

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

September 22, 2025

Online Only via Teams

CONVENE: 9:01 a.m.

PRESENT: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Chair
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Member
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member
Councilmember Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins, Member

EXCUSED: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Tom Cook, Member
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Member

STAFF:

Clarissa MacDonald, Legislative Analyst
Tiare del Castillo, Legislative Analyst
Megan Moniz, Legislative Attorney
Criselda Paranada, Committee Secretary
Lei Dinneen, Assistant Clerk
Ryan Martins, Council Ambassador

Residency Area Offices

Christian Balagso, Council Aide, West Maui Residency Area Office
Zhanell Lindo, Council Aide, Molokai Residency Area Office
Roxanne Morita, Council Aide, Lāna‘i Residency Area Office
Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, East Maui Residency Area Office
Buddy Almeida, Council Aide, Makawao-Ha‘ikū-Pā‘ia Residency Area Office
Bill Snipes, Council Aide, South Maui Residency Area Office
Chaelin Ryu, Council Aide, South Maui Residency Area Office

ADMIN.:

Yukari Murakami, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of Corporation
Counsel
Jessica Crouse, Deputy Director, Department of Human Concerns

OTHERS:

David Pettinger, Senior Partner, Anthology Research, Anthology Marketing
Group, Inc.

Testifiers

Jasee Law
Testifier 1 (The Royal House of Hawai‘i)
Elise Madison

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

(20+) additional attendees

PRESS: Akakū: Maui Community Television, Inc.

CHAIR SINENCI: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Aloha kakahiaka, and sawasdee kākou. Welcome to the WASSP Committee meeting of Monday, September 22nd. It's 9:01. And thank you all for taking the time out to attend this morning's meeting. I'm Shane Sinenci, your Committee Chair. And as a reminder for members of the public, to please silence all cell phones or any noisemaking devices. Thank you. Members, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, if you are not in the Council Chamber, please identify by name who, if anyone, is in the room, vehicle, or workspace with you today, and minors do not need to be identified. Also, please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity. Joining us today, we have Committee Vice-Chair Gabe Johnson. Aloha and sawasdee.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Sawasdee, Chair, Councilmembers, community members. There's no testifiers here at the Lāna'i District Office. I'm alone on my side of the office with my sleeping dog, so beg your pardon if you hear someone snoring, it's definitely not me. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Snoring welcome. . . .*(laughing)*. . . Okay. Also...Member Cook is excused for today's meeting. Also joining us online is Pro Tem Tasha Kama. Aloha kakahiaka and sawasdee.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair, and sawasdee to everyone. I am in my workspace by myself, but I have two adults in the adjoining room next door. So, just FYI, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you for joining us. Joining us from the Chamber floors this morning, we have Council Chair Alice Lee. Aloha and sawasdee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aloha, Chair. Sawasdee, and that's from the Country of Thailand, and we know we have great Thai food here on Maui. So, when you go to the Thai Mee Up or the other food trucks, you can say sawasdee.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Also joining us this morning from the Council floor, we have Councilmember Tamara Paltin. Aloha kakahiaka.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha kakahiaka and sawasdee kākou.

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

CHAIR SINENCI: Also joining us online from Molokai Nui a Hina, we have Member Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Aloha kakahiaka.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka kākou, mai Molokai Nui a Hina. I am at my private residence here alone, and there are currently no testifiers at the Molokai District Office. And Chair Lee just made me very hungry mentioning a food truck that I love to get pad thai from.

CHAIR SINENCI: Hmm. Thank you for joining us. Member Yuki Lei Sugimura is excused for this morning's meeting, but we al...we do have Member Nohelani U'u-Hodgins. Aloha and good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Aloha, Chair. Good morning. Sawasdee, everyone.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Members. From the Department of Human Concerns, we have Ms. Jessica Crouse, Deputy Director. Good morning.

MS. CROUSE: Good morning, Chair and Members.

CHAIR SINENCI: From Corporation Counsel, we have the Ms. Yukari Murakami. Aloha and good morning. . . .(laughing). . .

MS. MURAKAMI: Good morning, Chair. Good morning, everyone.

CHAIR SINENCI: Our Committee Staff members, Ms. Criselda Paranada, Ms. Clarissa MacDonald, Ms. Tiare del Castillo, Ms. Megan Moniz, Ms. Lei Dinneen, and Ms. Jean Pokipala. They're here also to help us conduct this morning's meeting. Aloha. Good morning and sawasdee, everyone. Members, on today's agenda, we have one item, the Overview on the Community Needs Assessment Survey 2025, WASSP-1(13). And without objection, I'll be designating Mr. David Pettinger. He's the Senior Partner of Anthology Research Marketing Group, as a resource under Rule 18(A) of the Rules of the Council because of his expertise on the Community Need Assessments [sic] Survey. Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you, Members. Staff, do we have anyone to provide testimony this morning?

MS. DEL CASTILLO: We have no one signed up to testify. Oh, one person is signed up.

CHAIR SINENCI: Jasee, are you going to testify? Okay. Walk slow and then I'll...I'll speak to the...let's begin with public testimony. Oral testimony via phone or video conference will be accepted. In accordance with the Sunshine Law, testimony can occur at the beginning of the meeting, but cannot be limited to the start of the meeting. Chair will receive oral testimony for agenda items at the beginning of the meeting...as the item is called up on the agenda. Testifiers wanting to provide video or audio testimony should

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

sign up in the Chamber, join the online meeting via the Teams link, or call in to the phone number noted on today's agenda. For individuals wishing to testify via Teams, please raise your hand by clicking on the raise-your-hand button. And for those calling in, please follow the prompts via phone, star-5 to raise and lower your hand, and star-6 to mute and unmute. Staff will add names to the testifier list in the order testifiers sign up, raise their hands, and for those on Teams, staff will lower your hand once your name is added. Staff will then enable your microphone and video call...and call the name you're logged in under, or the last four digits of your phone number when it's your time to testify. Okay. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes for today's item. And please ensure that your name appears in Microsoft Teams as the name you prefer to be referred to, or anonymous if you wish to testify anonymous. Once you're done testifying, you can always go...afterwards go on to *Akakū* Channel 53, Facebook Live, or mauicounty.us/agendas. Again, mahalo for your cooperation. And Staff, our first testifier, Mr. Jasee Law. Aloha and good morning.

. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY AT THE BEGINNING OF MEETING . . .

MR. LAW: Aloha kakahiaka. Aloha kākou. Wait a minute. Kākou. And aloha, *Akakū*. So, I got a chance...short chance to look at the presentation, it looks pretty good. Fro...I guess that's from the Human Concerns Office over there across the street. And didn't have much time because the...the Clerk...the Clerk's Office only gives you ten minutes, and that's a pretty...pretty sizable amount of information to go through in ten minutes. But I did catch the table of contents, and it was...I looked at the part 37 on page 2, aging, elderly, and...and disabled. Well, I'm not disabled or elderly, but I think I'm aging. And then it said residents, so that...the next one under that was immigration...immigrant services. So, I'm still wondering, according to Queen Lili'uokalani's law, what is a resident? Because if you're from the United States, you're actually an immigrant here in Hawai'i. And then part 46, I'm really interested, is the unsheltered and unhoused programs. I hope that Naomi's watching because the phone that she got me has died now. I think Walmart's selling crappy phones to...to people under a different plan. So...and especially when I heard this was coming on Friday, Luna Ho'omalua Sinenci, this kind of goes along with my pet peeve about the churches, and the Real Property Tax Reform Committee is...the churches have...they're supposed to follow...the State Legislature, in 2015, enabled pastors and priests and such to allow--they used the word homeless, I think it's changing by now--but to allow churches to help people with an address. And here it is, ten years later, and still no more address. So, if...if the people in Maui County want me to help them, I need a driver's license and an ID card because the United States military won't allow anybody to work here without an ID card. So, yeah, thanks, Shane. You...and you're the perfect person to start...start off the week on a Monday morning. You got good energy. And if you know where I can get a Kingdom of Hawai'i ID card, I sure would appreciate some advice. Thank you for your time. I give the rest of my time to Hawaiians.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Law, for your testimony this morning. Seeing no questions, thank you for joining us. Staff, do we have another testifier?

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

MS. DEL CASTILLO: Chair, the next testifier is The Royal House of Hawai'i.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha and good morning.

TESTIFIER 1: Aloha kakahiaka. This is a member of the Royal House of Hawai'i under Hewahewa, Royal Patent 32...oh, wait...Royal Patent 7447, real property, Helu 3237, Apana 2. And I'm just wondering if...so, is this like...what kind of like thing is this for, may I ask? Like is this for like tourism or something, or whatever? Or like are...are the descendants of all the lands being contacted, like the heirs and the descendants of the royal patents real properties? Because the Royal Patents are allodial titles, as you all should know, and forever connected with Kamehameha III's Constitution forever, no matter what. And it supersedes any...anything trying to undermine them. And it's being ignored. Currently, in everyone's TMKs, a lot of TMKs are being changed right now, and the illeg...the legal info is currently being erased. Why is it being erased still from this? Because every single land in Hawai'i is royal patented, allodial titled, and none of the descendants have been contacted yet. Like, for example, me and any other descendants...or every single Hawaiian, anyway, and...and please fix the legal info because it's getting changed, and it's supposed to show the royal patent and land commission award. Oh, is it that time? Oh, okay. Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo for your testimony. Members, any questions for our testifier this morning? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. Staff?

MS. DEL CASTILLO: Chair, the next testifier is the royal descendant...oh, sorry.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha.

MS. MADISON: Hello. I'm sorry. I didn't know I was next. Aloha, board...Committee. My name is Elise Madison. I am a royal descendant of the House of Hawai'i and a royal patent heir of Keawemahi (*phonetic*). I stand before you today again to remind this Committee of the truth that cannot be erased. All land in Hawai'i is already held under royal patented allodial title established during the Great Māhele. These titles are perpetual. They do not expire. The native Hawaiians, including our houseless community, remain rightful heirs and beneficiaries of these lands, yet we are excluded from the decisions. We are excluded about any board meetings that are happening currently. When new bills and land trusts or developments are created without acknowledging these titles, they are disregarded, and the law...and displace our people even further. The Constitution...the Constitution of Kamehameha III still protects these rights. The Kingdom of Hawai'i still exists in law, and so do these titles. I just want to remind the State of its duty under the Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Section 172-11. This law requires that every patent must be issue...issued, must be in the name of the original awardee even if that person has passed on, and that patent must benefit the heirs and legal assigns forever. In other words, the rights of descendants can never be ignored or erased. But the State has failed to carry out this duty. Heirs are not being contacted. Records are hidden away instead of shared. Our people are left houseless in their own homeland without...with...while others profit off of the 'āina. I urge this Committee to act now. Release the land documents, notify the rightful heirs, and

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

recognize the framework that has already existed. We keep getting no response from that issue in itself of the patents being held in the State archives. But I really think that the State can just mail these patents to each individual. But instead, we have to continue to create a struggle, and you have to go dive in yourself when the State can literally give it to you. And it's just their options, and we have to wait and leave it up to you guys at this point. But yeah, I just urge the Committee to act now and release the land documents, notify the rightful heirs, and in honor of the law, honor the truth and return the dignity to our people. Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Elise, for your testimony this morning. Members, any questions for Elise? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. Staff?

MS. DEL CASTILLO: There is no one left to testify. Would you like to do last call?

CHAIR SINENCI: Sure. Or we'll just keep it open until after the presentation.

MS. DEL CASTILLO: I'm sorry. For this one?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. DEL CASTILLO: We'll close the beginning.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

MS. DEL CASTILLO: If somebody would like to testify in the Chamber, please let the Staff know, or on Microsoft Teams, please raise your hand. This is the final call...three, two, one. Chair, it appears that no one wishes to testify.

. . . END PUBLIC TESTIMONY AT BEGINNING OF MEETING . . .

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Members, we'll now proceed with our first...only item that we have today.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The Royal House of Keawemahi raised their hand again. Maybe there was somebody else with them.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And I don't know if they want to testify after the presentation since we just closed this one.

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

CHAIR SINENCI: Elise...Elise, you already testified, but do you have anyone else to testify on the item with you?

MS. MADISON: I just wanted to reinstate [sic] that we will keep coming back to these meetings and saying the same thing over and over again until we are heard. Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. And you can always email the Committee at wassp.committee@mauicounty.us. Thank you.

ITEM 1(13): OVERVIEW ON THE COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, Members, moving on to our item, WASSP-1(13), Overview on the Community Needs Assessment Survey 2025. Members, Anthology Marketing Group Incorporated was contracted by the Department of Human Concerns to conduct a community assessment survey of...of Maui County residents. The Community Needs Assessment Survey 2025 seeks to provide the Department with data from Maui County residents on whether current programs and funding are effectively addressing community priorities. The findings are intended to help guide future policy, program development, and resource allocation to improve the well-being of Maui County residents. I will now turn the floor over to Deputy Director of Human Concerns Jessica Crouse, and Mr. David Pettinger from Anthology, for their presentation and opening remarks. Ms. Crouse?

MS. CROUSE: Good morning. Thank you. *(pause)* Nothing like a little technical difficulty to start off a Monday, right? Always happens. *(pause)*

CHAIR SINENCI: You want to recess?

MS. MACDONALD: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SINENCI: Huh?

MS. MACDONALD: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Two minutes. Okay. Members, we'll take a quick two-minute break for technology issues. Eric?

MS. MONIZ: 9:21.

CHAIR SINENCI: We'll be back at --

MS. MONIZ: 9:21.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- 9:21. We're in recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

RECESS: 9:19 a.m.

RECONVENE: 9:22 a.m.

CHAIR SINENCI: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the WASSP Committee meeting of Monday, September 22nd, 2025, please come back to order. It is 9:22. Mahalo, Members, for that quick tech break, and we'll send it over to Ms. Crouse. Go ahead.

MS. CROUSE: Excellent. Thank you so much, Chair. So, this morning, I'm going to go over the Community Needs Assessment Survey that was completed earlier this year. What we'll be talking about today is a quick background of the assessment itself, the timeline for it, what we were hoping to achieve out of it. Then I'll share a little bit about some of the significant findings that we learned through this process, as well as some of the next steps. It's also a pleasure to have Mr. Pettinger online with me. He has graciously given us an hour of his time this morning to be available until 10:00 to help answer any questions that the Members may have about how the data was collected or analyzed too. The RFP was issued originally in April 2023. Anthology Marketing Group, Inc. was selected to be the entity to conduct this work for us. The contract was initiated in June 2023, but the work was postponed as a result of the fires that took place in August. The work resumed in Fall 2024. This was actually one of the first projects I got to step in and assist with when I started, so this is a nice moment for me to...to be here to share as well. And then the report was finalized in May of this year. This is an excerpt from the report on page 3, which very nicely summarizes the intentions, goals, and...and what we were hoping to get. So, just to read it for anyone listening, "the primary purpose of this research was to gain a comprehensive understanding of the current human service needs and priorities from the perspective of Maui County residents. This assessment aims to provide the DHC with crucial data to evaluate whether existing programs and funding structures are effectively addressing community needs; to inform future policies, programs, and grant-making decisions; and to guide the overall work of its divisions in supporting the social well-being of Maui County citizens." *(pause)* Data was collected across all nine districts of the County. This was very important for us because we wanted to make sure that we had enough information to do a little more robust analysis to identify if there were maybe geographical trends for residents' understanding or access to programs and services, or just any other information that we might be able to glean from that information. There was a wide range of survey questions. I think we really pushed the limit on how many questions we could incorporate into an assessment to still have a strong engagement from the participants. And we utilized the different formats of questions. So, there were multiple choice questions, open-ended questions where respondents could make any comments they had that came to their mind, as well as other questions, like ranking or Likert scale questions to help identify kind of ranges of needs or perceptions across different categories. We aim to achieve two different kinds of...of information. One was the broad knowledge and understanding of County programs and services. So, to know how folks feel about the work, if they're aware of the work our Department does, if they're able to use the services that are offered through our Department, as well as specialized focus into key subject areas, which included early childhood, senior citizens, disabled persons, homelessness, immigrant services, and volunteerism. Some of the significant

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

findings was that there's a strong public support for core human services. This was really great to see. For example, 95 percent of residents consider early childhood programs and services as either very important or somewhat important. The extent of the support for human services also helped the Department to verify that the work that we do and the priorities we hold are reasonably well aligned with the needs of our community, and what our residents see and feel. There was also a reported high access to fundamental resources. So, most households report having what's needed to access programs, which includes things like valid ID, mailing address, smartphone or computer, and transportation. Nine percent of respondents, which was about one in ten, reported lack of access to reliable Internet, and how that lack of access could present a challenge for utilizing online services or information. So, that's very important for us to know. Another big finding that really, I think, shows throughout the whole report itself is that we have an opportunity to increase awareness of County programs and services through this Department. Thirty-four percent of residents reported lower levels of confidence regarding awareness of these programs and services, and 63 percent of respondents who reported facing challenges accessing County programs cited a lack of knowledge of what's available. So, we have an opportunity to better leverage the existing programs more fully by increasing awareness and enhancing the access to the services we provide. All right. And then for some next steps, we have already started to operationalize the findings from this report. So, all of our division heads have access to this report themselves to consider how they might layer in the data that was learned, and do deeper dives into what's relevant and appropriate for their individualized programs or services. A couple of examples of this include our Grant Management Division recently held an invitation period for the Fiscal Year '27 and Fiscal Year '28 grant cycle through our Department. They built this report into the first page of their invitation-to-apply packet, and encouraged grantees to review the report, and assess how their programs might be aligned with the needs that are reported for our community, and how...how they can represent that work that they're doing in their applications for funding with the County. The Early Childhood Resource Center held a data walk in August of this year, where they compiled data from this form as well as a multitude of other sources that speak specifically to early childhood experiences for families with young children, as well as childcare providers. And that walk was an opportunity to engage community partners, to increase conversations around collaboration and enhanced community partnerships. And it's just a starting point for what's to come with those partnerships and alignment of service delivery. And then another example, a few weeks ago, Hauanu, with our Immigrant Services Division, was here giving a presentation on the Passport Photo Services through the Immigrant Services Division. One of the comments she had made as her next steps was to look at mobile or satellite passport service options, to help bring services more into community spaces, especially for populations who might have difficulty accessing the Wailuku office. And so, her effort to look at those opportunities is certainly reinforced through this report as well. And additionally, at my level, I'm looking on how we can increase the public awareness of programs and services across the Department. And I've had meetings and discussions with folks from our Mayor's Office, Managing Director's Office, and communications staff to make sure we're structuring everything appropriately and...and moving forward to increase the engagement and

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

awareness of those services accordingly. And that is it for my presentation this morning, and happy to be here for any questions, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Ms. Crouse. We'll go to Mr. Pettinger for some opening remarks. *(pause)* David, can you hear us? David, can you hear us? Oh, he can't.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh. Member Kama too.

CHAIR SINENCI: Tasha...Tasha, can...you can hear us? You just can't hear...

MR. PETTINGER: I apologize, can you folks hear me?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes, we can hear you now.

MR. PETTINGER: We cannot...I cannot hear you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I can hear you.

MR. PETTINGER: Oh, there you are.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But I'm not...I'm not in the Chambers. I'm...I'm at my home.

MR. PETTINGER: Could...could you hear me, Councilmember Rawlins? Or could you hear the presentation that was being shared?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No. I...I --

MR. PETTINGER: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- didn't know that we started the meeting. I was waiting for the Chair to call the meeting to order.

MR. PETTINGER: It wasn't just me. Oh, good.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, it looks like Johnson was also waiting. I just saw him turn on his video too. So, we couldn't hear. I...I...I didn't know anything was happening until Mr. Pettinger spoke.

CHAIR SINENCI: Do we need a recess?

MR. PETTINGER: We didn't hear anything that was shared in the Chambers.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Are we still on recess?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Exactly, Member Kama. I...It sounds like they have been...they did call the meeting back to order.

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: They started without us?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yep. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. We'll go ahead and take another --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Rewind.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- recess.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Reverse.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. We're in recess for another --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We can't hear you in the Chambers --

CHAIR SINENCI: -- five minutes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- at all.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Can somebody call the...

RECESS: 9:32 a.m.

RECONVENE: 9:39 a.m.

CHAIR SINENCI: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the WASSP Committee meeting of Monday, September 22nd, please come back to order. It's 9:39 a.m. Members, are...is everyone able to hear me this time around? Okay. Thank you for your patience. And then we'll do another do-over with Ms. Crouse. *(pause)*

MS. CROUSE: Okay. Excellent. Good morning.

CHAIR SINENCI: And feel free to add anything you missed.

MS. CROUSE: Oh, thank you. Thank you, Chair. That's so generous of you. All right. So, this morning, I'm just very briefly going over the Community Needs Assessment Survey that we did in...that was completed in 2025. For a short agenda [*sic*], the plan is to go over the background of the assessment itself, some of the timeline, what the intentions of the assessment were, to discuss some of the significant findings that were highlights for us from this report, as well as some of the next steps of what we're doing now. The RFP was issued in April 2023. Anthology Marketing Group, Inc. was selected as the vendor to help us conduct this research and prepare the report. The contract was initiated June 2023. However, work was postponed as a result of the August 2023 fires. Work resumed in Fall 2024. I believe that I had shared in the practice round that this was one of the first projects I got to work on and...and help with when I rejoined the

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

County last year. So, very exciting to see this come to fruition, and very pleased to be here this morning to share it with you all. And the report was finalized in May 2025. An excerpt from the needs assessment on page 3 highlights some of the goals/intentions of the report more concisely than I could hope to. So, just to read that quote for you, “The primary purpose of this research was to gain a comprehensive understanding of the current human service needs and priorities from the perspective of Maui County residents. This assessment aims to provide the DHC with crucial data to evaluate whether existing programs and funding structures are effectively addressing community needs, to inform future policies, programs, and grant-making decisions, and to guide the overall work of its divisions in supporting the social well-being of Maui County citizens.” Data was collected across all nine districts of the County. This was very valuable for us because we wanted to understand if there are may be geographical trends that might arise regarding people’s perceptions of programs, as well as the availability of programs, or whether or not folks in different regions identified specific needs relating to any certain population issue. We also included a range of survey questions. So, the survey itself was formatted to include a variety of types of questions, which included things such as multi...multiple-choice questions, open-ended questions where people could share any responses or suggestions that came to their minds, as well as ranking questions or Likert scale questions to help compare across categories as well. And then survey questions included a broad knowledge and understanding of County programs and services to get the big picture, as well as specialized focus into key subject areas, which included early childhood, senior citizens, disabled persons, homelessness, immigrant services, and volunteerism. Significant findings included that there is strong public support for core human services. For example, 95 percent of residents consider early childhood programs and services as either very important or somewhat important. And the extent of support for human services verifies that the Department priorities have been reasonably well aligned with the needs and interests of our community. So, it’s very validating to see that a lot of the work we do is responding to some of those needs, and while there’s always more work that can be done, at least we’re on the right track. The report also showed that there’s high access to fundamental resources. So, most households report having what’s needed to access programs. So, things like valid ID, a mailing address, smartphone or computer, and transportation. percent of respondents, which is about one in ten, reported a lack of access to reliable Internet. And so, this could present a challenge for utilizing online services or information, and it’s certainly important for us to be aware of that. Another finding was that we do have an opportunity to increase awareness of County programs. Thirty-four percent of residents reported lower levels of confidence regarding awareness of County programs and services. Sixty-three percent of respondents who reported facing challenges accessing County programs cited a lack of knowledge of what’s available. So, we do have that opportunity to better leverage the existing programs more fully by increasing awareness and enhancing access. For our next steps, we’re already working to operationalize the findings. So, all of our division heads have access to this data, and they’re working to incorporate it in the ways that are most responsive to the needs of their individual divisions and programs. A couple of examples of this include the Grant Management Division, Fiscal Year ‘27 and Fiscal Year ‘28 grant cycle. The Department recently hosted an invitation-to-apply period to invite community members to apply for grants from the Department for these upcoming two fiscal years. And they

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

built this report into their invitation-to-apply packet, and really encouraged nonprofit partners or community members who were interested in seeking County funds to review the needs assessment, and to ensure that what they're applying for is aligned in some way with what the needs are for our community, and to be able to demonstrate that through their application. Additionally, our Early Childhood Resource Center hosted a data walk in early August, where they compiled data from this assessment as well as other sources to create more comprehensive profile snapshots of what it's like for families with young children, the number of childcare programs that exist in the County, some of the challenges that folks who work with or live with young children experience. And that data walk was used to help invite stronger community partnerships, ensure service delivery alignment moving forward, and the work for that is really beginning with the data walk, not ending there. And then lastly, as an example, our Immigrant Services Division Staff was here a few weeks ago, and she shared...one of her interests is looking at providing mobile or satellite passport services to help bring the services that is so in high demand now from their office into more rural areas of the community, or even just into specific events where access for folks attending might not be readily available otherwise. And then additionally, overall, our Department's looking at increasing public awareness of programs and services. So, I myself have had meetings or conversations with other folks from the Administration, and especially the communications team to make sure that we're doing what we can to help advertise or showcase the important programs or services that are made available through our Department to reach a wider audience. And that is the presentation. Thank you so much, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Crouse, for your presentation. Next, Members, we'll go over to Mr. Pettinger for some opening comments. David?

MR. PETTINGER: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, everyone. I just want to say thank you, first of all, for the opportunity for our team to assist with this project. Doing a large-scale survey across Maui County is really something that I think is incredibly valuable for getting resident perspectives. A 900-sample-size survey, a scientific random sample survey of 900 or more residents is pretty significant, and so I think it's something to be proud of. And the ability to look at different regions with different levels of specificity really provides additional value. And you'll see in the report, we did a number of comparisons by region to be able to understand what differences there are by perceptions in each area. This is a...a survey of residents based on their perceptions. And so, for each individual resident who was...who participated in this, perception is reality. And that's something to keep in mind. And looking at how the results of this survey compare with existing programs and policies and services can help to identify gaps, and...and see where the opportunities are to expand either awareness or reach of those programs. So, I'm happy to answer questions here. I just wanted to say thank you. And happy to go into any level of detail on the survey or...or methodology. Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Mr. Pettinger. And Members, I think he's here for just another ten minutes or so, then he has to take off. Staff, we'll go to testimony next.

MS. DEL CASTILLO: Chair, there's currently no one else left to sign up for...to testify. If someone would like to testify in the Chamber.

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

CHAIR SINENCI: I think you already testified.

MR. LAW: Yes, I love it.

CHAIR SINENCI: No, you...only once.

MR. LAW: No, but they didn't hear me.

CHAIR SINENCI: Huh?

MR. LAW: I don't think...Keani, did you hear me the first time?

CHAIR SINENCI: I think she did.

MR. LAW: I don't know.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: In the beginning of the meeting, yes.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes.

MR. LAW: Oh, okay. Well, I give the rest of my time to the Hawaiians.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah, but you can always access our website. Thank you.

MS. DEL CASTILLO: If somebody would like to testify in the Chamber, please let the Staff know, or on Microsoft Teams, please raise your hand. This is final call...three, two, one. Chair, it appears that no one wishes to testify.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Members, any objections to closing public testimony at this time?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

. . . CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR WASSP-1(13). . .

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Chair Lee, did you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes, for Mr. Pettinger. Have you done similar types of studies for other counties? And were the results similar?

MR. PETTINGER: Thank you. Thank you for the question. We've been operating in Hawai'i...we're based in Honolulu. We've been operating in Hawai'i since 1995. So, we've done probably hundreds of scientific quantitative studies like this. We've done work in Maui County, in the County of Hawai'i and on O'ahu, but not quite similar to this. We've done quality of life studies. We've done other resident perception studies on issues that are important to the community. But I...I can't say that there's an exact

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

apples-to-apples comparison with this study that...that would allow for that comparison to take place.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Let's say...

MR. PETTINGER: I'm...actually, am not aware of any.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Could you go over our top five issues? And is it the same statewide, pretty much?

MR. PETTINGER: Certainly the issues that we see in surveys across the State are centered on housing, first and foremost, affordable housing, access to housing, cost of housing. After that, it's homelessness, which is kind of a tangential issue. And cost of living and the effects of inflation are all things that we see pretty consistently in both the research that we do, and the things that we review that other institutions are doing among Hawai'i residents. I think that the issues of Maui County are a bit more acute, given the...the Lahaina fires, and given a number of issues that the County has been facing over time, just based on what we're seeing in the research that we're doing.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Have you come across any good solutions?

MR. PETTINGER: You know, I...I will stick to the research findings from this study. I think every study identifies different solutions, and so I...I will not opine on...on what the solutions are to any of those issues.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair Lee.

MR. PETTINGER: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Members, normally we'll just go down the...the line, but however, since David is just here for a little bit, if you have any questions for...for him...I see Member Paltin, and then I'll go to Vice-Chair Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Pettinger. I'm on page 49 of your results, and it's talking about additional programs and services needed for the unhoused, unsheltered populations. And I was wondering if there was any more detail? Like affordable housing solutions, like everybody has a different opinion of what affordable is. Like is there any...any specifications? And then, you know, anecdotally, we hear a lot about like managed encampments, but that didn't show up at all, it looks like, except for temporary shelters, or is it something different like wording? Like what's the difference between a permanent housing solution and an affordable housing solution?

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Pettinger?

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

MR. PETTINGER: That's a very good question, and...I'm sorry, thank you very much for the question. Those responses were captured in open-ended questions that were asked of respondents, and so we actually wrote down verbatim what they shared with us, and then we categorized those responses into those categories that allowed us to put some numbers against the results. We do have the verbatim results that we can, of course, share with the Department of Human Concerns that might give a little bit more color to some of the ideas that were shared. Really, we wanted to try to quantify those...those ideas in the report, which is why you see them in those broader categories.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And the scope of the RFP was just the survey, no analysis of what to do based on the survey results?

MR. PETTINGER: We did not include in our scope recommendations on what to do based on the survey results. I think Deputy Director Crouse went through the objectives of the survey, which we understood, really, to inform program development and...and resource allocation, and so that was where we put our focus.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. I'll yield.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. We'll go to Committee Vice-Chair Johnson for your three minutes.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Mr. Pettinger. Thank you for joining us today. Appreciate the...the data you've given us today. You know, I live on Lānaʻi, and we have some uniqueness here that maybe you can speak to because, you know, the uniqueness of Lānaʻi, we have...we don't have the resources, and the building out of these resources would cost money and property that is...you know, 98 percent of the island is owned by a billionaire, so we have such a small area to work with. Women can't give birth on the Island of Lānaʻi still, you know, and that's been going on forever. So, there...we have massive holes, massive gaps in our services for our people. So, can...you said you guys went around, and maybe you can speak on that, on like the uniqueness of every...everybody's different in...in these, you know, in this County.

MR. PETTINGER: Sure. I'm happy to start maybe in answering your question with the methodology of the survey because we did try to give every opportunity...or an opportunity to every resident of Maui County, and a resident meaning a full-time resident of the County. We wanted to give everybody an opportunity to be selected to participate in the survey. That doesn't mean we contacted every single person in the County, that means that we developed sample frames that allowed us to randomly select content...contacts that gave everybody an equal shot to be parti...to participate in this. And so, we wanted to make sure that we gave everybody that opportunity as part of a scientific survey methodology.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Sure.

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

MR. PETTINGER: When it comes to Lānaʻi, there are certainly unique elements of responses that we see from residents of Lānaʻi. And throughout the report, there are highlighted different areas where Lānaʻi residents either see increased priority on certain issues, or they see higher levels of “don’t know”, meaning that they’re not aware, or they aren’t able to consider certain questions. And so, the...you know, Maui County is very unique, obviously, in having three different islands with different communities that all have specific needs, and we tried our best to capture that uniqueness in this report. I don’t have time to go through every finding related to that, but certainly, we did highlight those differences throughout.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: You know, when...when we were working on the affordable housing project on Lānaʻi, the Administration didn’t pass it. We just don’t know what you...what the folks need. So, me and my team went door to door. We interviewed 400 households on the Island of Lānaʻi. So, we...that is valuable data because to go door to door meets people where they at...literally, physically. So, when you go and do those...you know, a small sample survey, I know you guys are scientists, but for me, like just having that door-to-door interaction really kind of guided...helped us, and we got great data. When you...when you do these big studies, can you consider that? Like some rural communities, they’re not going to see the online advertising, and all the things . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . that you guys are trying to reach out to.

MR. PETTINGER: I...I appreciate that. And...and we did use a mixed methodology approach to gathering this data that included an online component, as you state. It also included telephone interviews, so random digit dialing telephone interviews, both with anybody who was on a voter contact list, anybody who had an 808 phone number with a Maui County stem attached to it. So, both listed and unlisted numbers were eligible...eligible to be contacted for this study. Now, there are, you know, limitations to any study that’s being done, whether they’re time or --

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Sure.

MR. PETTINGER: -- resource limitations. I think the...the work that you did going door to door is an incredible complement to a study like this because you can hear some of those firsthand stories, and use --

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Oh, yeah.

MR. PETTINGER: -- those data to be able to reinforce and provide more color to the numbers that we might have collected.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Well, thank you for your response. Thank you for your work. Thank you, Chair. No further questions.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Vice-Chair Johnson. Next, we have Member Rawlins-Fernandez, followed by Pro Tem Kama.

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Pettinger. Mahalo for your...your work. So, I'm looking at the...just the raw data from the results of the survey that's at the end of the report. And it seems like...and I...I don't...it sounds like you were...or at least the demographics were trying to be as random, I guess, or try to reach as many people as possible. And it showed like 1 percent refusal, but 44 percent of those surveyed were 65 or older. The median--sorry...the...40 percent were retired, 69 percent owned their home, the average household size was a household size of two, and 54 percent had one generation living in the home. It...it seems that despite your efforts, it kind of captured more of like the older residents or, you know, older folks' responses, which is a different experience than, you know, those of...of younger age right now, trying to live on Maui Island especially. So, I don't know how...or I guess the question is, like, how do you account for the lack of responses from those that are younger than 65?

MR. PETTINGER: It's a really good question, and a great observation. The mixed mode methodology that includes the phone portion, phone is...is...does tend to reach an older audience because older folks tend to answer the phone and be willing to do an interview over the phone. And so, a little bit of is...it is a function of the methodology that included phone. We did include a significant portion of...of younger folks in the survey. If you look at the overall totals, you know, about 24 percent were either in the 18 to 34 or 35 to 49 segment, which doesn't give us the ability to look at those ages necessarily by region, but it does let us look at those ages overall, and be able to get a sense for how those households are faring and what their priorities are. We learn something in every survey that we do, and trying to really maximize the response among younger people is something that the industry as a whole is really trying to do because younger folks are more and more reluctant to participate in surveys. . . .(timer sounds). . . And finding different ways, like Member Johnson mentioned about having different data collection methodologies that compliment this, I think is a real opportunity in the long run.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Oh, I found the average age. It's the average age was 60.26, and the median was 62. And again, that's...yeah, much, much, much older. . . .(laughing). . . Okay. Yeah. So, in the report, did you make a recommendation on how to capture better the younger demographics?

MR. PETTINGER: We did not. That was not part of our scope.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, this is kind of the work you do, yeah?

MR. PETTINGER: It is.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, like for yourself like and your company, I mean, I...I would think that a median age of 62 is not like a...a target. Like it...I would imagine it would be lower than that. And so, for your own, you know, work, are you looking at other ways instead of just like phone calls? I know you just said Member Johnson, you know, walking door to door, but that's also pretty laborious, and I...I imagine more costly than phone banking or calling folks. Have you looked into, you know, social media? That's where a lot of folks are as well.

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

MR. PETTINGER: We have. We wanted to use sample sources that reached the entire County, and gave everybody an equal opportunity to be invited to participate, which is why we didn't rely on other sampling methodologies, such as convenience sampling, like reaching out through social media, or reaching out through other networks. I think that there are....there is a time and place for doing that. It wasn't part of the plan to be able to do that in this study. I will also mention that the overall data were weighted by ethnicity of adults in Maui County to make sure that while the average age of the respondent might have been 60, the overall results would be at least representative by ethnicity throughout the County.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Members --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- are you able to hear the buzzer? No?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, I was just about to ask if there was a...I felt like that was kind of a long time, so --

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- I didn't hear a timer.

CHAIR SINENCI: That was...that's fine. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Can always come back.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, no, he's got to leave.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But I'm good. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Member Kama, do you have any questions for Mr. Pettinger?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I just...I just have one. You know, in looking at your...your data report, it's...it's...to me, in trying to get to an answer from a whole bunch of people in a very vast range of age, gender, ethnicity, and you might not come out with the same thing all around. You'll come out with some generalities, right? But I think for us, it'd be so much more helpful if we could just target in on something that we can grab hold of, and do something with. And I can't see grabbing hold of anything that we can actually go in and do something with, or do something about. I feel like we...we may not have captured what we're looking for. And, you know, as we have a population of

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

Maui, about a little over a half a million [sic] people, we talked to...to 900 of them. But that 900 is...is such a...it doesn't complete the picture of what our community actually looks like, and what the needs are. Like...like Gabe mentioned about that moms on Lānaʻi cannot get an OB-GYN, but then they have 19 people on Lānaʻi that are homeless. So, what would your priority be, the homeless, or the moms that don't have an OB-GYN, right? And then you go into all of the other things that are needed. I mean, there's so much need, and there's just not enough care to go around. So, I guess I didn't have a question, Chair. Sorry. Thank you, Mr. Pettinger.

MR. PETTINGER: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Members, any more questions for Mr. Pettinger and then we can release him? Thank you, Mr. Pettinger, for being here.

MR. PETTINGER: Thank you very much for the opportunity.

CHAIR SINENCI: Keani, did you have a follow up? Member...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Not for Mr. Pettinger. Aloha, mahalo for being with us. Just a quick question because I wasn't sure if maybe I misheard when Member Kama was speaking about the population size of Maui County. Did...did you say over half a million or...or did I misunderstand? I just wanted to...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: No, I thought it was. I thought it was under half a million.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's...oh, it is under half a million. It's --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- 165,000.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you. Okay. Members, for round two, we have Ms. Crouse here to answer the rest of your questions. We'll go back to Committee Vice-Chair Johnson.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. You know, this is a timely topic because we had a constituent come to our Lānaʻi District Office in regards to her...her son, who's now an adult, and he has a disability. And the...the structure we have, the system we have on Lānaʻi can help kids with disabilities if you're in the school system. But once you're an adult, we don't have hardly any services over here for folks like...like that. Ms. Crouse, is there...and, you know, that's just one example of how we might have a system for...for you some of the time, but once you're an adult, that system goes away, right? And the...I think there's a meeting coming up here with Department of Health on September 30th. Are you aware of that, Ms. Crouse? I think that those are my

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

questions, is that really, how...how are we going to help those folks who kind of age out of the systems that we have right now? And then are...are you working with Department of Health? Are...are...is there any coordination? And those are my questions right now. Thank you, Chair.

MS. CROUSE: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Johnson, for that question. You are right that accessing services, folks have different experiences as kids versus adults in accessing services, especially for those who might experience disabilities. There is a number of different initiatives that the Department has been involved with over the years to help increase access to those services. I wasn't aware of that meeting on the 30th, but I'll do some research to find it. And if I'm available to attend, I certainly will be happy to, to learn more about what else is out there. The Department does have the Council [sic] on Persons with Disabilities, which is a volunteer board and commission. They do a lot of great work to help increase access to services, to help increase alignment across providers, increase awareness. And that Council is supported through the Office on Aging, which also provides the Adult Disability Resource Center. So, there are different services who are tapped into what else is going on, probably better than I am. But you're right, there are more opportunities to continue to explore how we can best serve all members of our population, especially those most vulnerable.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: So, I'll just jump in here. One of the biggest...so of course, we have all the problems that everybody else has. We're not unique in that. But what we are unique in is that again, 98 percent is owned by a billionaire on Lānaʻi. So, there isn't like a space that like rent...like an office space where an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting can happen, or services from the State can come here and have a room or an office to conduct...help...that can help my community here. It's layered on not just the fact that we're remote, but where do they go when they come and give services? Do they got to stay in the hotel? . . .(timer sounds). . . That's a huge cost for these folks that are giving services. I try to let them use my office as much as I can. And...and as the Administration, please...please take me up on that offer. It still stands. But those are some of the real uniqueness. I heard my time, but I just wanted to put that out there. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Ms. Crouse, you're okay? All right. Next we have Member Paltin, followed by Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I guess my question is like, you know, hearing what Mr. Pettinger had said, that it's weighted towards the 60-plus age group. And for me, I guess I thought centrally, Office of Aging helps pretty good, but maybe not the rural areas. But, you know, the people that have a lot of the biggest needs are not as old, and...I mean, like right now, and they don't have time even to fill out a survey. And then even from 2024, the ending, or even the beginning of 2025, it's on the table to lose a lot of the things that we are used to to having. And so, like...and also sometimes the County deals with issues that the community doesn't know about. So, the people that are filling out the survey may not be the same ones with the greatest needs. And then that's not getting communicated, in addition to the things that are being lost out on with this new administration at the Federal level. And so, how then do you incorporate

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

what this survey, which is a little bit dated, if we lose a bunch of services federally, and then that affects state, and then also, taking into effect that like, you know, the young families probably weren't reached because of time or whatever, as well as the older population. So, how...how do you adjust the response to community needs in light of those things going on?

MS. CROUSE: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Paltin, for that question. I think the best...the best answer I can give you is that for us, this needs assessment is a...it's a check-in. It's a way to take the pulse of what folks from our community are saying they see and they experience. And it's also a starting point for where we go next. So, divisions in our Department do more specialized data and research, depending on the nature of their program. So, for example, Office on Aging does a four-year plan on aging. And so, that's an ongoing process to have more deeper, more specialized data for the populations that they serve, and the needs that are identified. The Office on Aging is a recipient of a number of Federally-funded programs that help sustain services in our community for our kūpuna. So, they're certainly very well aware of any changes that are happening federally. And then although some of the responses might've been skewed, there's also a lot of data in this assessment that shows us that the awareness...where the awareness is stronger than we may have realized, or where it may be...there may be more opportunity to lean into that and to increase the awareness . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . across the board. Just one short example of that is, in the most-needed early childhood resources and respondents community table, on page 28. The Molokai community rated distributing free books to promote early literacy as a statistically higher threshold. And we know, contextually, that that's because the Molokai community is much better served through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program, to where 100 percent of zero to five kids are signed up and participate in that free program to receive those books. And so, when we see a statistically higher recognition of the importance of early literacy campaign in a community that's so engaged with those services, for us, that's a good indicator that that program is achieving the goals, and that community members in that community, even if they themselves don't have children in that age group, might be aware of the tertiary benefits, so they might be hearing about it. So, there's a lot to be learned from this report, even though there are things that do time out, like you said...there are things that change so rapidly with social services, but this is just a starting point. It's a good way to see where we are, to see where we need to go, and to make sure that we're going in the right direction.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I know anecdotally, a lot of folks are having hard time meet rent now. So, I don't know if that can be upped in...in your needs assessment.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Next, we have Chair Lee, followed by Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Chair Sinenci. Okay. My question has...I have several kind of disjointed questions. First of all, the homeless program is in your Department, but is the coordinator in your Department, or under the Mayor?

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

MS. CROUSE: Thank you for the question, Chair Lee. So, I believe you're referring to Ms. Crozier --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes.

MS. CROUSE: -- who's the coordinator. She is based out of the Mayor's Office, not in our Department.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. I'm sure you have a good reason for that, but that's kind of strange. Because one person versus a Department with a number of resources, yeah, assigned to that particular issue is a little different, unless she has a crew that is with her in...in the Mayor's Office. Does she have other people working with her?

MS. CROUSE: Not that I'm aware of.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. That's kind of odd, one person. Now, you know, some of the...the main issues were affordable housing, one, which really is not your concern anymore, luckily. And then...but you do have the homeless issue. High cost of living is not necessarily your problem. So, some of the other issues, of course, are, but on the homeless front, I think...I...I don't know if it was indicated by the survey, but we just need more inventory, period. Yeah. And 19 years ago, we built the West Maui Resource Center. We were in the process of building the South Maui Resource Center. We're also building, in Kahului, for seniors and...and the homeless. And we expanded Ka Hale A Ke Ola. So, apparently, the direction shifted to something else. What is that something else?

MS. CROUSE: That's a good question. I'm not sure I have the answer to that. But if you could send that in writing, I'd be happy to do some research to try to get you the best, most accurate answer.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you. And then my last question is, a lot of concerns seem to be health related, so...which we all know, we don't provide those services. So, are you working with the State to encourage them to...and coordinate with them to do more on Maui?

MS. CROUSE: Thank you. Thank you, Chair Lee. That's certainly one avenue, right--is to make sure that the State's aware of the data that we're seeing, the comments from our community on those needs. The Department does do some work that overlaps. So, for example, in the last fiscal year, we just started specific grants to mental health service programs. . . .(timer sounds). . . So, that's one example of how the Department can participate in supporting the health and well-being of our community. And then some other areas also have crossover, right? So, some programs that do receive funding provide substance abuse treatment services through us, in addition to some of their other fund sources. So, just to make sure that we understand where the needs are identified.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Chair, can I have one follow-up question?

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

CHAIR SINENCI: Go ahead, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you. Since you brought that up, what happened to Kōkua Services? Did somebody else take over for them? Mental Health...because that's the biggest area that we're lacking in.

MS. CROUSE: So, Mental Health Kōkua is still operating, and I believe they're still a grantee, but I'd be happy to get you more information on that --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MS. CROUSE: -- in a follow-up.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: All right. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Next, we have Member U'u-Hodgins, followed by Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. And thank you for your presentation, twice. You did a good job on both times. Now that we have all of this information, are you guys going to use this to plan your mission and your strategy, and how can we see maybe how you folks might change your idea of where we can structure some of our grants and our outreach?

MS. CROUSE: Thank you for that question. So, yes, a big part of our intention with this is to use it to help drive our strategy. As I mentioned, one of the biggest findings is how many people weren't aware of the work that we do, or the --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah.

MS. CROUSE: -- work that's supported through --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah.

MS. CROUSE: -- grants through our Department. So, I think a big part of our strategy is, how do we address that? How do we make sure that a much smaller group than 34 percent of our community are...are not understanding what we do, what's available to them, or how to reach out and make that available. I was talking with folks in the County who said, oh, I didn't know you guys do that too. And so, you know, just lots of opportunity there to increase awareness and understanding, lots of opportunity to dig into how are we conveying the work that we do. And if...if folks in our community aren't reaching the services, especially if this...this study did trend towards a little more older response, how many of those folks would benefit from programs that are offered through the Office on Aging or Kaunoa Senior Services too, right? If they're already in the age group, not necessarily aware of what's available. So, for us, I think a big part of our strategy is, how do we reach those folks, and do a better job of that. And then I think in terms

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

of the grants, one, making sure that the people who want to apply for funds with our Department understand what we're paying attention to, and what questions we're asking to solicit community input, and then to review and vet those. So, that invitation to apply did close. I believe we got right around 100 applications from agencies who are requesting programmatic support for the next two fiscal years. So, we'll be reviewing...the review's already started, actually, of all of those proposals, and assessing where they fall on meeting needs too.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you. Chair, if I can ask this question on behalf of your area. On page 25, it says 93 percent of the East Maui residents need access to early childhood programs. So, when we have people come and apply for grants, do...can we prioritize based on the survey and their responses and, you know, get Hāna the childhood programs...early childhood programs they clearly very much need?

MS. CROUSE: Thank you for that question. So, when the applicants applied and submitted their grant proposals, grants that were relevant to a specific division with our Department are involved in the review and verification of that work. So, for example, grants that related to early childhood programs are being reviewed by our Early Childhood Resource Coordinator. So, should there be an applicant who came in proposing to do work in a certain area, they are aware of this data to help flag --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MS. CROUSE: -- and identify that potential priority. And then also, moving forward for that long-term view, if we don't have applications that are meeting certain needs, that might be something that we can dig into in a different way a little down the road.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Good. I can appreciate that. I think for now, Chair, that's all my questions. Thank you. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member U'u-Hodgins. We have Pro Tem Kama, followed by Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, Ms. Crouse, getting back to what Member Johnson was talking about in terms of...and I'm not sure, Gabe, if you're actually talking about people with disabilities, which...sometimes people in a wheelchair, or could be somebody with a head injury, but then we also have the individuals with intellectual disabilities, developmental disability. So, Ms. Crouse, is there a listing of all of the programs that are out there to service all the children? Once they graduate from any high school...I mean, every year, our schools are graduating people. And where are they going? Is there some place for them to go? Are they just sitting on the couch at home, watching TV? And then for the next 30, 40, 50 years, that's all they do?

MS. CROUSE: Thank you for the question, Member Kama. I would be happy to research that and see what...what information on those resources exist. I imagine there's something,

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

I just can't recall it off the top of my head. But again, happy to research and get that information to you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. I'd be interested to see what are the programs? How many clients can they serve? What is the cost for these clients to attend one of these day programs? And is there transportation included in these programs? Because they don't...they don't have a mom and dad to drive them to work, you know, because mom and dad are already at work. So...and what are...if anything, what are the benefits that would come with the program, in terms of what are the activities that...that they do on a day-to-day basis that would keep them stimulated and that would keep them just interested in what's going on around them? So, Chair, that would be happening?

CHAIR SINENCI: Staff?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Next, we have Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Crouse. Mahalo for your presentation. Okay. Okay. So, my first question...and perhaps it would have been...I should have asked Mr. Pettinger instead, but if you can respond. So, since the age group with the higher responses are not...well, it's hard to say how much of it is, you know, like, if they're a household of two retired, you know, 62, how many of them are, you know, taking care of children-age folks? And so, I was just wondering, like, I know Mr. Pettinger said that, you know, one's perception is their reality, which I agree with, but how much of that is like more speculation versus, you know, like a lived experience of like taking care of like children and stuff? Or like how would you try to distinguish, or like it doesn't matter for your purposes?

MS. CROUSE: Thank you, Member Rawlins [sic]. So, I mentioned the Early Childhood Resource Center did that in-depth data walk. Some of the additional data sources they pulled in had to do with multi-generational households, where there might be a grandparent caring for a young child as part of that makeup, and other things. So, I don't know that I can speak to the first part of your question about the aspect of that perception, and reality, and...and any bias that might exist in those perceptions, but I can say that for our purposes, this is a piece of a puzzle that helps us operate in a framework to have a stronger understanding of our community, and also helps us identify what other questions we have to look for, other data sources to pull in to help us flesh out that framework more thoroughly.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that response. And my next question is regarding...oh, shucks, I don't know what page it's on, but the survey asking how do people get their information or...or hear about County services, and the...the top rated method is word of mouth, and coconut wireless is very strong on Molokai. And so, in exploring different opportunities to, you know, spread the word about County services and, you know, making, you know, folks' needs known, I...how...how are you using, you know, or trying to get the word out more, since word of mouth is the most effective?

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

Like for example, on Molokai, we have like the Rural Health, which a lot of our seniors . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . love, and so they see care providers--and sorry, Chair, I did hear the timer--such as the podiatrist, and there's a lot of foot care, and . . . *(inaudible)* . . . care, and so for the service providers, I guess, like reaching out to, or informing them.

MS. CROUSE: Thank you for that question. Our Department has three different divisions that all have staff presence on Molokai, so that includes our Office on Aging, Kaunoha Senior Services, and our Immigrant Services Division. So, we do work through those divisions to help increase communication about different services or opportunities that are relevant, and we also try to work through other networks that might be relating to maybe early childhood, or other services that are housed in our Department too. So, we do try to capitalize where we can, and I'm sure there's always opportunities for us to...to learn about more groups that might be meeting, or more channels to take advantage of that coconut wireless.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. I just have some follow-up questions for you, Deputy Crouse. And so, will the Department be looking at this information, and then kind of adjusting some of your grants during budget?

MS. CROUSE: Thank you for the question. Yes, that's entirely a possibility.

CHAIR SINENCI: And then for us, and...and I know Committee Vice-Chair, he's always...he mentioned prior that some nonprofits needed more...more funding and...and they actually got less funding. Is the Department going to be considering some of the...the shortages from the Federal Government?

MS. CROUSE: Thank you for that question. So, just to clarify, with our last fiscal year, we didn't necessarily recommend funding that met all of the asks that came in, but our Department also didn't recommend to cut any programs from what they had previously received. So, that's just an important framework of distinction. And then I'll say that applicants were invited to share any changes in funding sources that they might be experiencing for some of their programs. There's a number of programs that have shared that there might be some cuts to funding, and other programs have shared they've already received the notice of cuts. And so, we are going to do the best work that we can to thoroughly evaluate each and every proposal to see what is being requested, and what the Department can support because there's certainly a lot of need.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah. As...as Councilmembers, when we do the...the communities tour during our budget sessions, we often get requests for...so...and...and they come up in some of our priorities of more funding of the Department. So, are...I understand that the...the Administration will be doing his rounds with the communities. For East Maui, following up on Member U'u-Hodgins, are there any...from this report, any...any pukas you see, you know, like...as she you mentioned, there's, you know, 90 percent that need certain services. Are you...are you finding that there are pukas in some of the rural communities, like Hāna?

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

MS. CROUSE: Sure. There's always...always going to be some sort of puka, and always an opportunity to fill that. One example is, our Immigrant Services Staff shared that there was a whole carload of people who all came from Hāna to go to the Wailuku office to take advantage of the passport services, and it wasn't necessarily one household or one family. It was just whoever wanted to jump in the car got in, and...and made the ride together. So, going back to the opportunity of, how do we increase access to services and maybe try to meet people where they are, and what opportunities do we have to play with that? This report's definitely very useful in helping us analyze that, and look for those opportunities.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you for those responses. Members, it's 10:30. Any need to take a quick bio break, or you want to just do another round?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. We'll do one more round. Committee Vice-Chair Johnson, go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Deputy Director Crouse, for responding to a lot of our questions. That early childhood education chart really emphasizes the importance of taking care of our keiki. I'm looking at a budget priority for free childcare for County workers for a couple reasons, is as you know, the empty positions being one, and just taking care of our keiki being another. Would your Department support a program like that?

MS. CROUSE: Thank you for the question, Member Johnson. I think our Department would definitely be open to further conversations with you about how to approach and structure that. There are other folks who I think have raised similar questions. There's always challenges, a big part of which about the staffing, and the pipeline of professionals who are equipped to give quality childcare too. And so, it's not only about availability of spaces, but it's also about who's available to provide the care. And so, again, I'd say we're welcome...we're open to having those conversations with you to explore that.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Love...love to set up a meeting for that. I think overall, moving forward, this data does show the pukas, does show the needs. So, are...is your Department open to increasing the funding for our nonprofits? Because we don't want to operate from a position of scarcity. We know our communities are hurting. The stacking of trauma within our community, it's getting out of hand. So, if we could use our...our strength, which is our funding, to help those nonprofits meet those goals that we share with them. So, is your Department open to expanding the funding for our nonprofits in this upcoming budget?

MS. CROUSE: Thank you, Member Johnson. I will say that our Department is certainly open to reviewing and having open conversations about where the needs are, and what our opportunities are to meet them. We do have an obligation to cooperate and...and follow the Mayor's guidelines, or the budget team's guidelines for how we design and propose

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

our budget. So, inasmuch as we are complying with the guidelines that are given to us, yes, we're certainly open to looking at that.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Deputy Director, for your response. You know, we need a champion for some of these issues, and your Department is set up for...to have some champions for that. So, thank you for your response. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Vice-Chair Johnson. Next, we have Member Kama, followed by Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to, again, continue with what Member Johnson's saying, in terms of the Department willing to increase their budget for childcare, so...for free childcare. But, you know, it's just not child care, I think...I think it's adult care. Everybody our age is looking at parents, and taking care of them, and having to go to work too. So, I think sometimes, when you look at the broad area from 0 to 99, I think you're going to see all of that in between. So, is that...again, and I did hear your response, Ms. Crouse, to Councilmember Johnson, but is that another item that could be looked at within your purview?

CHAIR SINENCI: Ms. Crouse?

MS. CROUSE: Thank you for the question. Yes, elderly services, such as maybe adult daycare, or other programmatic services like that are looked at through our Department, and we do work to support them. And then I'll just add--this sort of addresses your question, as well as Mr. Johnson's--is that sometimes, there might be State-supported initiatives or subsidies that are underutilized too. And so, we work through our Staff at the appropriate divisions to try to advocate for ways to increase the access to those services to make sure that the resources that are already on the table can be better utilized and deployed here in our community.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, I just wanted to make mention that, you know, we have programs like the Arc of Maui, Easter Seals, LokeLani 'Ohana, La'akea [sic]...and these are all programs that adults with disabilities can attend and, you know, have activities during the day. But one of these programs is not going to go to the fair because they don't have enough staffing to be able to take all of the kids to the fair that's coming up. And I think that's...well, like how many programs are not going to take our kids to a fair because they do not have enough staffing? And that's just...like wow. But I wanted to make that mention because when we talk about a whole bunch of programs here and there, I mean, going to the fair is like the biggest deal of all. And then our kids with IDD aren't able to go because there's not enough Staff to chaperone. So...but thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Next, we have Member Paltin, followed by Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I don't have a question, I have a comment. I feel like the numbers for West Maui are a lot lower than they are in reality. And possibly it's because people have paperwork fatigue over the last couple of years. But like, you know,

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

we don't have the number of preschools we had prior to 2023. I only know of really, like two. All the childcare in-home providers, I don't really know of that much. People are just having to take care of their own 'ohana kine rather than be able to take them to an unknown provider as much. Rent is obviously a problem. Like adult daycare is supposed to start in my office. I don't know where...when it will be, but people ask me all the time. So, I...I guess that would be my comment, is that the numbers for West Maui are very low. I don't know if it's because people didn't have time to participate, or the majority of our population is living in other areas. And so, their input is being taken in other districts. But I would encourage the Administration to add 20 percent or something to everything in West Maui because I don't feel like we had accurate representation of the current needs and the struggle of living in West Maui with significantly less services than we had two years ago.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Ms. Crouse. How many vacancies do you have in your office?

MS. CROUSE: In my office, or in our Department?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, your Department.

MS. CROUSE: Department. You know, I don't know the current figure off the top of my head. But I am pleased to share that we had a new employee who started last week. And we have a new employee who starts on October 1st. And we are...we are moving along and filling all the vacancies. But if you'd like to send that in writing, I'd be happy to get you the current figure.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Hmm. I was just going to say that I think the Council, as we get ready for...for the budget when it's our turn, we'd be happy to support all, if not most of your requests for additional services. But we need to know if you can fill your vacancies. That is really important. So, you need to know the number off the top of your head, okay? The other thing is, some areas I see that really needs attention would be more public education, expediting delivery of grants, and increased State health services. So, just know that the Council is ready and willing to help you as...as long as you...you know, you put some formal plans together, and fill the vacancies, and we'll...we'll be right there with you. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Next, we have...

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I'm pau. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: No questions. Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Yeah, no additional questions. I echo what Chair Lee just stated. Yeah, I think that was...that was good. That was a good summary, Chair. And...and I think your presentation, Ms. Crouse, and the report

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

also supports that. There is...to accessing programs and services is...the highest was the knowledge of his existence of government services, and then how to apply. So, if...when, you know, putting together your budget, if that could be incorporated, you know like since that's the biggest barrier is just knowing that it exists, and then how to...how to apply, you know, I'd be happy to support ways of...of getting the word out more. So, yeah. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Rawlins...mahalo, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Just a last comment as well. I know that the Mayor's Holomua came to East Maui, and a lot of requests was for additional mental health services. And so, we...we are receiving a response from the Administration, so...a quick response. Thank you for that. But it does look like, from your survey, that mental health services are one of the increasing ones that we need to address as well. So, I'm looking forward to seeing, you know, a lot more services in...in that field. With that, Members, any other questions for Deputy Crouse? Again, mahalo for all your questions of...of Deputy Crouse. And Members, mahalo for...and as well, Mr. Pettinger. Mahalo, Members, for all your great questions and comments today. Staff, is there anything...did we get all of the follow-up questions from the Members?

MS. MACDONALD: Yes, Chair, we got all the follow-up questions. It's just your recommendation now.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, okay. Members, any objections to deferring this item?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS (excused: TC and YLS).

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: No objections.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. Okay. With that, Members, we're...we didn't take a break. So, we'll just finish early, and you guys get another hour for...for lunch. I believe we do have an afternoon meeting with the WAI Committee here on the...the Chambers. But with that, the WASSP Committee meeting of Monday, September 22nd, 2025, is now adjourned. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

ADJOURN: 10:44 a.m.

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

September 22, 2025

CERTIFICATION

I, Daniel Schoenbeck, hereby certify that pages 1 through 31 of the foregoing represents, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 27th day of October 2025, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Daniel Schoenbeck