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

April 3, 2026

Ms. Gina Young, Director
East Maui Water Authority
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Ms. Young:

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

Although your Authority is not required to appear before the Council's Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee during its FY 2027 Budget deliberations, may I please request that you answer the following questions. 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 written response to bfed.committee@mauicounty.us by 4:30 p.m. on **April 13, 2026**.

Overall

1. Relating to Administration Program, Goal #1, item 1: (Page 174, Program Budget)
 - a. Please list the grants applied for, including the amount of funding requested and agency applied to, and the purpose for each grant. (TC) (NUH)
2. Relating to Administration Program, Goal #2, item 1:
 - a. Please provide the date and purpose for each community meeting, including the number of people in attendance.

- b. Please provide a summary of each meeting, including the topics discussed and any actions that followed. (Page 175, Program Budget) (TC)
3. Relating to Administration Program, Goal #2, item 2: (Page 175, Program Budget)
 - a. Please explain the Authority's survey methodology, including sample size and results. (TC)
 - b. What questions or statements are asked in the distributed surveys? (NUH)
 - c. How will the Authority use the collected data? (TC)
 - d. From FYs 2025 to 2026, why have the number of surveys received increased while the number of surveys distributed decreased? (TC)
 - e. What efforts are planned to increase the number of community surveys received? (TC)
4. Relating to Administration Program, Goal #3, item 1:
 - a. Please describe the purpose of these trainings for staff. (Page 175, Program Budget) (NUH)
5. Please provide a copy of the Authority's Administrative Rules in accordance with Section 1.16.070, Maui County Code, and indicate where they can be found for public viewing. Please also note when the rules were last amended. (TP)
6. What was the total lapsed appropriations for the Authority, as reflected in the FY 2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report? (TP)
7. Please provide a copy of the Authority's Strategic Plan. If the plan has not been completed, please provide a status update. (TC)

Salaries and Wages (Category “A”)

1. For Regular Wages, Index Code 927001A:
 - a. Does the Authority have enough personnel to handle watershed management responsibilities, including coordination with the State Department of Land and Natural Resources regarding permits? (Page 177, Program Budget) (SS)
2. Does the Department of Management need to approve any reorganization needed for the proposed expansion positions? Please advise. (Page 177, Program Budget) (TP)
3. Please provide the status of the FY 2026 expansion positions, including how many have been posted and filled:
 - a. P-00641 Water Resource Specialist III;
 - b. P-00710 Forestry & Wildlife Technician IV; and
 - c. P-00711 Forestry & Wildfire Worker III. (Page 5-3, Budget Details) (TP) (TC)
4. Why are the FY 2027 expansion positions listed at such high SR/Step levels:
 - a. P-0077 Administrative Officer;
 - b. P-00778 Aina Advocate & Cultural Specialist; and
 - c. P-00810 Information and Education Specialist. (Page 5-3, Budget Details) (TP)
5. Why is the Authority requesting the P-0077 Administrative Officer? Please explain. (Page 5-3, Budget Details) (TC)

Operations and Equipment (Category “B”)

1. For Other Services, Index Code 927001B: (Page 177, Program Budget and Page 5-6, Budget Details)
 - a. Why is the Authority responsible for baseyard renovation costs while also incurring baseyard rental costs under Rentals, Sub-object Code 6235? Please explain. (NUH)

Where is the baseyard located? Please clarify if the baseyard is located on County-owned land. (TP)

2. For County grant subsidy, Index Code 927001B:
 - a. Is there an unmet funding need for East Maui Watershed Management Grant Programs?
 - b. Have funding requests exceeded the amount of money available? If so, by how much? (Page 177, Program Budget and Page 5-6, Budget Details) (GJ)
3. For Other Equipment, Index Code 927001C: (Page 177, Program Budget and Page 5-8, Budget Details)
 - a. Which positions will use the truck, trailer, UTV, and tractor/mini excavator with loader or grapple? Please explain why the Authority needs this equipment. (TP) (TC)
 - i. Where will the equipment be used? (TP)
 - ii. Where will the equipment be stored? (TC)
 - iii. What kind of licensure or certification is required to operate this equipment? (TP)
 - b. What container size will be purchased? Will the entire container cost \$30,000? Please explain. (TP)

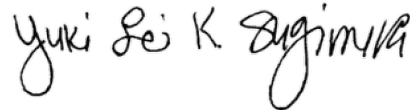
May I also request that you restate each question followed by your corresponding response. Include any attachments or exhibits. Please ensure your response is clear and legible by using a minimum 12-point font throughout so Committee members and the public can easily read the document once it is posted.

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

Ms. Gina Young
April 3, 2026
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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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yuki Lei K. Sugimura". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'Y' and 'S'.

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

bfed:2027bgt:260403aewa01:clm

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

BFED Committee

From: BFED Committee
Sent: Friday, April 3, 2026 11:56 PM
To: gina.young@co.maui.hi.us
Cc: 'Michelle Santos'; 'Zeke Kalua'; 'Lesley Milner'; 'Kristina Cabbat'; 'Tiare P. Horner'; 'Shirley Blackburn'; 'Janina Agapay'; Cory-Lynn
Subject: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1) (EWA-02)
Attachments: 260403aewa01 (EWA-02).pdf