budget Details) (NUH)
5. Please explain why the Department is accounting for future electricity costs. Does this request account for inflation? (Page 22-15, Budget Details) (TP)
6. For Training Fees/Seminars, Index Code 916114B, please describe how “ethical and professional” training will support the Department’s Key Activity Goals. (Page 22-25, Budget Details) (NUH)
7. For Miscellaneous Other Costs, Index Code 916172B:
 - a. Is the State Department of Land and Natural Resources inspecting all regulated dams in the County or County-owned regulated dams? (Page 22-27, Budget Details) (TP)
8. For R & M – Services/Contracts, Index Code 916215B:
 - a. Under Ordinance 5754, the newly adopted Fire Code requires the removal of “vegetation that extend[s] within five feet of a vertical plane of a structure’s roof line.” How will the Department bring all County properties into compliance with this new requirement? (Page 22-28, Budget Details) (TP)
9. Has the Department secured the following grant awards, and is the 20-percent County match budgeted for in FY 2026:
 - a. Federal Highway Administration, Federal-Aid and Other Transportation Grants; and
 - b. United States Department of Transportation, RAISE Grant. (Page 726, Program Budget) (TP)
10. Please confirm whether the U.S. DOT RAISE grant has been appropriated by the United States Department of Transportation. (Page 726, Program Budget) (TP)

11. For Other Equipment, Index Code 916369C: (Page 732, Program Budget, and Page 22-32, Budget Details)
 - a. Please provide details on the Commercial Vehicle Driving Simulator and how the equipment will be used by the Department. (YLS)
 - i. How do trainees interact with the Simulator? How many employees will use this Simulator over its 20-year lifespan? (NUH)
 - ii. Does the Department anticipate annual fees for the simulator? (NUH)
12. For Professional Services, Index Code 916502B: (Page 743, Program Budget, and Page 22-43, Budget Details)
 - a. Please explain what types of investigations will be conducted with this funding. How will the findings be used by the Department? (TP) (YLS) (NUH)
 - b. What does the Department plan to accomplish with “professional services to retain, develop, and recruit a capable, motivated, and diverse workforce,” and why will this not be accomplished internally? (GJ) (TP)
 - i. Would the Department consider contracting with WBCP, Inc., a consulting service that specializes in government recruitment, talent evaluation, and acquisition, so a Request for Proposals may not be necessary? (TP)
13. For Other Equipment, Index Code 916502C:
 - a. The Department is requesting two handheld radios at \$6,000 each, which are at a higher price point than the portable radios at \$3,210 each requested by the Department of Fire and Public Safety. The radios will help to improve communication reliability between agencies. Please confirm the compatibility of these radios. (Page 743, Program Budget, and Pages 9-56 and 22-45, Budget Details) (TP)

14. For Rentals, Index Code 916544B, the Department is requesting additional funding for an annual lease with the Department of Hawaiian Homelands. Please explain the purpose of the lease. (Page 22-62, Budget Details) (TP)
15. Please explain why a 2,500-gallon water truck, Index Code 916389C, and a 4,000-gallon water truck, Index Code 916544C, both cost \$400,000 each. (Page 748, Program Budget, and Pages 22-66 and 22-70, Budget Details) (NUH)

Appendix A-II

1. For the Plan Review, Permit Processing, and Inspection Revolving Fund, please provide an update on any funds expended for an expedited permitting contract. Are any of the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery funds available for expedited permitting? (Page 46) (YLS)

Capital Improvement Projects

1. For CBS-6069 Countywide Bridge and Drainage Program: (Page 981, Program Budget)
 - a. Please explain why the four existing West Maui dams are classified as “High Hazard” by the State Department of Land and Natural Resources. Does funding cover evaluation and repair costs for the dams? (TP)
 - b. Does the Department seek to maintain, reconstruct, rehabilitate, or preserves bridges located on Old Government Roads? If not, is the County still responsible for residents’ safety when using these bridges during an emergency? (SS)
2. For CBS-6633 Countywide Drainline Replacement Program:
 - a. Does the Department regularly maintain County drainage areas and culverts to keep the public safe and prevent entry? (Page 983, Program Budget) (SS)
3. For CBS-6070 Countywide Facilities Maintenance Program, will funding include proposed improvements to the County buildings in

Wailuku to accommodate parking for current and additional personnel? (Page 985, Program Budget) (NUH)

4. Does the Department have any repairs or improvements planned for the Hāna Baseyard Facility under CBS-7232 Countywide DPW Baseyard Facilities Program? (Page 987, Program Budget) (SS)
5. Please provide a status update on the Pi'ilani Highway Slope Stabilization at Nuanualoa Gulch under CBS-7870 Countywide Rockfall and Embankment Repairs. Is there an anticipated project completion date? (Page 989, Program Budget) (SS)
6. For CBS-1023 Countywide Road Resurfacing and Pavement Preservation: (Page 991, Program Budget)
 - a. For the Pukalani Terrace Subdivision Pavement Reconstruction, please provide a status update on: 1) the work completed; 2) work in-progress; 3); work pending; and 4) work planned for the project. Please include work from previous FYs and the plans for the FY 2026 funds. (YLS)
 - b. When is the Department's next paving project in East Maui? (SS)
7. What is the status of the Kahawaiokapia Bridge Replacement under CBS-5022 Countywide Federal Aid Program? If the design is complete, when does the Department anticipate construction will begin? (Page 993, Program Budget) (SS)
8. For CBS-6067 Countywide Traffic and Safety Program: (Page 995, Program Budget)
 - a. The project description includes an "Annual Traffic Calming Program." How will the public be able to access the program? (TP)
 - b. Complaints have been made regarding the hazardous traffic conditions on Highway 31 in Kaupō because drivers are unable to see oncoming traffic due to hills and dips in the road. Can this CIP address these issues? (SS)

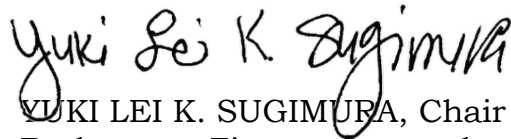
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9. For CBS-1069 Waiale Road Extension, what are the Department's plans for traffic mitigation and pedestrian safety improvements in the Waiale Road and Kuikahi Drive intersection? (Page 997, Program Budget) (YLS)

To ensure efficient processing, please duplicate the coding in the subject line above for easy reference.

Thank you for your attention to this request. Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Kirsten Szabo at ext. 7662, James Krueger at ext. 7761, Jarret Pascual at ext. 7141, Clarissa MacDonald at ext. 7135, or Pauline Martins at ext. 8039).

Sincerely,



YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, Chair
Budget, Finance, and Economic
Development Committee

bfed:2026bgt:250402apw01:clm

cc: Mayor Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Budget Director
Deputy Director of Public Works

BFED Committee

From: BFED Committee
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 8:37 PM
To: Jordan Molina
Cc: BFED Committee; Paul.; Summer Enfield-Carlos; Lesley Milner; kristina.cabbat@co.maui.hi.us; tiare.p.horner@co.maui.hi.us; Janina Agapay
Subject: FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET (BFED-1) (PW-02); reply by 4/14/25
Attachments: (PW-2) Correspondence to Public Works 04-04-2025.pdf