

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
Mayor

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
Director

HELENE KAU
Deputy Director



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DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY OF THE
COUNTY OF MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

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April 15, 2019

Ms. Michele M. Yoshimura *MJY*
Budget Director, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Honorable Michael P. Victorino
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

Michael P Victorino 4/15/19
Mayor Date

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Keani Rawlins-Fernandez
Chair, Economic Development & Budget Committee
Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Rawlins-Fernandez:

SUBJECT: **REQUESTS/QUESTIONS FROM THE APRIL 8, 2019 MEETING** (WS-11)
(EDB-1)

In response to your letter dated April 10, 2019, we respond as follows:

1. Please explain "Explanation of Changes: New hire (or incumbent) step A, eff 01/01/19 step A eliminated" and the resulting decrease in salary. Did the new hire move to Step b?

Answer:

For the first part of the question regarding Step A eliminated:

For Bargaining Unit 3, Step A was eliminated as of 01/01/2019 per the union contract. Therefore, everyone who was on Step A automatically moved to Step B. Please see pages 16-20 of the attached salary schedule.

"By Water All Things Find Life"

For the second part of the question regarding a resulting decrease in salary:

If a salary is decreased, it is usually because someone with a high step left the position and was replaced by someone with a lower step (like a new hire).

2. What is the disposal plan for all the machinery and equipment, including vehicles and other items being replaced?

Answer:

See DWS's response to WS-9, EDB-1, No. 6, dated April 8, 2019. DWS publicly auctions its machinery and equipment at the baseyard.

3. How much of East Maui Watershed Protection goes towards Miconia removal? (\$550,000)?

Answer:

The Mayor's budget allocates \$550,000 to East Maui Watershed Partnership and the Nature Conservancy to control miconia and other invasive weed species and invasive ungulates. \$260,000 is allocated to the Maui Invasive Species Committee to target primarily miconia but also other priority invasive and incipient invasive plants.

4. Why weren't services secured for Miconia removal in FY20? It seems the need is still there and yet \$240,000 is being removed from efforts to ramp up miconia control. What is the historical/scientific information shown to be the result of abandoning efforts to control invasive plants?

Answer:

The Maui Invasive Species Committee (MISC) requested grant from the Department of Water Supply was \$275,000 and the recommended allocation \$260,000 for FY20. The additional \$250,000 appropriated in FY19 was not requested by MISC or recommended by the Grant Analysis Committee to be funded by the Department of Water Supply. The Department has no intention to abandon efforts to control miconia. On the contrary, the requested county-wide funds would support a bio-economic model to cost-effectively control miconia in East Maui to address incipient and remote populations. We hope that this method will slow dissemination of seeds and ultimately reduce the number of miconia plants reaching maturity.

5. Has the department, budgeted for or taken into account the importance of working together with area residents to main vehicular access to water intake in Honokohau valley as well as the wear and tear to county vehicles by traveling in severely substandard road access regularly?

Answer:

It is DWS's policy to work well with the public and residents in order to have appropriate access. Procedurally, DWS can obtain a right of entry with the assistance of Corporation Counsel.

County vehicles are often driven off-road with four-wheel drive which results in those vehicles taking a beating hauling products up and down mountains in all weather conditions. DWS has requested funding in FY 2020 to properly address its needs.

6. Has the department begun planning for costs associated with moving water lines currently in inundation areas in anticipation of climate change/sea level rise/coastal erosion events?

Answer:

The department has initiated a review of various reports related to sea level rise, including the Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report. We also need to overlay the department's infrastructure and the Sea Level Rise Exposure Area issued by the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission to determine which waterlines are impacted. Once we determine the impact to our existing waterlines by the inundation area/exposure area, we will able to evaluate options, including cost, to address the impact.

Please also see our response to WS-2, EDB-1, No. 3, dated April 8, 2019, for additional information related to climate change/sea level rise / coastal erosion events.

In advance, thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,



JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
Director

JP:HK:lk