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

March 29, 2026

Ms. Jacky Takakura, Director
Department of Planning
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Ms. Takakura:

SUBJECT: **PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE
COUNTY OF MAUI** (BFED-1) (PL-02)

May I please request you be prepared to answer the following questions at the Council's Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee meeting of **April 7, 2026***. This will enable the Committee to comprehensively review the FY 2027 Budget.

May I further request that, after approval by the Office of the Mayor, you transmit your responses to bfed.committee@mauicounty.us by 4:30 p.m. on **April 6, 2026**. **Date is subject to change without notice.*

Overall

1. Relating to the Administration and Planning Program, Goal #1, item 1: (Pages 651 and 652, Program Budget)
 - a. Are subdivision plans submitted to the Department of Public Works for review and transmitted back to the Department of Planning when the subdivision is occurring in the Special Management Area? Which Departments review SMA exemptions and SMA minor permits and why? (SS)
 - b. The County has one of the highest rates of drownings in the State. Can lifeguard towers in the SMA be exempt from permits or have their permits fast-tracked for safety purposes? (SS)

- c. Explain why these success measurements from FY 2026 are not reported:
 - i. Number of other permit reviews completed by the Zoning Administration and Enforcement Division.
 - ii. Number of subdivision reviews completed.
 - iii. Number of variances and appeals processed.
 - iv. Number of zoning complaints investigated.
 - v. Dollar amount of fines collected.
 - vi. Number of enforcement cases open.
 - vii. Number of enforcement cases closed. (TP)
2. Is the Department involved in the creation of the Greenprint under Section 2.82.050, Maui County Code? If so, is there any funding dedicated to executing a contract for this project? (GJ)

Salaries and Wages (Category “A”)

1. Several Department positions have had their titles changed. For each one, please explain why it changed. (Pages 19-3, 19-4, and 19-6 to 19-8, Budget Details) (TP)
2. How does Executive Order 2025-02 provide authority for salary increases? (Pages 19-3 to 19-6, Budget Details) (TC)
3. The Department has had staffing, hiring, and retention issues, which causes delays that are mitigated through costly professional services. Is the Department involved with developing supplemental agreements to the master agreements to establish incentives for hiring and retaining employees? Please explain. (GJ)
4. Relating to P-00747 Senior Land Use and Building Plans Examiner, the Department is requesting 12 months of funding for the position. Has the position been created and recruited to start July 1, 2026?

If not, what is the anticipated fill date for the position? (Page 19-3, Budget Details) (YLS)

5. Relating to P-00826 Research Analyst: (Page 19-3, Budget Details) (NUH)
 - a. Why does the position have no proposed funding?
 - b. Why is an expansion position being considered for a potential temporary purpose? Has the Department considered using Professional Services instead?
6. Relating to Premium pay, Index Code 909010A, provide a copy of your Department's recruitment and retention incentives and Excluded Managerial Compensation Plan Compensation Program. (Page 19-9, Budget Details) (YLS)
7. Relating to Salary adjustments, Index Code 909010A, why is the Department requesting to reinstate the Council cut from FY 2026? Is the Department anticipating a shortfall for FY 2026? If yes, explain why. (Page 19-9, Budget Details) (TC)

Operations and Equipment (Category "B")

1. Relating to Professional Services, Index Code 909010B: (Page 655, Program Budget; Page 19-10, Budget Details)
 - a. The Program Budget states the Department is requesting \$250,000 for Upcountry Community Plan engagement and research and \$450,000 for historic records compilation and indexing; however, the Budget Details states the requests are \$450,000 and \$150,000, respectively. Which is correct? (GJ)
 - b. How will the requested \$500,000 for professional planning and technical services to assist with permit reviews and process be used? What services will be procured and how will this help with permit review and processing time? (YLS)
 - c. How will the requested \$200,000 for Title 19 Rewrite supplemental funding be used? What is the scope of work that will be covered by the funding? (TC)
 - d. How much has been spent to date on the Title 19 rewrite? (TP)

- e. How much has been spent to date on County-initiated land use entitlements? Which other Departments does the Department of Planning coordinate with on initiating entitlements? (TP)
 - f. How will the Department use the requested \$300,000 for County-initiated land use entitlements support for housing and economic development, and the requested \$300,000 for professional technical support services for public assistance with Hawaii Cultural Resource Information System review? (TC) (NUH)
 - g. Will the Department consider County-initiated land use entitlements for wetland properties identified in the Wetland Overlay Map? Explain why or why not. (GJ)
2. Please explain the \$49,800 increase in Travel. (Page 657, Program Budget) (NUH)

Appendix A, Part I

1. Relating to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Subaward grant: (Pages 649 and 658, Program Budget)
 - a. Is the FY 2026 grant accounted for under Special Projects in the Expenditures Summary by Character & Object on page 649 of the Program Budget? If not, what expenditures are being accounted for under Special Projects and why are they being discontinued in FY 2027? (KB)
 - b. What was the project scope for the FY 2026 grant? (KB)
 - c. What is the status of the FY 2026 grant? (KB) (TP)

Appendix A, Part II

1. Relating to the Special Management Area Revolving Fund, can the Department execute a contract using this fund to:

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- a. Review SMA properties, that are also wetland properties identified in the Wetlands Overlay Map, to establish Wetlands Overlay District Zoning;
- b. Identify land and easement acquisitions; and
- c. Conduct collaborative management planning aligned with the fund's purposes and wetland protection?

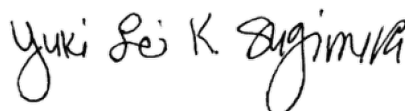
If so, what would the scope of work and projected cost be? (Page 58)
(GJ)

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

May I also request that you restate each question followed by your corresponding response. Include any attachments or exhibits. Please ensure your response is clear and legible by using a minimum 12-point font throughout so Committee members and the public can easily read the document once it is posted.

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

Sincerely,



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

bfed:2027bgt:260328apl01:jgk

cc: Mayor Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Budget Director

BFED Committee

From: BFED Committee
Sent: Sunday, March 29, 2026 9:00 PM
To: 'Jacky Takakura'
Cc: 'Michelle Santos'; 'Zeke Kalua'; 'Lesley Milner'; 'Ana Lillis'; 'Joy Paredes'; Kristina Cabbat; Tiare P. Horner; Shirley Blackburn; Janina Agapay
Subject: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1) (PL-02)
Attachments: 260328apl01 (PL-02).pdf
Importance: High