

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO  
Mayor

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Director

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Deputy Director



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

April 18, 2019

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OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY COUNCIL

RECEIVED

Ms. Michele M. Yoshimura *Myf*  
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*  
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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 16, 2019 MEETING** (EDB-1)

In response to the Economic Development & Budget Committee meeting of April 16, 2019, we respond as follows:

1. Questions posed by Councilmember Tasha Kama:

How many watershed partners are in the County of Maui?

**Answer:**

The DWS grant program funds nine (9) watershed partnerships and organizations:

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The Nature Conservancy, the East Maui Watershed Partnership, the West Maui Mountains Watershed Partnership (now "Mauna Kahalawai"), the Maui Invasive Species Committee, the Auwahi Forest Restoration Project, the Puu Kukui Watershed Preserve and the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center, Leeward Haleakala, and the University of Hawaii. These organizations are funded to carry out eleven (11) different projects.

The individual partners of the watershed partnerships are generally landowners and other supporters of the watershed that is managed.

With regard to page 643, Water Operations Program, with regards to Goal #3, water loss prevention, minimize water loss, is 900 miles the total miles of mainline?

**Answer:**

We inspect approximately 750 miles of mainline pipes for leaks, on occasion, multiple times.

2. Questions posed by Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura:

Please explain the increase on page 630, Expenditures Summary by Character & Object, Operations, Services, of \$2,363,000.

**Answer:**

The \$2,363,000 increase in services expenditures is for the entire department. \$2,000,000 of this amount is for the Meter Replacement Program. \$250,000 is for: independent audit, rate study, Phase II of our strategic plan, and contingency. Please see page 19-11 of the budget details.

With regard to the debt services, page 630, Expenditures Summary by Character & Object, Operations, Services, what projects have been completed to increase the debt services?

In addition to existing debt, DWS will begin paying principal on the \$21,500,000 SRF loan for the new Iao Treatment Plant. In FY2020, we also intend to pay off an older SRF loan.

3. Questions posed by Councilmember Tamara Paltin:

On page 19-11, Detail Budget Summary, please explain the increase in the newsletter costs.

**Answer:**

Based on the actual expenses, FY2018 costs were \$3,500 more than budgeted.

4. Questions posed by Councilmember Riki Hokama:

On page 636, 953169B-6132, Professional Services, please explain the additional increase of \$105,000.

**Answer:**

The additional funds are requested to address outlying populations of the invasive Himalayan Ginger (*Hedychium gardnerianum*) in the East Maui managed watershed. An aggressive proactive and systematic control plan to address any newly detected populations before reproductive maturity is anticipated to mitigate future control and funding needs. Additional funds will also support increased helicopter services and ungulate control in East Maui to these outlying areas.

Please explain the differences in utilities for Phase 6 pumping as listed on Pages 646 and 647.

**Answer:**

The electricity expense referred to on those pages is one and the same. Page 646 lists budget changes by category. Page 647 provides an explanation of the budget changes.

5. Questions posed by Councilmember Alice L. Lee:

When was the last time new source was developed in Central Maui? Please clarify total water available at the Iao Aquifer available for pumping.

**Answer:**

The Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM) has developed an aquifer classification system for the State of Hawaii. This system divides each island into Aquifer Sectors, which is then split into smaller Aquifer Systems.

The Iao Aquifer System has a sustainable yield of 20 million gallons per day (MGD). This system has been designated by CWRM as a groundwater management area to provide State regulation on the amount being withdrawn. The designation requires that any well installed in the Iao Aquifer System needs to apply for a Water Use Permit (WUP) from CWRM. This also requires going to the Water Commission for their approval at a . The Department of Water Supply operates a total of eleven existing groundwater wells in the Iao Aquifer System. The total production capacity of these groundwater wells are limited to approximately 19.1 MGD due to the existing WUP's.

To supplement the groundwater, surface water supplied from the Iao-Waikapu Ditch is treated at the Iao Water Treatment Plant (WTP). Currently, the WTP can only treat 1.784 MGD as limited by CWRM.

Based on our records the 12-month moving average for 2018, water pumped was approximately 16.1 MGD. Monthly pumping can vary between 13 MGD to over 18 MGD. However, this number does not include reservations approved in 2018. Therefore, adding the reservations to the 12-month moving average the department needs to be able to deliver approximately 16.9 MGD as of January 2019. In addition, prior agreements with Maui Lani and Kehalani, which discuss terms on providing source for their master planned developments due to dedication of wells by these developers are not included in the 16.9 MGD previously discussed. With these source agreements, water use increases from 16.9 MGD to 17.7 MGD.

As stated earlier, the capacity of the existing eleven groundwater DWS wells located in the Iao Aquifer are limited to 19.1 MGD due to the department's existing Water Use Permits. The remaining 0.9 MGD source are held with private entities. Therefore, the department is unable to request new Water Use Permits from CWRM for the Iao Aquifer System.

6. Questions posed by Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci:

On page 636, 953170B-6132, please elaborate upon "eco-tourism partnership".

**Answer:**

The Auwahi Forest Restoration Project model is based on volunteerism and serves as a role model for successful native forest restoration. Additional funds would allow this project to engage tourists (eco-tourism) with "volontourism" opportunities to help build awareness and gain support from visitors to Hawaii.

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Page 638, Miconia Containment and Removal, why is this grant decreased from \$500,000 to \$260,000?

The Maui Invasive Species Committee (MISC) requested grant from the Department of Water Supply in the amount of \$275,000, and the Department's recommended allocation by the Grant Analysis Committee was \$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.

This grant is not exclusively for miconia. The description of containment and removal, on page 639 better describes the intent of the grant.

7. Questions posed by Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez:

Please explain the discrepancy in other premium pay in the amount of \$5,700.

**Answer:**

The correct variance of Other Premium Pay \$47,853.

On page 636, 53169B-6132, for invasive Himalayan Ginger, will East Maui Irrigation provide funding to match County fund services to expand the easement? Describe why the County is paying.

**Answer:**

The "easement" is the area the landowner allows watershed partnerships to maintain. Other funders or grants specified on grant applications for the East Maui watershed include the State Natural Area Partnership Program, the State program and private donations. East Maui Irrigation Company is not specified as a funder.

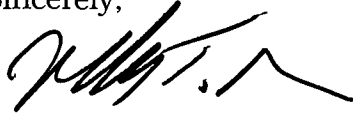
On page 636, WUDP Molokai, in the amount of \$150,000 have we determine who the consultant is and is that amount for the development plan?

The Department intends to use consultant services to assist in developing the Water Use and Development Plan for Molokai starting in FY20. A consultant has not yet been identified.

Honorable Keani Rawlins-Fernandez  
Chair, Economic Development & Budget Committee  
Maui County Council  
April 18, 2019  
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In advance, thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey T. Pearson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.  
Director

JP:HK:lk