

**DISASTER RECOVERY, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS,
AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

March 18, 2026

Online Only via Teams

CONVENE: 1:33 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Chair
Councilmember Nohelani U'u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair
Councilmember K. Kauanoë Batangan (left at 4:01 p.m.)
Councilmember Tom Cook, Member
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member (left at 4:24 p.m.)
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Member (arrived at 1:45 p.m.)

EXCUSED: Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Member

STAFF: Jarret Pascual, Legislative Analyst
Keone Hurdle, Legislative Analyst (backup)
Megan Moniz, Legislative Attorney
Yvette Bouthillier, Senior Committee Secretary
Jean Pokipala, Assistant Clerk
Ryan Martins, Council Ambassador

Residency Area Office (RAO):

Roxanne Morita, Council Aide, Lānaʻi Residency Area Office
Keomailani Hirata, Council Aide, Molokaʻi Residency Area Office
Chaelin Ryu, Council Aide, South Maui Residency Area Office

ADMIN.: Erin Wade, Deputy Managing Director, Department of Management (DRIP-9(4))
John Smith, Administrator, Office of Recovery, Department of Management (DRIP-9(4))

Jacky Takakura, Acting Director, Department of Planning (DRIP-9(10))
Scott Forsythe, Planning Program Manager, Plan Implementation Division,
Department of Planning (DRIP-9(10))

Michael Hopper, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel
Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel (DRIP-9(4))

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OTHERS: DRIP-9(4):
 Johann Lall
 Jasee Law
 Jim Langford
 Junya Nakoa
 The Royal House of Hawai‘i

DRIP-9(10):
 The Royal House of Hawai‘i
 Johann Lall
 Jasee Law

 Others (47)

Resource Personnel

DRIP-9(4):
 Jeannie Sutton, Program Manager, BDO (County consultant)
 Tetra Tech
 Bowers + Kubota Consulting, Inc.
 Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

CHAIR PALTIN: . . .(*gavel*). . . Will the Disaster Recovery, International Affairs, and Planning Committee come to order. The time is now 1:33 p.m. on March 18th, 2026. If everyone can please silence their cell phones or any noisemaking devices, that will help our cause. 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. Minors do not need to be identified. Also, please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity. My name is Tamara Paltin, and I'll be your Chair for today's DRIP Committee meeting. With us we have our Committee Vice-Chair, Nohelani U'u-Hodgins. Aloha 'auinalā, and hafa adai.

VICE-CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Aloha, Chair. Hafa adai, everyone.

CHAIR PALTIN: Next up we have the new guy, Kauanoe Batangan. Aloha 'auinalā, and hafa adai.

COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: Aloha kākou.

CHAIR PALTIN: And we also have Member Cook. Aloha 'auinalā and hafa adai.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aloha, hafa adai.

CHAIR PALTIN: Member Johnson has been excused. We have Council Chair Alice Lee. Aloha 'auinalā, and hafa adai.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aloha 'auinalā, hafa adai.

CHAIR PALTIN: And we also have, from Moloka'i, Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Aloha 'auinalā and hafa adai.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha 'auinalā, Chair. Aloha 'auinalā kākou, mai Moloka'i Nui Ahina. I'm at my private residence, alone here. In this room I do have my...my daughter who is a minor, who is on spring break. Also in the house with me...and my husband is kind of going in and out, Makena Fernandez, and we currently have no testifiers at the Moloka'i District Office. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. And we also have Councilmember Shane Sinenci. Aloha 'auinalā, and hafa adai.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Kia ora, Chair, hafa adai, here to support your new party affiliation.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Kia ora. And last but not least, we have Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura, who is driving on her way. This Committee of the Disaster Recovery, International Affairs, and Planning Committee of the Maui County Council is located on the traditional 'āina of the Kānaka 'Ōiwi, who never ceded their sovereignty to the United States. We recognize that her majesty Queen Lili'uokalani yielded the Hawaiian Kingdom to the U.S. in duress under threat of violence to avoid the bloodshed of her people. We further recognize that Hawai'i remains an illegally-occupied nation-state by the U.S. as documented in a 2021 Scholarly article for the National Lawyers Guild Review by Andrew Reid, Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. Generations of Kānaka Maoli and their knowledge systems have sustainably cleared for Hawai'i, and continue to do so. We are grateful to occupy this space and learn the ways in which we can contribute as a Committee. We seek to support the varied strategies that the indigenous people of Hawai'i are using to protect their land and their communities, and commit to dedicating time and resources to off...working in solidarity. From the Department of Planning, we have Acting Planning Director Jacky Takakura, and Planning Program Manager for the Planning Implementation Division, Scott Forsythe. From the Department of Management and the Office of Recovery, we have Deputy Managing Director Erin Wade, and Office of Recovery Administrator John Smith. Mr. Smith, would you care to introduce your external team of resources in the gallery, or...I'll leave that to you how you want to do it.

MR. SMITH: Thank you, Chair. Yes. Today we have with us actually quite a few resources, most of the stands up here are resources. But we have consultants from Tetra Tech, from BDO, we have one online from Stantec, we have Bowers + Kubota...all are available as a resource when we get into the Q and A portion of this, and so we can call on them at that time. Thank you.

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CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Members, without objection, I will designate all of these individuals as resource persons under Rules...18(A) of the Rules of the Council due to their knowledge and expertise in assisting the County with Lāhainā and Maui's long-term recovery efforts.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS. [Ex. YLS, GJ].

CHAIR PALTIN: From Corporation Counsel today, we have two for one...we have Deputy Corp. Counsel Mike Hopper, as well as Deputy Corp. Counsel Kristina Toshikiyo. We also have DRIP Committee Staff with us this afternoon...Assistant Clerk Jean Pokipala, Legislative Attorney Megan Moniz, Supervising [sic] Senior Committee Secretary Yvette Bouthillier, and Legislative Analysts Keone Hurdle and Jarret Pascual. We have two items on today's agenda...DRIP-9(10), 2025 Annual General Plan Implementation Report and DRIP-9(4), Maui's Long-Term Recovery Operations. Members, if there is no objections I would like to take the items out of order because of the incoming storm and the additional duties that our two resources up here have in relation to that.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS. [Ex. YLS, GJ].

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Members. We will take testimony after opening remarks and presentation one at a time.

MAUI'S LONG-TERM RECOVERY OPERATIONS (DRIP-9(4)) (RULE 7(B))

CHAIR PALTIN: So, DRIP 9(4), Maui's Long-Term Recovery Operations. Under Rule 7(B) of the Rules of the Council, the Committee intends to receive a presentation on Maui's Long-Term Recovery Operations. The Committee may discuss...may also discuss other related matters, but no legislative action will be taken. And this is scheduled, you know, basically to give an update at the request of Administrator Smith and as we go into budget. Do you have your opening comments and presentations prepared?

MR. SMITH: We do. I'll just start real quick and then turn it over to Erin to run through the agenda. But...thank you, Chair. And as discussed, we thought it would be really good timing to come back in front of Council since we met last time. We weren't anticipating the storm, so thank you for accommodating our schedules, but we'll talk a little bit about that. But I'll turn it over to Erin Wade to get us started with this presentation, and then we'll jump straight through it. We'll go fairly quickly through the slides, and...and then we're happy to answer any question that you folks have. Thank you.

MS. WADE: I'll...I'll use this...that works. Thank you. Aloha and good afternoon. I'm Deputy Managing Director Erin Wade. Thanks for having us today to provide this check in on our recovery efforts and to share with you where we're heading from here as well. I'm grateful to have all of the Staff here and you...and to be able to share all of their hard work with you today, and as we move forward, also coordinating and sharing with

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you what has happened on the current storm. So, we're just going to do a quick check in and let you know what's happening right now and how recovery is involved with that, as well as what's been happening for all of the things that we're working on recovery. So, with the next slide, a quick overview of our agenda, we're going to share ongoing efforts and coordination for the storm events, what the status is of the Office of Recovery itself in terms of the organization. We'll give you some updates on permitting, on our temporary-to-permanent housing plan so you can better understand for folks who haven't achieved their permanent house yet what...what we're supporting them in, the CDBG-DR updates regarding housing and infrastructure, and then our funding strategies and policy updates.

MR. SMITH: Thanks, Erin. Next slide, please. So, I don't have to tell anyone in this room what's happening outside. Again, we weren't expecting to have this storm, but I think in terms of...I'm sorry?

MS. WADE: I was just going to say we weren't expecting to have the storm at the same time as the meeting. We saw the storm coming, but yeah. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MR. SMITH: Oh, yeah. Thanks, Erin. But we thought we should do this meeting anyway because of how Office of Recovery is integrating into this. This is likely to be another federal disaster. This is likely to go...be a long-term event, and meeting with Chief Amos from MEMA and integrating recovery has been happening the past few...few days, so we'll talk a little bit about that and be happy to answer additional questions later because we are pretty up to speed with the way things are in the storm itself. We're actively responding across all the islands in terms of this Kona low event. We've had flooding debris and wind events all over, and we have activated several different task forces with MEMA. So, one of the task forces that Office of Recovery is helping lead is the Debris Task Force because it's so significant this round. So, we are out there integrated with MEMA, helping to direct traffic and coordinate efforts between the departments. So, it's an extension of the Office of Mayor...or the Department of Management, and it's an extension of the Recovery Office in terms of gearing us up for when we get that federal declaration and being ready to pivot for reimbursements and that sort of thing. So, just in general, that's where we are right now. I won't go too much more into depth on that because it wasn't really part of this presentation, but just so you folks know, that's...we are actively working with MEMA and supporting all the departments across the board. Next slide. So, we have MEMA as the response lead. We have Office of Recovery as a supporting role. Right now, during the response, we have all of the County departments and all their operations. So, it's...you know, as...we didn't have Office of Recovery before, and I just wanted to say, first of all, thank you, you folks for supporting this vision of Office of Recovery because it is what's needed right now. I think a lot of communities around the country and all over the place are really looking at us right now in terms of well, how do you do this better, how do you interact with FEMA better, how do you interact with HUD better, and we're...we're well-positioned for that right now. Next slide, please. Just a quick reminder of how we're situated within the County. Of course, we have Mayor's Office and then Department of Management. We're an office within the

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Department of Management, I think that's one way to look at it. So, we're...we're part of that department, but we can run in and out of...of any department we need to to have a more holistic view of things. And then within the Recovery Office itself, we have our CDBG-DR team, which is the bigger piece of it. So, if you're just on the CDBG-DR team just kind of wave. That's DR, okay? And then anything else, Recovery, you can wave your hand. Yeah, there we go. It's a little bit smaller. And that's really an indication of how the funds are working. So, it's the \$1.6 billion on one side and then you have all the other things on the other side, but we're well-positioned to work with each other. You can tell they're sitting together, not on separate sides of the room, so they're working with each other. Next slide, please. So, in general, we...we support things like standing up a permit center. So, we work with Public Works and DSA and...and others to help get that up...off and running. And right now, just to get a snapshot of where we are, we've processed 355 permits, issued 552, completed 159...so that's 159 houses that are done and people have moved back into. We've got the permit time down to 44 days, and it's trending lower than that. So, that's all permits. If you just look at residential, it's actually under 30 days now. So, if you are in a...a home that was destroyed and you want to rebuild your house, once you submit a completed set of permits, it's...it's actually less than 30 days right now, which we're really happy to report that. This is just a visual snapshot of where all of those permits are. So, we've got the completed ones are the blue, the ones that are issued that will be coming up, and if you go to Lāhainā today you can see this popping up all over, and then the ones that are in process are yellow.

MS. WADE: Before we move on, I just wanted to point out...you see there's areas that don't show any color or permitting, most of that is agriculturally zoned. So, even though it's in the burn zone, it's not an area where we would expect to see permits. So, most of the areas, particularly the residential areas where we're issuing residential permits...right now the permit rate is 60 percent actually of the single-family residential housing is either under construction or permitted, so it's moving forward quite well...particularly in comparison to other similar disasters nationally.

MR. SMITH: We've been reminded over and over from other communities that a disaster of this type is a five- to ten-year process, not just a one or two years. So, based on the data that we have so far, we...we do feel like we're trending above what would be from a speed standpoint for a disaster of that type. I'm sor...

MS. WADE: ...*(inaudible)*... me.

MR. SMITH: That's you. Okay, I'm sorry you have a picture of me, but go ahead.

MS. WADE: ...*(laughing)*... It's all good. So, in order to keep things moving quickly, we are taking steps to try to reduce the barriers through the permitting process and for rebuilding. So, you folks, through the Council, have helped us quite a bit with that in several ways as well. So, that's included allowing for SMA waivers for everything mauka of Front Street...oh, sorry...yes, mauka of Front Street, allowing for right-of-way and parking requirements to be waived, so that's thanks to Councilmember Cook's bill for

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Front Street. The right-of-way improvements were waived mostly because the determination from the community is they really love Front Street as it was, and so there wasn't a need for extensive widening on Front. For the parking requirements, that's just within the Historic District, and as you folks know, there was never much parking in the Historic District to begin with, those buildings covered the majority of those properties from the get-go. You folks also helped us to provide for a Code amendment to allow for balconies and overhangs to be replaced on those buildings to allow for the historic character to continue to carry forward when those buildings are rebuilt. We have developed some clear design pathways by creating design guidelines that are consistent with the Historic District and an administrative review pathway for those permits to proceed. Next slide. Thank you. And then this map shows the different levels. Planning Department has been a wonderful partner in working with us to better define what the requirements are for each of these properties to be able to rebuild. The gradation and that coloring, everything the furthest mauka in orange actually has no additional permitting beyond the building permit. As you move closer and closer to the shoreline, the permitting becomes more complex. There's additional layers of permitting, whether it's in the National Historic Landmark District, the...one of the historic zoning districts, or if it's on the shoreline or in the flood zone. So, we did host a commercial permitting workshop in February, and Planning Department was instrumental in assisting us in communicating with property owners about what their process looks like, and I think gave folks a lot of clarity in terms of knowing we're encouraging people to understand the permitting process and to come in and try and rebuild...and thank you to Director Takakura, who has been awesome at messaging, we're here to help. And I hope that the community hears that. That is...that is the objective. We're here to help folks get through the permitting process, so thanks for that. In terms of temporary-to-permanent, it's important to recognize that we still have over 800 families that haven't found their permanent household yet. And so, with that being the understanding and knowing we don't have all of the housing and the pipeline going through permitting yet. We have a lot that you're about to hear about that's going to start moving forward through CDBG-DR, but we need a bridge to make sure those families stay home on Maui, and so the temporary-to-permanent plan allows us to fund the continuation. So, FEMA has extended their temporary housing support for another year for us, so that's through February, but the County is going to need to step in and assist. Some of these families were not expecting it to stay at 800. As you saw, there's a number of households under construction now. So, a lot of those are going to find their permanent house between now and February when we need to take over completely. But at that point, and just as an expectation in the FY 2027 budget under Office of Recovery, you're going to start seeing some funds dedicated by the County, our request to fund temporary-to-permanent housing.

MR. SMITH: Okay. Let's...let's shift gears into the CDBG-DR world, or Ho'okumu Hou Housing Programs, and I'll run through all the programs. So, there's about like about four or five slides in a row here, but I'll go fast. If you haven't had a chance to participate in one of our First-Time Homebuyer sessions, we'll definitely get an invite out to you, but if you'd like--and this is for later--scan that on your phone and you can watch the video for some of the latest videos of these programs. So, the First-Time Homebuyer Program

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has been extraordinarily popular, I would say, and it just...really just shows the need that...you know, and I don't have to tell this group the need for housing. But we have 501 active applications still. We've awarded 41 shopping letters, so there's a bunch of folks out there that are shopping now. Six homes have been purchased and have been moved into with this program. This is actually a County employee in this photo, which is a really nice story, from Lāhainā, I think, works for Parks, but...

CHAIR PALTIN: That's correct.

MR. SMITH: Yeah, is that? Thank you. Yeah, you would know. . . .*(laughing)*. . . And so, we're really happy to just...we love this picture, we wanted to show you. But this happens at every one of these ceremonies, and we have more coming, so just wanted to highlight that. So, we'll jump into a few more programs. So, that's the one that everybody kind of knows about that's off and running. There's the single-family recon program, that means you lost your home, you were in the right income category and eligible for funds, 59 active, several of those are ready to move forward to approval, but we're in the middle of procuring the services for that...for that work right now. We have a single-family reimbursement program, so we are about ready to give reimbursement checks for people that have already built. So, this team up here is working on both of those actively. And then the next one is a single-family new construction program, this will be new housing that we offered as a program under the original action plan. So, that's where we are with those three programs, and then you'll start to see stuff going vertical from those programs...the first one later this summer. And then we have seven multi-family housing projects that have been approved, 281 units for recon, and 238 units for new construction. And then we have another program that is just new con, it's called Phase II, but all that really means is there's developments out there that came in and applied for funds from CDBG-DR. Those are under review, and I will be able to talk about those once they pass review and get an award. I think that's the Front Street Apartment renderings that you're seeing right there...those were awarded already. Okay. So, that's on the housing piece, and those will continue to roll out, but we all know that we can't do housing without infrastructure. We just combined infrastructure and mitigation into one pot just to talk through it. We can jump to the next slide. We awarded...conditionally awarded 22 projects so far. They are all projects that you folks would be familiar with that the departments have come in for in the past. Probably the biggest one that is newsworthy or noteworthy is the extension of the bypass north, so this is just a little picture of that. That's been conditionally awarded, and we are working directly with the State Department of Transportation on that project. It's a big project, it's a complicated project because this involves federal highways funds and HUD funds together, so we're matching those two up to work together so we can finish the project. The State DOT has been a great partner in this, and looking forward to a successful project. This slide is not meant to be discussed like every little project on there, but out of those 22 projects that had been awarded although this shows where they are. So, you can just point to town, but really, what they are is water projects, sewer projects, roadway projects that we've been wanting to do for a long time that we're now funding to do, and they're directly as a result of the disaster, we're able to jump in there and do some of these. I'd like to note that we had over a billion dollars' worth of

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requests come in from the departments just for infrastructure. We don't have a billion dollars just for infrastructure in this program, so we did have to make some hard choices in terms of what's moving forward. We worked with the departments on that and moved several of them forward that are really going to help Lāhainā recover long-term and support housing in the future. Next one. So, there's two more programs that we're working on now. So, everything I've just talked about are programs that we started, launched, and implemented, so those are all moving. Two more coming, economic revitalization and some public services. So, when you...all this chart is really showing is first we have to design the program, then we have to develop policy around the program, get the systems in place, and then we start to bring in the applicants and work through the process. So, it's a HUD process that we follow, and it is a cumbersome process that we have to follow. So the folks that are in the stands, they're working through all of the crossing the T's and dotting the I's, the stuff that I'm terrible at but they are really good at, and making sure we follow all of the rules and get our reimbursement for the funds. I've talked to this group about this in the past, and this is really just our overall funding strategies. Was that one first or second? I'm sorry, what was the one before that? Okay. Overall. Next slide, please. Thank you. So, this is...you folks have seen this slide before, this comes from the Action Plan, and really, what it is just showing is all the programs I talked about in Housing, that's the blue...all the stuff that I'm talking about in hazard . . .*(inaudible)*. . . and infrastructure, that's the green and light blue, and...you can go to the next phase...and then the bucket kind of helps us understand the remaining need. So, out of the 400 million and 213 million for hazmat and infrastructure, that's your first line, that's the DR, that's your 613, so we're filling up the bucket. We're identifying all of the other federal programs that are out there and all the State funds that are out there...that's the FHWA funds, the EPA funds, Bureau of Land funds, FEMA funds, there's a couple of other agencies. We've lumped all those together in things that are likely to be committed to the County to help us with this. We have our plan funds, our CIP funds that...and that's coming up in the next...in this next budget. And the reason why we're saying committed is like the only thing that is actually committed from the County from it is...is the FY '25 and FY '26, and we're getting ready to talk about '27 over the next few weeks. So, this is where we are right now overall for that infrastructure need. So, I think the important point here is, we're still finding \$950 million worth of a gap that we're going to keep looking for. So, the funding strategies piece of this is still moving forward. Okay. And I'll turn it back to Erin so you don't have to listen to me anymore.

MS. WADE: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Thank you. Okay, so Policy Updates, we can jump right in. Several of these we...I shared earlier. The flexibility for off-street parking we shared. Additional changes are moving forward through the Title 19. Changes related to parking for residences. As you folks know, we have encountered some issues with density and too many cars being parked on the street, so that's being addressed through those Title 19 updates. You...as you saw too, there was a change to the community plan to ensure consistency of the zoning to allow for the 35-foot height limit throughout the Lāhainā rebuild area. You folks took up the factory built housing, which is offering expanded opportunities for housing types, and then amending 12.52 with the encroachment, so thank you for those. In terms of increasing housing supply, the Council addressed

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ADUs and also the size limits for those ADUs. So, this is giving us a lot more flexibility in the way that we can offer families ways to create housing on their properties. Not everybody fits the same mold, so this gives a lot more flexibility because people are either trying to rebuild or build a new location. So, thank you so much for your partnership on those. In terms of economic recovery initiatives, there is a number of things currently moving forward. As you know, back in December, portion...the pier at Lāhainā Small Boat Harbor was opened and resumed commercial activity there. We are supporting that through Office of Recovery by funding both parking management, as well as security services in the area. Because there isn't a lot of presence of folks, it's really just the harbor that's operating, so just to keep things running smoothly, both of those things are assisting and you will see continued funds for that in FY '27 in our request coming forward. The Lāhainā Business Project was a grant that was funded through both Lāhainā Town Action Committee and through the Economic Recovery Commission. That is a space for displaced businesses to be operating, and that's also proceeding nicely. And then as you folks probably know, the Lāhainā Restoration Foundation finalized their master plan, which will rebuild all of the historic structures...all of the historic structures that were under their care in a master plan form. I'm really sad to report that this picture, the Baldwin Home, we actually lost the front façade during this last storm. So, they are proceeding, they're getting new plans developed right now to ensure that they can continue to move forward, and will probably be asking for some extended FEMA public assistance funds. They are undeterred, so that's wonderful to hear, but we're wanting to continue to support and help them. Three of the facilities that they caretake are County facilities, so those are the ones that we're directing reconstruction funds towards. Next slide.

MR. SMITH: Okay, let's talk about some non-DR Recovery Projects and Initiatives. So, Erin really was diving into some of the historic restoration, and what we're trying to show here is we have these planned areas that are all working together. So, we have the Rebuild Lāhainā Plan, the Royal Complex Plan that 'Ōiwi folks are leading. We have the strategic purchase that we did for the Waine'e lands that you folks were involved with that's on the South side. King Kamehameha III School that the DOT [sic] is working on --

MS. WADE: DOE.

MR. SMITH: -- I'm sorry, DOE is working on, not DOT. DOT is doing the road. Yeah, so all of that is working together through recovery and we are acting as a centralized coordinating agency. Each plan has its own purpose and benefit, and we're connecting all the dots together, and how they plan and how they work together...hopefully seamlessly. You want to say anything on this slide?

MS. WADE: . . .(inaudible). . .

MR. SMITH: Okay. Next slide. So, one of the tools I wanted to highlight that also helps us coordinate effectively is what we're calling One Water Lāhainā. This effort is meant to integrate how we look at water. And out of the Long-Term Recovery Plan and out of the

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work that we funded already, we're using this mechanism to make good decisions around water. And this is really internal first. I know there's a lot of people that work in the water world, but recovery is taking this more holistic approach. So, we're asking questions like...and maybe go to the next slide. So, when we talk about water, we're thinking about water more like this, more like how connected is everything mauka to makai, from the ocean all the way at the top of the mountain, how does it work together, and how do those systems that that built infrastructure work together? So, it's Department of Environmental Management, Department of Water Supply, Department of Public Works, Planning Department, CWRM, Department of Health, Department of Land and Natural Resources...all of those agencies have a piece in water, and all of those are interdependent with each other. So, we're using this platform internally right now to help make good decisions on the projects that move forward. A good example is like R-1 projects, like how do we fund, and what do we fund with R-1, and how does that reuse work, and how does that impact development...all of those kind of decisions are being made through this lens. So, I just wanted to point that out as a new initiative. And it's not like a project in long-term recovery plan, it's almost more like a process and a philosophy that we're using as we work through Long-Term Recovery.

MS. WADE: If I can just chime in, you know, there's actually eight projects listed independently in the Long-Term Recovery Plan that are tied into this. As you said, it's one water, it's source development, it's drainage improvements, it's mauka watershed planting efforts...all of it's this comprehensive. And we listed it in the Long-Term Recovery Plan as these individual projects, and as they started diving in, or going...this is all actually interconnected. And this is what the community had been asking for from the beginning was to approach it in a much more comprehensive way. So, it was really John's idea to approach this in a comprehensive approach, and knowing that some other communities have taken this...this angle at looking at it as a systems approach. So, I think we're going to see more and more projects coming forward where we're going as an umbrella...even as human services, as an umbrella, how are we meeting the needs collectively? You know, we're not just looking at the individual senior center that needs to be built, we're looking at what are the other services that are tied to that and how are we enhancing those comprehensively? So, I think One Water is a good example for that.

MR. SMITH: Yeah, thanks, Erin. What's the next...is that the last one or are there more? Okay. Sorry, it's...for the length of this presentation, but we're almost done. So, we're also providing technical supports wherever is needed. So, I was fortunate enough to be able to go to NACo this year, several others were there as well, and it was eye-opening to me to see all of the other counties struggling with the same things that we're struggling with. It was really remarkable. I'm happy to say that I think that we are ahead of the game when it comes to long-term recovery, and that would be nationally. I think that it's fair to say that. So, we're being looked at as a new kind of model for how do we situate ourselves to be prepared for the next thing, and the next thing happened before we could finish this presentation, I mean that's...that's the truth. And I don't know what the next thing is going to be, but we are positioning ourselves to do this better. We learned a lot from Lāhainā. We're learning a lot from this storm. And

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our senators agree, and our congressmen agree, and our agencies agree. So, we're working with FEMA, we're working with HUD, and there is this idea that there needs to be some change, but the change really comes from us. We're like the grass roots effort, and I think Councilmember Paltin can talk about that even better than I can. So, I just want to point that out, that we're out there...it's not just the Lāhainā thing anymore, it's not just a Maui thing, it's really gotten big, but we're onto something here in terms of how we approach natural disasters. So, the long-term recovery support is here and will continue to be here, and happy to talk about how we're continuing to integrate with...internally at the County Department level, at the State level, and at the national level. So, with that, we'll open it up to questions. I mean we had a really broad agenda, so you can pretty much ask anything.

CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, we're just going to have taken public testimony first.

MR. SMITH: Oh, sorry.

CHAIR PALTIN: But did you have a few more slides after that, or those were like appendix slides?

MR. SMITH: Those were appendix slides depending on what the...where the questions go for this current disaster.

CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. All right. Members, if you can please write down your questions? Unless you have any specific clarifying questions, I'd like to go into public testimony for DRIP-9(4). Written testimony is encouraged and can be submitted via the eComment link at mauicounty.us/agendas. Testifiers wanting to provide oral testimony should join the online meeting via the Microsoft Teams link printed on today's agenda or call in to the phone number which is also on today's agenda. For individuals wishing to testify via Teams, please raise your hand by clicking the raise-your-hand button near the top right of your screen. For those calling in, please follow the prompts via phone. Staff will add names to the testifier list in the order the testifiers sign up or raise their hands. For those on Teams, Staff will lower your hand once your name is added. Staff will then call the name you're logged in under and the last four digits of your phone number when it's your turn to testify. At that time, Staff will also enable your microphone and video. Please ensure your Microsoft Teams name appears as the name you prefer to be referred to or as anonymous if you wish to testify anonymously. If you are in person, please notify Staff that you would like to testify anonymously, otherwise, please state your name for the record at the beginning of your testimony. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes. If you're still testifying beyond that time I will kindly ask you to complete your testimony. Once you are done testifying, or you do not wish to testify, you can view the meeting on *Akakū* Channel 53, Facebook Live, or mauicounty.us/agendas. At this time, we will call on testifiers wishing to testify on DRIP-(4) [sic].

MR. HURDLE: Thank you, Chair. The first testifier is Johann Lall on Teams.

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. . .OPEN PUBLIC TESTIMONY (DRIP-9(4)). . .

MR. LALL: Good afternoon. Johann Lall, I'm testifying on my own behalf. I really liked the One Water image, like it's pretty amazing, and in general, I love those kind of diagrams, and they're super informative for the public to be able to understand these kind of concepts, like watersheds, and all the stuff that is related. So, good job with that. I think there should be things like that in the community plans so that people can understand those kind of things, and in that context as well. But I hope there's some discussion...when you guys start discussing this about the permitting and all the stuff that goes into that and the amount of work it takes because I've seen a lot of sentiment online especially to the effect that the County is like slow-walking stuff, and there's also some conspiracies associated with that, like they're slow-walking permits so they can steal the land, or they can give the land to Oprah, and all kinds of bizarre stuff. And what I know from talking with people who work for the County is that they're working extremely hard and a lot of work is being done by 4LEAF, and they're doing the best they can. And permitting is also really important because it's SMA, it's three Historic Districts, it's archaeological resources, it's iwi kūpuna buried in the ground in places where you may not know...there's all kinds of consideration, it's not just like you apply for improvement and you get a permit, and they're just taking long because they want you to wait long, it's...it's really important stuff. So, I hope that gets discussed mainly so that the public can understand it better. Mahalo.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Mr. Lall. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. Oh, did you have...oh, he just was saying bye.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, that's all the individuals signed up to testify. If...I do see the gentleman from Kula Uka approaching the podium.

MR. LAW: Aloha awakea, Luna Ho'omolu Paltin and kōmike ho'opolapola 'āina. Jasee Law. And yeah, thanks for saying all that stuff about the Kingdom of Hawai'i in the beginning, Chair. The Hawaiian word of the day is moana, means ocean. And so, we're here in the middle of the Pacific Ocean and I heard all this stuff about recovery efforts and stuff, FEMA, United States, da, da, da...on the other side of the ocean over there, there's a whole big other land mass of countries. I'm pretty sure they heard about the fire in Maui. I'm pretty sure the whole world has heard about it. So, I'm just wondering, has Maui reached out to the other countries of the world to see if we could get some help from them? And I'll save the rest of my time for the people of the 'āina.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Jim Langford on Teams.

MR. LANGFORD: Hi, Chair. Jim Langford . . .(inaudible). . . discussion. . . .(inaudible). . . units...for example, cost per home built, cost for displaced resident rehoused. Time to live . . .(inaudible). . . so that there can be accountability. Also, the consultant burn

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rate. This CIP plus recovery is hundreds of millions flowing into design, planning, and studies, and perhaps we'd like to see that in physical housing and local workforce scaling. Also, we want to have a closed loop system, so there needs to be a system that connects land, permits, finance, and construction, and occupancy...everything being siloed. It creates delays alluded to earlier. The General Plan also doesn't necessarily equal an execution engine. So, it's policy guidance, but it's not an actual operational system. So, basically that'll just report on alignment and not delivery. So, for the key points, the financial accountability, what is the average cost per housing unit delivered using the CDBG-DR funds? How much of the 1.6 billion is already contractually obligated to consultants versus construction? The timeline reality, what is the average time from funding approval to occupancy? How many units have actually reached certificate of occupancy? Performance metrics, what is the conversion rate from the allocated funds to the completed housing units? So, what percentage of displaced residents are permanently rehoused versus temporary? Execution bottlenecks, what is the largest single delay factor? Permitting, procurement, or contractor availability, legal availability. What is the current permit cycle time in days? Local economic inclusion, what percentage of the contracts are awarded to Maui-based firms versus off island firms, disaster capitalists? How many...how much funding is tied to the local agricultural and food security systems? So, those are the key points that can be delineated through true execution stats and governance layers and audit layers. So, that's what I'm really interested in hearing about today and going forward as we implement on all of these conversations. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Mr. Langford. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you for your testimony. Staff?

MR. HURDLE: Staff, the next testifier is Junya Nakoa, to be followed by The Royal House of Hawai'i.

MR. NAKOA: Yessah. You guys hear me?

CHAIR PALTIN: Yes, we can.

MR. NAKOA: Yessah. Hello, hello, hello. How you guys stay? Well, I heard the presentation. All I going say is thank you guys for working that hard to get us to where we are, you know, of course we like 'em go faster . . . *(inaudible)*. . . but it's going in the right direction, yeah? But one of the main things that was said in the very beginning was going be community-led and then government supported, yeah. One thing I like real say like, you know, I heard about all the departments being involved, every...from the CWRM to the Water, to the this and that...one thing I neva hear was community. Why isn't the community being able to come at the table? Okay. I gonna tell you guys this. You know, had that big CWRM meeting about the Maui Land & Pine and Kapalua Golf Course. The Lāhainā residents went all the way over there and we made our voices heard. I couldn't be there because I had to babysit my grandson, but a lot of the Honokōhau guys went, yeah? And then, you know what they got out of that there gang, is that they actually went to the actual Honokōhau Valley president to ask them exactly

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what they wanted. Maybe, eh, maybe they wen sly dog 'em, Maui Land & Pine, we still gotta work on that. But what I'm trying to get is all of this recovery, all of these things, not only Uncle Earl them and that group, that one, I don't know the Mayor's advisory group, sometimes you gotta go stretch 'em out, yeah? Stretch 'em out. Say come talk to the other people who busting their ōkole, you know, who is out here, you know, trying to do things for our community, you know what I mean? Because get other people who like talk, yeah. But...so, mahalo for what you guys doing. No get me wrong. But make sure they get the voice. And then I gonna tell you, all...I heard you guys saying about make sure all these houses get parking for their cars. Whoo...weee. When my daughter stay living right now, oh, brah, my golf cart get hard time pass through sometimes, you know. And it's nuts how I see permits got passed for this. My landlord, his one got passed, but, you know, how many parking...know how many parking stalls he can put? Twenty cars we can put on his land. I did it already. Couple times with my family gathering, my baby's party, you know, all that kine stuff. But I see other houses...whoo, I barely see parking for two cars. And then . . .*(inaudible)*. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . or whoever pass...I going pau pretty soon. Whoever went pass all those permits, I hope you guys when make sure all those cars can be parked on their property because that's exactly what I told my daughter who still lost their house . . .*(inaudible)*. . . never been built yet because of the stupid contractor. Bumbai, you guys going hear about him, and I think you guys heard about him. But we gotta get these guys for build homes where each of their cars can park on their property or going end up in the same situation. That's all I grumble.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Mr. Nakoa. My clarifying question is, were you aware that we passed the parking bill out of Committee last DRIP Committee? So, not this Friday, but the following Council meeting it'll be up for first reading, and if you want to support it, we'd appreciate your testimony.

MR. NAKOA: Automatic, I'll be ready for that one. Yessah. Mahalo for the reminder.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Members, any other clarifying questions for Mr. Nakoa? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony.

MR. NAKOA: You guys have a good one. Yessah.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the last individual signed up is The Royal House of Hawai'i.

THE ROYAL HOUSE OF HAWAI'I: Aloha.

CHAIR PALTIN: Aloha.

THE ROYAL HOUSE OF HAWAI'I: This is Royal House of Hawai'i. I'm a allodial landholder, royal patent holder, yeah. I'm a descendant, yeah, of the Royal Patent original title holders. So, with any of the lands that are being used will...yeah, for any of the lands that is being used, have the...none of these descendants have gotten contacted and are...pretty much are being displaced at the same time, so it's like are you guys going

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to contact them? Or...yeah. And like...and what...oh wait, actually I'm sorry. I'm just trying to think right now. But yeah, please contact the royal patent allodial lands that are going to be...being used because all of Hawai'i's allodial title and that can never be changed, and the TMKs are weirdly and oddly being changed online. So, can you guys please fix that ASAP because the allodial royal patent RP grant, yeah, royal patent grant, and Land Commission Award is supposed to be shown in the TMKs of all the lands that is being used, yeah. But...yeah. Contact the descendants again and...oh, made by Kamehameha III, his royal patents, yeah, the original title holders, descendants, please. Thank you. And that's it.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Mr. House. Members, do you have any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. Staff, are there additional members wanting to testify?

MR. HURDLE: Chair, that's everyone who signed up. We can provide a last call for oral testimony. Please come to the podium or raise your hand on Teams if you would like to testify. I'll provide the count...three, two, one. Seeing none, Chair, no one has indicated they wish to testify.

CHAIR PALTIN: Members, any objection to closing oral testimony and accepting written testimony into the record?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

...CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY (DRIP-9(4)) ...

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. I'll start off with...giving each Member four minutes to ask questions because that was a lot of information, and if we need more rounds we can get more rounds. And I'll start off with my Committee Vice-Chair Nohe U'u-Hodgins, backtrack to Member Sinenci, and then head back this way.

VICE-CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. For right now, you know, I guess I don't have too many questions. I would like to say that I think you guys are doing a really good job. Unfortunately, Lāhainā is the best example of worst case scenario when it comes to permitting, and I understand how difficult it is. And so, for right now that's kind of all I have. That was a very comprehensive overview, and we saw some of it too in the Mayor's address of the County the other week. So...and as I come up with something I'll let you know. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And I too wanted to extend my gratitude and to the entire team for all of the work that you guys have been doing, it's pretty impressive. And I know that the Director...we got to spend some time in D.C., your work doesn't just stay here, it actually goes and the advocacy part still has to continue up in

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Washington. My question for the One Water Lāhainā Program...so does the...does this require acquiring private water systems and acquiring private lands, and does this work include partnering with philanthropic agencies?

MR. SMITH: Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Go ahead.

MR. SMITH: Okay. I'll never get the protocol quite right, but thank you. That's a great question. I would think of the One Water Lāhainā Program as the mechanism to have those conversations more effectively. So, it's not that we're going out to acquire land, or we're going out to purchase private water companies...this system will allow the County to think through that process more holistically, and then we can help support those decisions from a One Water lens. I think that's the way I would put it. And we would and will be welcoming support from nonprofits and others. But right now, we're in the getting our house in order phase of this before we go more publicly outside to community groups and nonprofits.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. So, probably open to community grants should those partnerships form?

MR. SMITH: Well, the community grants would be maybe more through the Office of Recovery in terms of it's a recovery initiative, but the One Water group would be the one that would help...how that would help the initiatives.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And then, yeah, I, too, like the infographic. But since...Chair, since Member Johnson is not here, I'll ask his question about wetlands. Would this...the infographic also include wetlands?

MR. SMITH: Yeah. Yes. Anything to do in the hydrologic cycle, from the aquifer all the way up through, is how you would think about it. So...and we know wetlands can offer all sorts of benefits to the ecology and to groundwater recharge. So, some of the best conversations I've had so far on this whole One Water approach are those in the...like that work with the 'Ōiwi the most and how they're thinking through how systems should work. So, we're...it's really interesting because we're in a built environment that runs right through a natural environment, so we're pulling both elements together and thinking through that...I think in a better way. And it's coming from an engineer who was trained very differently, but I think it's going to be a good thing for us overall.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you for that, Director. And then, as an engineer, how are you looking at...when it comes to infrastructure, like you said, the built environment...bridges, walkways, over involving water as an --

MR. SMITH: Yeah, it's a really...it's a really good discussion because typically, when you think about a bridge, bridge engineers go to school to do bridges, and that's what they focus

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on and they just do bridges, and then road guys do roads, and water guys do water, and ecological guys just do ecological stuff. One Water pulls it all together.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

MR. SMITH: And it has the right disciplines in the room to talk through these problems holistically.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, great. I think they have the right guy.

MR. SMITH: Yeah. Well, it's a great...there's an accountability that's missing when you silo too much . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . and that's what we're really saying is, we're going to make all these groups accountable to each other. So, when we make the decisions, it's a better decision.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Great approach. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Member Sinenci. And I forgot to mention that Councilmember Sugimura has been here from kind of the start of your presentation, she just was a little bit tardy. Aloha 'auinalā and hafa adai, kia ora, e komo mai.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Great presentation. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: And next up, we have Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. A very excited Member Cook. Great presentation. The organization, the structure, the collaboration and the momentum that you've brought with the Office of Discovery...I mean Recovery...discovery, recovery...

MR. SMITH: On that, too.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Yeah. Anyway, it's great. I...the flood that we recently had, South Maui was impacted...I won't say more than anybody else, but as much as anybody. And I'm excited, so I'm going to focus on that just for a second on my questioning. And the One Water is really cool because like the silos are kind of like magnetic and keeping people polarized in a way, and like the natural methods and the engineering methods and everybody working together mauka to makai. One of the challenges...so, anyway, I'm hopeful...I'm not hopeful that we're a disaster area, but I'm hoping that what you're doing in your office can help the revitalization, the reconstruction of South Maui. One of the things we really need is to address, you know, the upstream stormwater capture and management. One of the things that we have that's a major impediment that you're probably aware of is the regulatory impacts of the 2006 Ka Loko Dam failure on Kaua'i and the Hawai'i Dam and Reservoir Safety Act of 2007, HRS Chapter 179D, Flood Mitigation for South...it's basically what I've talked to other department heads and other people a major impediment to utilizing punawai's,

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reservoirs, detention, retention basins, all of that. So, working with Senator McKelvey, I'm hoping we can change that legislation and make some more user-friendly laws. So, South Maui is a great area to work with. The landowners are receptive, and there's not that many of them. They have a nonprofit, Mālama Haleakalā. So, do you have any enthusiasm to share with this concept?

MR. SMITH: Yeah. Unfortun...you know, I think we've said it a couple of times now, like these disasters really shed a light on this in a way that gets things to move, I'll just put it that way. I drove through South Maui yesterday, and I have never seen it that bad, and I've done this for a while now, at least five times worse than I've seen. So, I do recognize the significance of this. I don't want to talk about a disaster as an opportunity, I want to recognize how bad it is out there, but this is definitely a way to utilize a resource like One Water to galvanize an effort around doing something different with the land that's above Kihei. And I think that's a really important discussion that we should have right now, and I think this will give us some legs to get something done there. It's very expensive, what we're talking about, but literally had this conversation with the Mayor this morning. So, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. Thank you very much. I look forward to talking more with you about it.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Next up, Member Rawlins-Fernandez for your opportunity?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair, and mahalo, Director and Deputy for the presentation, and the entire team...I can see you folks in the gallery. Mahalo for your hard work. It's very impressive. I don't have too many questions, just a couple minor questions. And similar, Director Smith, that the first time I attended a NACo conference, learning how others manage their resources and the challenges that they experienced similar to ours was really eye-opening, but also like learning how like different the systems are, such as the hydrological cycles...systems. I like the One Water concept. I guess my question regarding that is, it feels like appropriation of ahupua'a management, but rebranded as One Water. And so, it feels like rebranding at best, and cultural erasure at worst. So, renaming it One Water without crediting the practice and intellectual property of the kūpuna of this place, our multi-community plan acknowledges everything is connected as you stated in your remarks, and advises the County to utilize the eight realms of decision-making as noted by renowned Kumu John Ka'imikaua. And in our community plan, the eight realms are Moananui ākea, which is the farthest out to sea; Kahe Kai Pepeiau, which is the high tide; mauka, which is the lepo soil from the top of the mountain; namuliwai, which is the fresh water areas; kalewalani, which is everything above the land...air, sky, clouds; kanaka honua, natural resources important to sustain people; papahelolona, that's the knowledge and intellect that is valuable resources; and kehihi, which is the elements that maintain the sanctity and sacredness of certain places. So, those are the realms as described by Kumu John Ka'imikaua. So, my question is, in calling it One Water was--you know, because it just looks like ahupua'a management--was that discussed?

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MR. SMITH: Yes. And thank you for helping me understand that history and that understanding of the ahupua'a. I am just using the language, and we're just...and we really just, and we want to acknowledge, we just pulled that graphic from a textbook. So, it's not meant to be...it hasn't been fully emerged culturally, and I want to acknowledge that. That's something we're working towards. Like I said before, One Water Lāhainā as envisioned is getting our own internal house in order, and that's mostly engineers and scientists that have been trained that way, so we're using mostly that language right now. But we are meeting with 'Ōiwi Resources, actively meeting with them, so we can pull in everything that you just said into our thinking. So, I don't want to speak to what I don't know, so just using the language that I do know, and happy to listen and learn and incorporate it fully. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that response. And, you know, with one of our testifiers, Mr. Nakoa, I know you folks have been having lots and lots of meetings with the community, so I don't doubt that you're incorporating a lot of the feedback that is coming from community, and I want to acknowledge our community also who are scientists through the practice of kilo because, you know, for those that maybe did not get an engineering degree or, you know, a science degree, that their 'Ike Kūpuna 'ike Hawai'i is also valid and should be acknowledged when talking about, you know, hui-ing [sic] up the scientists, like our kūpuna, our...those on the ground doing the kilo, you know. I argue including their voices . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . equally.

MR. SMITH: Thank you for that. We're going to work towards making that more equal. I can say it that way. We just got started, and we're going to take this feedback, and we're going to make sure it's incorporated appropriately. I just had my first meeting with Kumu from 'Ōiwi last week on this particular topic. So, you're ahead of us a little bit, but we are heading in that direction. So, thank you for this input.

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

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Council Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, John, Erin, everybody. Great presentation, good work. I do have some questions on housing. Now, what was your goal when you started out? How many homes did you think you could help be replaced?

MR. SMITH: In terms of units, we were originally...I mean we can go back to the Action Plan and pull the numbers, but we're trying to get close to 1,000 units overall with this.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. All right. So, of the thousand, how many folks are back in their homes?

MR. SMITH: Of the thousand, there's...well --

MS. WADE: 600.

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MR. SMITH: Yeah. So, I don't...I want to be careful not to mix and match the DR, but there are...let me get the numbers. So, 160 are home now overall for recovery.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, 160 of the 1,000?

MR. SMITH: No, no. Out of the 1,000, there's only maybe just a handful that are actually in their homes right now. So, most of those haven't gone through the construction process yet. So, all of the programs that I talked about and all those numbers that are in there, those are all going in...are in the permit process, already approved permit process, or under construction. The ones that are making it home from this fund are the ones who are following the first-time homebuyer process.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR PALTIN: And to clarify, 160 is units, not people, right?

MR. SMITH: That's right. It's not people, its units, so it's the families.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. No, because I'm wondering...we're kind of going all over the place in the sense that I would imagine the first...the highest priority would be getting people whose homes were burnt down, those people first to rebuild and reoccupy, yeah? And for which you said a handful. So, a handful is like 20, or what?

MR. SMITH: Well, there's been...there's been...there's...like I said there's 40 some people shopping for homes right now, six have moved in, that's just that first program, but those are...that's...depends on which program we're talking about. I don't want to confuse the numbers, but...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, there's a mixture of the thousand units, and the owners of the thousand units are mixed in with the 501 applications of people applying for new homes?

MR. SMITH: Yeah. The number of folks that will become like first-time homebuyer owners, that's just a small number for that program. So, there's around 150 people that will become housed permanently from that program...and that's really just moving people from rent to own. All the rest of the numbers that we talked about are actually units that we're getting ready to build.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Of the 501 applications, you said there's about how many will be cooperating?

MR. SMITH: About 150.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: 150.

MR. SMITH: From that group.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. And the cost to that is \$500 million?

MR. SMITH: No, that's \$92 million.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: \$92 million.

MR. SMITH: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So...and that's one of the three programs?

MR. SMITH: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, one of the three programs is going to cost \$92 million, and how much for the second program?

MR. SMITH: Can I bring a resource down to help answer these?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Sure, sure.

MR. SMITH: Because I don't have them all at the top of my head. I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And then on...and the third one.

MR. SMITH: Yes. We'll...yes.

CHAIR PALTIN: Like I think...is it Jeannie?

MR. SMITH: Jeannie.

CHAIR PALTIN: Can you introduce yourself and explain your expertise that qualifies you as a resource for the record, please? Thank you.

MR. SMITH: Yeah, sorry I don't have them all at the top of my head.

MS. SUTTON: Good afternoon, Council. My name is Jeannie Sutton, I'm a Program Manager with BDO. I'm working here with the County of Maui to help them implement their CDBG-DR funds. As John mentioned, there are several different programs that are funded with CDBG-DR funds. The first program that John mentioned, \$92.5 million for First-Time Homebuyer Assistance Program, that program is estimated to serve approximately 150 households. We also have a Single-Family Homeowner Reconstruction and Reimbursement Program, it's currently allocated approximately \$298 million in CDBG-DR funds. That is anticipated to serve a maximum of 250 households. Additionally, we have approximately \$420 million allocated towards multi-family reconstruction and new construction programs. In total, those programs can construct up to 1,000 multi-family housing units.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Wait a minute, 1,000 multi...so, what happened to the original thousand people whose homes burnt down? I mean, what I'm seeing is a . . . *(timer sounds)* . . migration to other areas and other people who need housing.

MR. SMITH: I can take that one.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MR. SMITH: So, that's the reconstruction program. The reconstruction program was designed out of those thousand to help about 250. So, there's money for 250 because it's an income-based program. So, all of the 1,000 that burned down...or 5,000 units, right? But there's...you're talking...I don't want to confuse structures and units and that, but of all of the homes that were lost, this program set aside to be able to help people rebuild, from the ground, 250 homes. So far, we have around 60-some applicants for that program, and so it's income-based. So, what we're talking about right now is whether or not we need to increase the eligibility for that program.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, okay. And later I'll be asking about the thousand units for the third part, okay? Thank you.

MR. SMITH: Okay.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Member Sugimura, your opportunity?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Excellent, right? Thank you very much for the work you all are doing, right, with your team. Oh, talk louder. So, I am interested in your infrastructure recovery funding needs where you have this big gap. I don't know if Member Sinenci's question was similar, but the unfunded need, which is \$950 million, and what are we going to do about that so that we can have completion?

MR. SMITH: Okay. I may call on another resource if they're online to talk about just funding strategies really quick, but the general idea is, there are a lot of different federal funds out there that we knew about before the fire, but now we're really zeroed in on these possibilities. So, we know about HUD, and we know about this 1.6, but we've...also now know about the EPA, we also now...know now about federal highways and some additional opportunities with them at HWA...we're working with Ed Sniffen on that right now for this disaster, and so there's money there. There is...there are additional...

CHAIR PALTIN: USDA? USDA, right?

MR. SMITH: There's USDA, which is also NRCS, so there's funds there. There is...I'm sorry if I'm forgetting...oh, hazard mitigation funds from FEMA, so every time we have that disaster, we'll get a new pot there. So, we're filling...we're attempting to fill the gap, that 959 or 949 million with those opportunities in these other departments federally. And each one has a different mechanism to get to it. And there's a changing landscape in

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Washington that we're tracking closely so when opportunities arise, we can make sure we can get our applications in and take advantage of those programs. Build grants is another one, and some...there's people in the stands nodding their heads as if like they're...we're tracking all of this stuff live. So, as it becomes an option for Maui County, we put our, you know, ring in the hat [sic] to get access to it. That's the strate...that's the simple strategy.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Fabulous, right? So, this is all the dreams come true in terms of finding additional funding. Yesterday in my BFED Committee we had grants, all the different departments that do grants, and we had Josiah come and report on only two...well, not only, but the two projects that are in Office of Recovery...

CHAIR PALTIN: Maybe move the mic closer to your mouth.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, you still can't hear me? So, the question I have related to grants is, it sounds like the Administration is trying to do something to have one organization or one framework to do all grants. So, is all of this going to fall under the new marching orders, I guess, that's coming from the Chief of Staff and the Budget Director Milner to put some unity on how grants will be handled? Do you know about it?

MR. SMITH: I think it may be better for Erin to start this one. I mean, I'm happy to talk about the grants that Recovery has, but I don't know the...

CHAIR PALTIN: To clarify, Member Sugimura, you're talking about grants going out or grants coming in?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I don't know. I would imagine that it's a comprehensive plan that Administration talked about.

CHAIR PALTIN: Because I think there's one program about grants going out, which wouldn't be the same as grants coming in. And I think what Mr. Smith was talking about is grants coming in, right?

MR. SMITH: Well, in terms of the funding gap that we have, and then I'm really talking about going after federal grants for the County coming in. But I think the question is, what about the grants that are going out and how are we going to manage that? Like holistically, I guess...and I would defer to Deputy Managing Director to start that answer.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I guess the question is, are you all part of the same team? You know, because of the presentation we saw yesterday and it made me think about listening to you and how important this is and everything else.

MS. WADE: Yeah, thank you for that question. We have been working with Chief of Staff particularly on the Admin Rules and the adjusted language for the management of

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grants. So, we do feel like consistency across the grants is going to actually be really helpful in terms of both expectations from the team managing the grant, as well as the team applying for the grant. So, honestly, the clarity is what we're looking for first and foremost, but we do have a number of grant partners we're already working with that we've started all of these procedures with already. So, I don't see that as being an issue in terms of . . .(timer sounds). . . continuity of managing grants that we've already awarded.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Member Batangan?

COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, John. Thank you, Erin, for being here. And thank you to everybody on your team who is with us as well. Okay, first question. What is the total amount of obligated funds, and what is the total amount of expended funds from the CDBG-DR appropriation, and are we meeting all federal milestones necessary to avoid recapture of these monies?

MR. SMITH: Okay. I may need to bring down our resource again so I don't say the wrong numbers, but when you say obligated, you mean, how much of those programs has been applied like to a project? Yeah. We're approaching a billion out of the 1.6 today, so out of the awards. I met with HUD leadership in D.C. when we were there, and they are very happy with our progress to date in terms of how are we managing the grant. All of that is in the planning phases right now, so you're not going to see big expenditures yet. We're, I think, \$10 million spent so far, something like that. It's not...I'm not exactly sure what that number is, but it's relatively small compared to where we're going. So, you'll start to see that rise very quickly now that we have all these projects and things moving forward.

COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: Thank you. How is OOR ensuring that the CDBG-DR funds are used as funding of last resort as required by HUD? Has there been any instance where County funds were used for expenses that were later deemed FEMA reimbursable?

MR. SMITH: Both great questions. Both are...there are programmatic things built into this system that we're working on. So, everybody behind you here like ask those kinds of questions before we expend anything. So, an easy way to think through it is, we don't just like give out the money, there's an application process. That application process asks questions like, is this FEMA eligible? If it's FEMA eligible, how much did you get? Once we understand that, you have to provide all that information from FEMA, we look through it in detail, and say, okay, they're getting this and they should get this much. So, actually two different consultants up here, one's on the FEMA side, one's on the HUD side, they work together to make sure that we one, don't spend money that we could get from FEMA; or two, don't go the other way too. So, every single project that's eligible has that scrutiny...and yeah. So, I'm happy to report that.

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COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: Thank you. I like to hear that.

MR. SMITH: It's a very compli...it's a very complicated system that we're working in.

COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: Okay, so last question. You mentioned \$1 billion in infrastructure request from the Departments, and you mentioned that OOR had to make hard choices. Were the Council involved in any of those hard choices?

MR. SMITH: Not to my knowledge on those choices, but all of those projects are projects that were in the six-year CIP from our budget. So, it wasn't like we were picking from projects you haven't seen before. These are just infrastructure projects that we'd know about.

COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: I'm asking this question as a lead up, because the Charter that's the power to appropriate money with the Council, but the DR funding seems to be working slightly different than that. And I'm trying to understand like where the authority comes from or what the coordination has been, and like what role the Council has in...in appropriating funds for recovery.

MR. SMITH: Yeah, that's a great question. That's why we wanted to have this meeting now to talk about all the things that you've already appropriated last year actually. So, the 1.6 was recognized in FY '25 at the end of the year based on the action plan that we had out there, and all of those infrastructure and housing projects were in that plan. So, that was the...that was the mechanism for that to work. Now, what we're talking about in FY '27 is all the pukas that we have that we can't fill from that 959 . . .(timer sounds). . . and all the rest of that.

COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Administration.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. I think it's kind of like the COVID money, yeah, when we have to accept it and then that's the last bite at the apple...like CDBG, we have to accept it and then luckily, they're coming back and consulting with us, maybe more so than when it was the COVID money. But for my question I wanted to ask about water. I don't think Director Stufflebean is on the line, but it was my understanding that he wanted water to be able to go both ways, like...

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

CHAIR PALTIN: No. Because R-1 is Mr. Nakagawa, right? But I mean I don't mind R-1 going both ways too. But if water can go north or south, and if it were that way when the fire occurred, when we were up north, we had like, I don't know, Civil Air Patrol, like...and a bull horn telling us we could drink the water up north or something, and everybody in the burn zone and other maps couldn't even boil the water to drink. So, if the drinking water goes both directions, and that's how it were before the town burnt down, would us up north have been under no boil, no drink water advisory too?

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MR. SMITH: I mean, I...that's a good question, but I don't think I can answer for Water Supply. I know there are ways to isolate systems.

CHAIR PALTIN: Maybe we can send them a letter.

MR. SMITH: And that can be...that can be brought into the equation, but...

CHAIR PALTIN: And then in the term, as Mr. Nakoa was saying, community led, government supported, in majority of the community, they would like the R-1 water south, like to create sort of green buffer for ag and like that. Because Lāhainā burnt down and it's green right now after like, you know, ten inches of rain in a weekend, but majority of the year it's not. And majority of the year up north, Māhinahina North, is green except for when it's in like these extreme droughts that we've been having. And so, it seems there's side conversations with foreign billionaires and...when is it that we will know or when is it that the community gets to provide that input in an open and transparent manner instead of like hearing about foreign billionaire behind closed-door meetings?

MR. SMITH: Well, I'd also don't want to speak for DEM. I mean I think the work on the One Water Lāhainā in terms of how to think through water systems is a good platform discussions like that and then --

CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. Then...so, the multi-family rebuilds, are they being equipped to utilize R-1 water for irrigation...landscape irrigation purposes?

MR. SMITH: That would be a design issue when we get into that build. But if we're doing it, I would say yes...if it's a private developer and we're just helping with the funding...

CHAIR PALTIN: If they're utilizing CDBG-DR monies, could it be a requirement? Could we have them use the R-1 water for their toileting and things like that?

MR. SMITH: I don't know if we could have it...I don't want to mix up gray water and R-1 water, but we can set specific requirements on those developments depending on, you know, the desire, the...

CHAIR PALTIN: Like low-flow fixtures, R-1 irrigation, landscape irrigation.

MR. SMITH: Yeah, yeah. Well, a good example is really the Firewise aspect of it. So, the developments in the houses that will be funded through DR is, it's built in the program that they need to be Firewise, so...which means it's going to look different because of...the landscaping is going to be different, the roof's going to be a little bit different...but on purpose to be more fire resilient. But you can do similar things with fixtures and water.

CHAIR PALTIN: And then like if you go through...drive through the burn zone right now after all this rain, a lot of them are not in compliance with the Fire Code. Is anything being done about that?

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MR. SMITH: Yeah. I mean the compliance issues will still fall to the departments in terms of the Fire Department and the building inspectors, et cetera. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . But I would...I would encourage the public to continue to report on those particular issues because that's how...often how we find out about and can take action.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Anybody by hand, second round? I will go with Committee Vice-Chair U'u-Hodgins, followed by Council Chair Lee.

VICE-CHAIR U'U HODGINS: Thank you. I found my one question I had written down. So, this is in regards to the Lāhainā bypass extension. I understand we're going to commit \$100 million, is that what we said we were going to do?

MR. SMITH: They're eligible for \$100 million for that project. It's about a \$220 million project.

VICE-CHAIR U'U HODGINS: Okay, that was my question. And primarily the rest of the funds are going to come from State, federal...

MR. SMITH: It's a federal highways funded project that would be from the State, yeah.

VICE-CHAIR U'U HODGINS: And you said they're eligible for \$100 million . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MR. SMITH: Yeah. So, they've been issued a conditional award letter for up to 100 million.

VICE-CHAIR U'U HODGINS: Okay. Okay. And what do you--go ahead.

CHAIR PALTIN: And--oh, go ahead. Oh, and I believe Deputy Wade said that they could just put R-1 pipe under the infrastructure for that? No?

MR. SMITH: Well, the bypass is also a utility corridor, so there's desire to move water along that corridor.

VICE-CHAIR U'U HODGINS: Okay. And when do you think the anticipated start and finish date for that is?

MR. SMITH: Well, that's a big project. There is a start and end date as part of their application, but it's about a five-year project.

VICE-CHAIR U'U HODGINS: Okay. Sure. That's understandable. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Chair Lee, to be followed by Member Cook, to be followed by Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. John, who would I speak to regarding getting exact numbers on housing.

MR. SMITH: Jeannie.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Jeannie.

MR. SMITH: She's right . . . *(inaudible)*. . . there.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: The person that came down?

MR. SMITH: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. If you don't mind, I'll contact her another time, maybe tomorrow.

MR. SMITH: Thank you. Sorry I don't have it all in my head.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Because I'm concerned that of the 2,000 homes or so that burnt down, 80 percent of the owners did not live there...they rented out the units, yeah. So, the 80 percent of those people, are they paying for their rebuilds with the settlement money, or insurance money, or other money is my question?

MS. WADE: Thank you. Thank you for that question. So, in the action plan, it says it's over 5,000 units that were lost total. A number of them, as you know, are already rebuilding...those are paying for the reconstruction with their own monies. So, in addition to that, the 80 percent that you're listing is the total...is the renter, so that was properties that were rented, whether they were full-time residents or not, we don't actually have a distinction specific to that. So, a lot of those renters were full-time renters, you know, they were our own community members. So, that's why the multi-family reconstruction program is so important because a lot of those folks were dependent on living in multi-family or single-family units that were long-term rentals.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, all of the people who would be benefiting from the various housing programs that you've established are victims of the fire.

MS. WADE: That's right.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: They're not from any place else.

MS. WADE: That's right.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Right? Okay. And although you're providing for housing for those folks, the people who owned the properties that burnt down, most of them...the vast majority were not living there. Are they going to continue to rent out those units? Do you know?

MS. WADE: The question saying that the vast majority were not living there, I don't know that we have verified information on that. I think the majority were living there. There were

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some that were short-term rentals, and if you want specific numbers on what those were, we can get that.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. My understanding is, the vast majority were not owner occupants.

MS. WADE: That's correct. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, that is correct.

MS. WADE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: That was my point. Okay. So, I have lots of questions on housing. Honestly, they...this whole thing is so confusing and to...you know, to nail down to specifics. And that's why if you don't mind, I will pursue this another time, okay, with your Staff. Thank you.

MS. WADE: I would just like to clarify, we actually have the demographics broken down in the action plan for CDBG-DR. So, we could do a one-sheeter that actually has a lot of that data . . .*(inaudible)*. . . available.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And that's current...that's current?

MS. WADE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah? Not a plan, but an actual report.

MS. WADE: Yeah, that's right. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, thank you. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Member Cook, followed by Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you. Thank you. So, my question...the \$213,832,000 that's for hazard mitigation, is that \$100 million potentially for the road coming out of that?

MR. SMITH: No, that's...that's actually infrastructure. The mitigation projects include things like a buy-back program on the shoreline, so that's one, some resilience in infrastructure...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Would it be like flooding...flood mitigation qualify for that?

MR. SMITH: Yeah...it could, yes. And then, there is a cost share that goes with the FEMA, HMGP program, so it also has a mitigation. So, FEMA comes in and they set up a mitigation program as well, but the County has to pay a share of that. So, some of

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those...that 213 million is going go towards matching those funds, that way the County actually doesn't have to pay for any of it. So, those were the easy calls too. So, it's like FEMA is going to 80 percent, HUD's going to 20 percent, County doesn't have to pay. A really good example of that is putting backup generation at all of our pump stations for water, and that's islandwide. So, that was a project that got approved by FEMA, they need a match, this is eligible to mat...it's the only fund that matches other federal funds, and that's why we're so focused, and that's why I talk so much about the other federal agencies.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, that leads me my next question. Those funds could be used islandwide and not simply in...

MR. SMITH: The hazard mitigation can.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Thank you very much. That's my questions, Chair. Mahalo.

CHAIR PALTIN: Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Any updates or plans for the old Kamehameha III School location?

MR. SMITH: Yes. In the presentation, we pointed out the chosen location by the State, and it's directly adjacent to the Waialeale lands that the County just purchased, in between the highway and Honoapi'ilani. So, it's on one of those slides there, I just didn't point it out.

CHAIR PALTIN: Did you mean the old site?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: The existing.

MR. SMITH: Oh, sorry. I thought you meant the new one. Yeah, that's falling under the planning efforts that 'Ōiwi Resources has underway for the royal complex.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Member Sugimura, followed by Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, commercial district...the commercial property owners, I went to that meeting that you had at the MACC, right, upstairs, and it was announced then that 4LEAF was going to help commercial. I was told that was the first time that that hand was offered to commercial. Thank you very much. And I'm hearing also that they're still feeling like they're kind of a lot more to do with them, and what is the Office of Recovery doing next steps forward? But thank you for offering, 4LEAF, I hope it's helping.

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MR. SMITH: And thank you for that comment. We talked about...a lot about the complications and permitting, it's so much more difficult when you get into the commercial realm in terms of like all of the different rules and laws that they have to apply to those properties. And the closer you get to the ocean, the more complicated it gets. So, then we got to recognize that. The...it's always been understood that we could offer that service from a commercial standpoint for 4LEAF, but maybe we just pushed it over. But I don't think that's...that's necessarily going to be the answer one way or another in terms of the speed. We still needed to add clarity on the process itself. So, what Office of Recovery has done, and Deputy Managing Director has been a huge help in this, is jumped into that space with all of the regulatory agencies to clear paths for those commercial owners. So, we've...and that's what we learned in that commercial workshop, and then we're going to do another commercial workshop, and we're going to keep doing commercial workshops until we have it as clear as it can be. But we still haven't received like tons of applications yet. We have some in the works, but I think what a lot of people are thinking like what's the County doing? Oh, like we need applications that actually...so they're coming in now. It's actually moving. But you want to add to that, Erin?

MS. WADE: Thank you. I guess I would just like to say we need to send a big thank you to the few that have proceeded through the commercial permitting because we've learned where the sort of obstacles are. They've been in close communication, talk about community feedback, and adjusting the system as a result. So, they've shared with us where they are hitting obstacles, and then we're either trying to develop the recovery coordination directives to support or working with the County Council to make some amendments to make sure that recovery can proceed more smoothly. So, I think the more permits we get in, as John is alluding to, the faster the bulk of the permits will start moving.

MR. SMITH: Yeah. I mean nobody wanted to rebuild a hotel, and this...it really is really complicated when you think of it. The rules are not meant to...they're really one-off property by property, and so we're taking a little bit more holistic approach. So, what we're doing is providing guidance where guidance is needed, and then when we actually need to change the rules, we're coming to you folks and saying, hey, we should probably fix this...and that was the legislative update that we had here. So, a number of those have moved forward. And if we find a new one that we need to fix, we would love to come back and work with you on that.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. So, people that I hear from I can just send them your way, right? And the main thing is for them to apply, is what you're saying?

MR. SMITH: Yeah. We're making it so they can comply.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. And I want you to know that whenever anybody asks John a question, watch how he flips his mic...he looks like a superstar, rock star.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: You guys can't see it?

MR. SMITH: Now I can never do that again. I'm sorry.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Can you see it? He's right in front of me. So, every time he answers a question...

CHAIR PALTIN: We're going to need you to stand up and flip your mic, I guess.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR PALTIN: Are you done?

MR. SMITH: I'm going to . . .*(inaudible)*. . . that comment.

CHAIR PALTIN: Not on your bingo card. Are you done?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah.

CHAIR PALTIN: Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. My last question is regarding the testimony we received from Mr. Langford, I thought he made some good points. I know a lot of the questions that he asked in his testimony is answered in your folks' report and in some of the plans. One of the things I wanted to follow up on was regarding prioritizing, like Maui-based entities and like maximizing the local circulation of funding. Would you be able to comment on if that's something that is part of the discussion and something you folks are working on?

MR. SMITH: Yeah. I...we want to keep as much of it here in local companies as we possibly can. I think the reality of this large of a disaster is, there is expertise that we needed to tap into all over the world actually, but we're doing our best the way that we procure things and the way we implement projects to have local folks, local companies, as much as we possibly can, when that...win those awards. So, it is just part of how we're doing business as a whole. I mean, you want to add in?

MS. WADE: Sure. I would just like to add when we set up our procurements and we're putting things out to bid, we are identifying local knowledge and local understanding as one of the criteria, and that we're asking teams to demonstrate that across the board. So, that's giving us multifaceted teams. It's getting us, I think, some of the best national minds combined with our local teams, which is giving us more breadth and more capacity than we would have otherwise. So, it's been really good.

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MR. SMITH: Yeah. And if it's okay, I'd just add one more thing in terms of workforce development. What we are exposing local Maui workers to, and sometimes it's something they would never get exposed to before, so the development of our team who's sitting right here is happening as we go, and I'm really, really happy about that. And I think the team that we're forming and working with now, they'll be able to do anything after this. I mean literally, anything. So, that's really, really cool.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for sharing that with the public and for the record. I think, you know, you started saying...before the presentation your comments were about how an Office of Recovery is something that we needed, and I think after the 2018 fire, that was something that we were pushing MEMA to develop. And at that time under the different leadership, that wasn't quite happening. I think it was just like one position for recovery and...you know, I mean I don't have to say the obvious, like one position can't accomplish what your office is accomplishing. And to have the system and infrastructure in place to be able to then, you know, tackle the types of, you know, disasters that we just experienced with this Kona low is...is so significant and of incredible value to our County and to our people. So, I just wanted to mahalo and reiterate that I agree.

MR. SMITH: Mahalo.

CHAIR PALTIN: Does anyone have a need for a third round? Okay. If there are no objections, the Chair will defer this item.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS. [Ex. GJ].

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion

CHAIR PALTIN: And we can take a...13-minute recess to switch it up and get ready for our next 7(B) presentation with Planning. I don't know if you guys want to give these...this big team a round of applause.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(Applause)*. . .

CHAIR PALTIN: And our sincere gratitude for all your work with all of the recoveries that are happening and are yet to come.

MS. WADE: If I could just comment real quick. I think you folks know, before you on Friday is going to be a request for the emergency funds for this current disaster. We are already talking about the utilization and the extreme need for those. So, looking forward to that discussion on Friday. Thank you so much for your time today, we really appreciate the opportunity.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And if I could add to that, Chair, we need as many people attending the meeting. We have one person that can't make it. We need seven votes to pass that. Thank you.

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CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. This meeting is in recess, that used up two of our minutes. So, we'll see you back here in 11 minutes at 3:30...3:30. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 3:19 p.m.

RECONVENE: 3:33 p.m.

CHAIR PALTIN: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Disaster Recovery, International Affairs, and Planning Committee meeting return to order. The time is now 3:33. Thank you, Members, for that pause for the cause. Next up, we have DRIP-9(10), the 2025 Annual General Plan Implementation Report. Under Rule 7(B) of the Rules of the Council, the Committee intends to discuss the Annual General Plan Implementation Report. No legislative action will be taken. County Communication 23-26, which was transmitted...or which transmitted the Planning Director's report, was uploaded as Granicus number 1. This report is consolidated as one. In previous years, it was submitted as two separate reports. And at this time, I'd like to receive any opening comments or presentations from the Director and/or the...Mr. Forsythe.

2025 ANNUAL GENERAL PLAN IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (DRIP-9(10)) (RULE 7(B))

MS. TAKAKURA: Thank you, Chair Paltin. So, I'd like to introduce Scott Forsythe, he's our Planning Program Manager for the Plan Implementation Division. And as the title of the division states, implementation is their cause, and he'll go over the annual report. They've been preparing this report since I think 2016, and so we're kind of getting it down and he's got a brief presentation for you. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: And thank you for your flexibility in letting Office of Recovery go first, they had some storm-related business to attend to. By the way, Mr. Forsythe is my blood donor buddy, and we're going to be donating tomorrow if anyone wants to make a donation of blood at the Cameron Center. My appointment is 8:15, I think his is noon. Member Cook's in the afternoon too.

MR. FORSYTHE: Good to go?

CHAIR PALTIN: Go right ahead.

MR. FORSYTHE: Aloha, Chair Paltin and Councilmembers. I am Scott Forsythe, I'm the Plan Implementation Division Chief. This presentation provides a brief overview of the 2025 Annual General Plan Implementation Report, which is included in your meeting materials as a letter dated January 14th. The report can also be found on the Department's website under the Plan Implementation Division. I have about ten slides to go through that summarizes the annual report, and I'll try to make this brief. Next slide. So, County Charter and County Code requires that the Planning Department provide an annual report to the Mayor and Council on the implementation of the

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General Plan. The report before you summarizes progress on implementing the County's General Plan based on status updates provided to the Planning Department last December by other County departments and from research done within the Plan Implementation Division. Next slide. So, you should all already be familiar with the General Plan documents, but as a brief overview, it consists of the countywide policy plan, four island plans, and six community plans specific to Maui Island. And today, because I know you guys probably have never printed them out, here they are. I carry around in my backpack so I don't have to go to the gym and do squats --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MR. FORSYTHE: -- but here are all the documents for you. Together, these plans establish long-term goals, objectives, policies and implementing actions that guide growth, development, and resource management across the County. You know, I'll just add that in addition to, you know, the General Plan, there's probably about a thousand other pages of documents that the Planning Department, you know, needs to review in order to implement the General Plan, including the Title 19 Code...various administrative rules for the Planning Commissions and Hawai'i Revised Statute and other policies and procedures. So, it's quite a big chunk of information that we, you know, assess to implement this. The annual report focuses specifically on 1,261 implementing actions identified within these plans. They're intended to advance the goals and policies of the General Plan. I think it's also important to mention that, you know, over 1,200 actions is a lot. Jacky also stated that this morning at the budget meeting, but I bring that up because in the Zoning Code audit in 2018, the audit also took a look at some of the General Plan's content and processes, and told us that the plan's vision is lost in the amount of material and that it contains an extraordinary large amount of implementation actions...and that...and the plans end up with very long lists of actions and projects that become a wish list of sorts rather than a well-thought-out guide for moving the County forward. Even with that finding, the number of implementing actions in our plans have continued to grow since the audit was, you know, finalized in 2018. The actions have increased by 51 additional actions, and now the South Maui Community Plan is poised to come to you, and that's going to increase the number of actions by 81 from the current adopted plan. So, this keeps getting larger. Next slide, please. Here you can see the 15 County departments who contributed to this report by providing updates to their signed Maui Island Plan and Community Plan Actions. This number here at the bottom, which is 1,179 actions, it doesn't include 82 actions that are also in the Countywide Policy Plan. We didn't incorporate them here because the Countywide Policy Plan is more broad in scale. There's not really any one department that implements that, it's kind of a everybody does their best to implement the Countywide Policy Plan. However, of these 1,179 actions, the Planning Department is assigned the most at 323, but the majority of all actions, which is 856 of them, are assigned to other County departments, with the exception of 103 that are under the purview of Federal, State, or other entities. Next slide, please. So, status reporting. I'm fortunate to have some really good Staff working for me, and they came up with this incredible acronym, COIN, for Complete Ongoing In Progress or Not Begun. And you'll notice within the exhibit section of the, you know, report, that...it's color coded. It's

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rather than having a bunch of X's up and down the spreadsheet, you can kind of read it a little easier to see what the status of that project is. Also, to note the ongoing actions are considered successfully implemented as these are activities that are intended to continue indefinitely, at least for the foreseeable future. You know, an example I like to give is, you know, provide good surface paved roads, and so that requires ongoing maintenance. That'd be like an ongoing action. Next slide, please. Countywide Policy Plans...this slide identifies a 12 Countywide Policy Plan key themes and the status of its 82 implementing actions. And as I've stated, these aren't assigned to any one department, it's just, you know, everyone's kuleana to do their best to implement them. Next slide, please. For the Maui Island Plan, there are 305 actions assigned to 13 County Departments, along with federal, state, and other agencies. The Planning Department is responsible for 100 of the actions, and 205 go to other departments. Next slide, please. For the Community Plans, the three island plans, along with Maui Island six community plans, contain 874 actions that are assigned to the departments or entities listed here. I think there is 15 different agencies on there. Planning is assigned 223 of the actions, and 651 go to other departments. I've already gone over the exhibit section a little bit, but to kind of just state it again, in the exhibit section at the end of the report, includes the Countywide Policy Plan Actions, the Maui Island Plan Actions, all the Community Plan Actions by department, and then all of the community plan actions sorted by the community plan area. Next slide, please. And lastly, this is just based...you know, in closing, based on County department reporting, 78 percent of all implementing actions across all the General Plan documents have been completed or initiated to some extent, meaning they are either complete, ongoing, or currently in progress. That's the end of my presentation. Thank you, and I'd be happy to try and answer any questions.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Mr. Forsythe. I love that color coding, the red, yellow, green, it's like intuitive and then the blue is very calming. At this time, we can open up for public testimony. Staff, is there anyone waiting to testify?

MR. HURDLE: Yes, Chair. The first individual to testify is The Royal House of Hawai'i.

CHAIR PALTIN: Go ahead, Mr. House.

. . .OPEN PUBLIC TESTIMONY (DRIP-9(10)). . .

THE ROYAL HOUSE OF HAWAII: Aloha. This is the Royal House of Hawai'i and allodial land holder, yeah, of the royal patent who are the original title holders of the land. And are any of the lands that are going to be used or anything like that, will the descendants be contacted? Because they haven't been contacted, and they are concerned because everyone's TMKs are being changed oddly, and it's supposed to be showing the royal patent . . .(inaudible). . . and the Land Commission Award, so got to fix that like ASAP kine. And...oh, yeah, fix it to show the royal patent, yeah, Land Commission Award because Hawai'i Revised Statute 172-11, the land is supposed to return back to the descendants no matter because it assigns forever, and it's an allodial title royal patent.

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And a royal...none of them are judges, nobody is a judge over here, and like our paperwork has already been adjudicated in...from Mahele. So...yeah, from the Mahele, from the king that used to live over there. But...no. Anyways...but yeah, please call in all the descendants of all the royal patents...royal patented land that you guys are going to be using because all of Hawai'i is all allodial title royal patented, so...yeah. Return the lands. Mahalo.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the last individual signed up is Johann Lall.

MR. LALL: Johann Lall, I am testifying on my own behalf. I worked for the Long-Range Division for three years, and that was the first and I guess only time I worked with community plans. And when I started I was really just confused because there's all these layers of regulation. There's like State land use, then there's zoning, and there's community plans. So, I understand why a lot of people, especially like out in the public, are like completely confused by all these different layers and how they fit together. One thing that several Councilmembers have asked over the years is, whether the community plans are regulatory or I think...I can't remember the other word, like advisory maybe? But I think one --

CHAIR PALTIN: Aspiration? Was it aspirational?

MR. LALL: Yeah. . . .*(laughing)*. . . Yeah, that's it. One way I would suggest discussing, and I guess thinking about the community plans is, how they get applied and how they get used. And I see them as kind of a set of tools that the regulators have, including the Planning Department and the Planning Commission. And so, one example that I think will make sense is, the South Maui Community Plan or the draft community plan has language about protecting access. And it's not very specific, it just says, you know, protect access or like preserve access, create access. And so, the way that something like that gets implemented is when a development is coming in for an SMA permit or like shoreline permits, you would have conditions on it. And you would...it would say, okay...this hotel wants to get built, but one of the conditions is we're going to have them do ten parking spaces for the public, and they're going to have an access route, and they're going to have access for people to do like their cultural practices and stuff like that. And that's just an example of how you would actually apply the community plans in a way that actually benefits the community. And so, that's completely different from zoning, which has these like strict requirements. The community plans are kind of subjective and it's up to the regulators to apply them. And one thing I've brought up over the years in many different ways is that the staff report is supposed to guide the Planning Commission. Because they don't really know...well, they're not experts, right? The problem is that what I think is still going on, and I first learned about in 2022 is that developers are writing the staff reports reviewing their own projects. So, that basically skips over an important step where the people like...you know, the Staff planners are looking at these applications and they're saying, okay, how do they comply

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with the community plans? How can we get conditions in place that make sure that what the public wants, like the access, or the open space, or protecting drainage . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . protecting ocean quality is all protected. So, I hope you guys address that kind of thing, how they actually get applied in the real world. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next individual is Mr. Law, approaching the podium.

MR. LAW: Jasee Law, no relation to Johann Lall, I don't think so, maybe. My dad was in the Navy though. I've really...I wasn't going to say nothing for the second part, I'll make it quick because I know you guys want to talk about the plans. And I'm glad The Royal House person keeps on reminding of that, so I'd like that to be in the plans. And I'll try to attend the community plans. And I heard there's going to be an Upcountry plan pretty soon and I've been waiting 12 years for that, so I'm really going to be active in that one. So, you guys know I've been here and you guys are probably wondering like what do I do for a living and stuff? As you know, I want to do recycling, so I'm sure that's in the plan somewhere. But I want to call your attention to the State of Hawai'i Business Application. It's got to do with this whole thing what The Royal House k̄anaka keeps on saying is, my plan is to get a tax ID number, and the only way I can get it...I wish there was a Kingdom of Hawai'i tax ID number, but all's they got is a State of Hawai'i one and they're working with the United States. But every time I go over there and ask for a 'Ōlelo Hawaiian version, they say they don't have it, which confuses me...but I'm going to work with them because it says would I like an interpreter? And I'm going to ask for an interpreter, but they're going to be confused because I can understand the English application, and I'm going to ask them to help me out with the...translating it into Hawaiian myself. So, yeah, I'm trying to get a job, you guys, like I said before...and if anybody knows...has a good insurance agent, let me know. I don't know how that was relevant, but I just figured I would say something. And I like what Alice Lee has been saying about these plans, plans, plans...let's do something.

CHAIR PALTIN: Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. Any other additional testifiers?

MR. HURDLE: No, Chair. We can do a last call for oral testimony. Please come up to the podium or raise your hand on Teams if you would like to testify. The count is three, two, one. Seeing none, Chair. No one has indicated that they wish to testify.

CHAIR PALTIN: Members, any objections with closing public testimony and accepting written testimony into the record?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

. . .CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY (DRIP-9(10)) . . .

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CHAIR PALTIN: We can open up with first round, three minutes. I will start with Committee Vice-Chair U'u-Hodgins, and then start at this end and go that way.

VICE-CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. I feel like we have so many things I guess I could ask you about. I do appreciate you guys being here with us all day, Miss...or Director Takakura, and nice to see you, Mr. Forsythe. As I was reviewing at least the Pa'ia-Ha'ikū implementing actions, there's one I think we can actually change, which is the Human Concerns one, which I know it's not you folks necessarily, but we are actually getting some start on the Ha'ikū Fire Station, so that's nice. We can change that from not begun to, I guess, in progress. But I do understand why certain things may take a little bit longer. On the Makawao one, I guess Pukalani-Kula, there's one in there about interim lands. Let me see if I can find it. How would you plan on rezoning the properties that are zoned Interim, and how would you...I mean you're like going to contact the landowner and talk about like what's the best option for the property, or what would you do in that scenario?

MS. TAKAKURA: Chair, if I may? So, for...thank you for the question. That's a very good question. So, regarding rezoning, what we would first want to do is update the community plan. I don't know what the community plan designations are for those parcels, but they really should be consistent first. So, the first step would be ideally updating the community plan designations. And like I had mentioned, Upcountry's next, so that would be the ideal time. And then working with the property owners to designate it to, you know, what would be appropriate and hopefully, you know, like if it's residential, then make it Residential. I'm not sure. You know, the thing about Interim is that you've got a lot of different opportunities in Interim, so we'd really have to look at what are they doing because interim kind of allows a lot of different things. So, we want to make sure we're not taking away any uses that they've been doing.

VICE-CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Right.

MS. TAKAKURA: So, it'd be...we'd have to work closely with the property owners on this.

VICE-CHAIR U'U HODGINS: Right. No, I've...yeah. Interim does allow for a little bit of flexibility. And what happens if they say, no, thank you?

MS. TAKAKURA: Then I go to the Corporation Counsel and say, please help. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR U'U HODGINS: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Got it. Okay. Let's see, I had another question. Oh, yeah. I guess this is a Public Works issue, but it is in your folks' plan. So, how would we revise the building subdivision and roadway standards appropriate for rural areas to maintain its character and reduce the cost of development? So, I know Member Sinenci kind of asked that question earlier, how do we help build homes in Hāna, someplace that's so rural, and, you know, make it somewhat affordable? So, taking into his question earlier today and this implementing action, what could we do to assist in that?

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MS. TAKAKURA: . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . So, thank you for that question. Also, I think a lot of that would turn back to the Planning, which is partly the Metropolitan Planning Organization and then also working with Public Works. But, you know, Scott can probably talk because...you know, one thing I had in the presentation this morning is that he's kind part of the alphabet soup of MPO tech and TOD and HCDA, you know, so he's part of the planning...Metropolitan Planning Organization, and then the Transit Oriented Development, and...which is not really for Hāna, but, you know, transportation is so linked to land use planning, but you can...because you work with those groups quite a bit.

MR. FORSYTHE: So, I think, you know, to upgrade the roads, you know, to different standard, you definitely would want to...I don't want to be the expert on that, you definitely need to consult with Public Works to see what they see fit. From the MPO perspective, you know, there's classifications for, you know, roadway systems and things like that. However, for construction-related requirements that may need to beef up the infrastructure, that may be more of a engineering question.

VICE-CHAIR U'U HODGINS: Sure. I heard the bell. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Member Batangan?

COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: Thank you, Chair. And I appreciate you starting on this end so I can ask my questions because I got to run pretty soon. Thank you, Administration for being here with us today. First question has to do with the Countywide Policy Plan. What are the good governance action items that we haven't not yet started, and is there any actions that you...are there any requests of the Council? Is there anything we can help with?

MR. FORSYTHE: Thank you, Councilmember. I think that's a good question, and yes, you can help with all of these.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MR. FORSYTHE: So, just jumping right into it. For good governance, you know, once again, the Countywide Policy Plan actions, you know, they apply to everyone in a broad sense. And so, in specific to the good governance items, which are on page...

COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: And if your report isn't organized, you know, in a way that would allow you to very easily answer the question, I can just ask to put it in writing and you guys can circle back too.

MR. FORSYTHE: We can definitely respond to anything in writing.

COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: Okay. Staff?

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MR. FORSYTHE: However, the report is organized. So, in Exhibit "2," the Countywide Policy Plans are organized by the key theme. And I just flipped through it for the good governance on page...

MS. TAKAKURA: I think there are a few that aren't in there.

MR. FORSYTHE: Yeah, Exhibit "1," page 6. So, there are a few that have not been implemented. I'm counting about five on this page alone. And either there's a cross-section of concept...I refer to these as concepts and not projects. I don't like referring these to as projects because projects really are more refined items that can be developed either as something like a capital project or something that may be a program. Right now these are concepts that can be refined. But I've studied and evaluated the feasibility and implementation...implications have district voting in Maui County Council elections, so this may be something maybe that the County Clerk's Office or the Charter Commission may need to, you know, address more of. But if you have anything specific, we can definitely look into it and get back to you.

COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: Oh. I guess...yeah. So, Staff, could you put in writing for the Department, what are the good governance, I don't know, concepts, I think, is what you called them under the Countywide Policy Plan that have not yet been started, and is there an opportunity for this Council to take action to help get those started?

MR. FORSYTHE: I will look into it. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: Thank you.

MR. PASCUAL: Thank you, Chair. We have it noted.

COUNCILMEMBER BATANGAN: Thank you, Chair. I mean that's...that'll be it for me.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Member Sugimura, your opportunity?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah. The testifier who questioned our...is the Maui Island Plans or the Policy Plans, is it...is it...I don't know what the word is...law, or is it just an aspiration? And the reason why I think that question is good is because in public testimony, or even here, certain community people will say, oh, you know, you can't share the water with whatever to another district. And I found that very alarming because all of us know that, or wonder what we need to do to correct it if they think that because it's in the community plan, you can't share water. Like if Wailuku said they're not going to share water at all, they're going to keep all their water, South Maui would die. So, when that was brought up in testimony here, I said, oh, my God, that person doesn't understand what they're saying. So, in that case, I think they were community advocates who were putting it in the community plan saying that Ha'ikū will no longer share their water, right? Upcountry will no longer share their water. And I said wait, that's not law, number one...and if Wailuku said that to all of us, or Wailuku said that,

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that would be astronomical to community. So, do you have any statement, or is that a Corp. Counsel statement, or Director Takakura?

MS. TAKAKURA: Yes. Thank you, Councilmember Sugimura. If I may, Chair Paltin? So, regarding the permit reviews...so the testifier worked in GIS for a little while, has never worked in permitting, or in a special management area administration, or in the current division which handles the discretionary permits. So, when discretionary permits come to the department, they are all submitted through MAPPS now, and they get routed to the Long-Range Division for the General Plan consistency review. And that's why when Councilmember U'u-Hodgins says the Ha'ikū Fire Station, I'm like, oh, yeah, I remember that one because we did the review for General Plan consistency. So, we are doing that, and we are saying...you know, there are some things that may need to be modified in the project to become consistent, or if it's blatantly inconsistent, then we were going to mention that, and that's done by the Long-Range Division Staff. I don't know any current division planners who are having applicants write reports to the commissioners. That just simply does not happen. They provide the information in MAPPS, and we use that information to create the report, and that's what our staff do. And now, as Acting Director, I'm reading these...I mean I read them anyway just because I'm...it's interesting and, you know, it's good to pay attention, right? But I'm reading those. And if it looks like it's going to be written by an applicant, I'm not going to accept that. And like I mentioned, we don't do that. So, that's just wrong information, so I'm sorry that it has to come up. But Long-Range Division reviews discretionary permits for General Plan consistency. We do that...it's routed to us in MAPPS, we work with the current division planner . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . I'm sorry...but this is...this really needs to be cleared up because this is how we do it. With the CIP and with the budget, it can be a little bit more aspirational because, you know, the departments know exactly what they need. They need...they know that they need to fix certain waterlines like...you know, by Mrs. Ferreira's house and Maui Electric and on Wakea and Kamehameha...you know, we're not going to put that in the community plan, but Water Department might have it in their CIP, right? So, it is a little bit aspirational. These are the projects we want to see for the community, but there's going to be other things that are not necessarily consistent. But...so, there are different uses for the General Plans where there...you know, regulatory and aspirational. And so, in terms of that, it's used both ways. And in terms of things that are in community plans that...like say we're not going to share the water unless our needs are met first? You know, maybe back when that plan was written there wasn't the need for that, but now things are different, where this island is one community and we need to think about it like that. And, you know, if it's going to be where water does not get shared, then maybe we need to change what we think about these communities. Maybe all the development needs to be where the water is. I don't know, that's going to be a policy decision. But, you know, we really need to rethink on how we think about ourselves as a community because we are an island community. And I'm probably going beyond my...because, you know, policy is kind of beyond me, but these are important questions that come up that we need to think about here in 2026. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Council Chair Lee?

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes. You mentioned going beyond, you know, your scope or out of your lane. You mentioned Mrs. Ferreira in Kahului. Are you from Kahului?

MS. TAKAKURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. She has the greenest lawn in the whole world. Yeah, it's a mess.

MS. TAKAKURA: All the decorations in the windows, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Right.

MS. TAKAKURA: But that was...you know, there's --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, on the corner. Okay, I'm just checking because...yeah, I agree. I don't think you should add her to the community plan, yeah. Thank you. That's all I have.

CHAIR PALTIN: That's all? Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That's funny. Mahalo, Chair, and mahalo for this presentation. I appreciate you, Chair, bringing this up. I think it's been a little while, I think since you were the Planning Chair that we had a presentation on this, so mahalo. Acting Director Takakura, I think...I mean, you know, before that is where communities were built where the water was, and not removing it from an ahupua'a to another one. And Moloka'i is very sensitive to that because it doesn't recharge the aquifer. It doesn't take into consideration the connection of the hydrological cycle. Community plans are law. We adopt the bill that we do in two readings, and then the plan becomes the law and all its recommendations and action items. I agree with our testifiers that we should take action, and all these plans have all the action items that we should be taking. So, my question for our resource folks...I like this format. What hasn't changed is the in progress, and when we have PSLU Committee, I asked Implementation Division if they would put like a percentage of like what's in progress...like is it in progress like 10 percent, is it in progress like 90 percent, almost pau, you know? Like I think that makes a difference...Well, I would like to see it, and I'm sure the public would like to see it too. Would that be possible?

CHAIR PALTIN: Go ahead, Mr. Forsythe.

MR. FORSYTHE: Thank you, Councilmember. That's a difficult question to answer. The reason being is that the community plan actions are not like the capital improvement program in which progress is being tracked in various programs. Each project manager on any individual project may be keeping track of this on their own at their own desk all throughout the County. The difficulty lies in when we go out to all the departments and request every year, what is the status of your responsible actions? And it comes

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back to us, Staff changeover...turnovers, I got directors and deputies change, and so that information seems to always fluctuate. And also, an action on a plan that's 20 years old, according to these reports which we've been keeping track of since around 2016 or so, there has been so many hands that go through it that we don't exactly know what the current status may be. So, something could have started 15 years ago, and it's showing as being in progress because it still is in progress. Being complete is another thing, you know. We may be able to show that, hey, it's complete. But to really track things percentage-wise, it really would vary on each . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . action one by one. Because some of the actions could potentially be projects, per se. When I read through many of the actions they seem more like concepts to me, or they could be these are possible programs to explore. These are items that maybe departments, such as Public Works...not to point them out specifically, but they may say, hey, this is a great idea, but it's infeasible to do. And so, it's just very difficult to really put your finger on a specific percentage and count that over time. So, this right now is the best we can do. I think ultimately, the best way to do this would be to have performance measure tracking so we can identify Countywide exactly by what metrics are we meeting certain parameters, such as...just saying sidewalks, for instance. How many feet or lanes of sidewalks, or miles of sidewalks have been constructed across the County? Those are actual measurable things that you can track. The Community Plan, the Maui Island Plan, the Countywide Policy Plan Actions are as easy to do. If that makes sense.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, it does, and I support that. And I did hear the timer, but I just wanted to...if you don't mind, Chair? So, I'll use the example I used earlier with the relocation of the Puko'o Fire Station. As you stated, there's like a lot of projects within that...like to accomplish that, we had...we bought new land, we had to do the studies, we have to construct it...there's a lot of steps, and I would say we're like about 75 percent of the way. So, I hear your . . . *(inaudible)*. . . or better direction. Next round, I'd like to ask you what it would take to do that. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR PALTIN: Sure thing. Member Cook, your opportunity?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Department, all of you, both of you. My question is, first, you have a really hard task to manage. And one of the things I'm going to point out is of the 856 assigned, you know, action items, 856 are to other departments. Who in those departments are measuring the implementation and giving you the information to update it? It just seems...I mean for me as a contractor, and orchestrating projects, and being able to assign action items, and measure things on a Gantt chart, et cetera, it just seems like structurally, there's no real nexus to...there again, we're getting aspirational. I'll just put it flat out there, I think the planning process for the community plans...island plan and community plans is somewhat broken because what's intended and what's desired isn't really manifested the way it is, because it is so abstract in some ways. I remember when I was on the GPAC, there was 25 of us and that was huge, but one of the things we interviewed...had all the different department heads come--Fire, Police, Public Works, Environmental Management, Department of Water Supply--and it was like, okay, tell us what you're going to do in the next 20 years. What do you need so we can budget it? Where are you going to put

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it? And literally, you do roll your eyes and go like, well, I'd kind of like a fire station every so many often, and we're like that, but it's like we don't have the money. It's not going to happen, so why are we contemplating it? It's like they recognized that they couldn't project and commit that kind of money for their department. So, I'd really like to work...hopefully legislatively we can all work together to identify what works, refine it, so that we can have a very meaningful, substantial thing. My witnessing all the different community plans and stuff, very strong individuals will get involved, and will steer the boat. I've seen the Planning Department try and...you know, we're mediating it, we're running the show, and people literally say, you don't know my . . . *(inaudible)*. . . you don't know my community, you just...and then they just run with the ball, and then we end up voting on it, and it becomes law. So, I'd like to be some partway the solution. I don't...and I'm not arguing or debating or pushing away from people who have different views than I do, but I just see what you're trying to accomplish when we're saying measure these things is not really practical or feasible, and we're putting you in an awkward situation. Do you have a comment?

MR. FORSYTHE: Thank you for that comment. I'm not sure if there's a question there, but...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I was basically spelling out what my perspective is . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . and then the question is asking...and you don't need to agree with me, I don't need to be right. My question is kind of what would be the solution to make it work better for you? Do you have any feedback on that?

MR. FORSYTHE: And I agree that would be a good conversation to have. 2.80(B) of Maui County Code is very...very prescriptive in the process and what is required in the development of the General Plan documents. And so, the actions that do evolve into the General Plan documents really are...they are developed because of the way that process is set up, and that's my opinion.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: And if you remember, we did do an on the floor passing of first reading of some of the changing of that prescriptive process in coordinating with the Planning Department because it's so detailed, I guess. And like, you know, it didn't allow for advances in technology like the digital zoning maps and things like that. It said in 2.80(B) something, something, something, that the maps have to be provided in paper, and all of these things. So, the things that we changed in that bill were the most low-hanging fruits, the easiest to change. I think Ms. Takakura has like a laundry list of other things that get a little bit more complicated that will have to wait until after...definitely after budget, but that's just to illustrate Mr. Forsythe's point on how prescriptive the...I mean if you look it up in 2.80(B), there's so many little detailed things that have to be hit, which is a small part of the reason why we sent it back, because...not because they didn't do all of them, but like, you know, if they could pull them out so that we can like yep, they did that...yep, they did that...yep, they did that. So, just to add on to his, what he said.

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COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PALTIN: Member U‘u-Hodgins, for your opportunity?

VICE-CHAIR U‘U HODGINS: I don’t have any other questions, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair, and mahalo for this report. I know...and all of the color codes because I think we just had our notes on our original one, so thank you for this. I know Hāna is the last...the last one, so we got plenty time to move some of these red to yellow and blue, and eventually green. So, I think I visited the junior class at Hāna School and they wanted to see this, so I’ll definitely share this copy with this, but with the intent...like if they want to make some changes as you were speaking, can they do that through the community plan amendment process, or we would have to wait until we get to the Hāna Community Plan?

MS. TAKAKURA: Thank you, Councilmember Sinenci. Do you mean make changes to the Hāna Community Plan?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

MS. TAKAKURA: Oh, they can make changes...they might want to do it now because Hāna is kind of later on in the list. We have this resolution that we follow, 13-13, it has the order so we can’t skip, we have to wait until we get to Hāna. So, they can certainly talk to you, and then you can talk to us, and then we can figure something out to make some updates, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, great. And...yeah, because they were the ones that were most interested in how their town...and I think they have a lot to say about how their town should...you know, should be. Mr. Forsythe, did you want to share?

MR. FORSYTHE: So, thank you for that comment.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And it looks like, you know, some of these we could...by just quickly glancing over this, we could move some of this to the yellow column...from red to yellow. I think we’ve done some work on some of them too.

MR. FORSYTHE: That’s...thank you, Councilmember. That’s what I was going to respond to, is that if you have any specific actions that you have noticed that may be incorrectly marked, please just email me directly and we can take care of it for next year’s report...we’ll just make note and adjust it that way. It’s very difficult when there’s 1,200 actions for, you know, a small division of three to be on top of each General Plan action. And so, it really helps to get feedback from others as well. So, I’d appreciate that.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, thank you. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Oh, shoot, I forgot what my main question was, I was waiting so long. I do have a side question. Is there any spreadsheet of land use backups? It seems the quality and maintenance of the GIS depends on the analyst. Is there a backup spreadsheet of land uses?

MR. FORSYTHE: I'm not...thank you for the question, Chair. I'm not sure if I'm following the question. Is there a backup spreadsheet of land uses?

CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. Like I mean...so when we were...I don't want to say the words, but when we were talking about the phase out, and we were trying to see...remember what was...what happened in like the West Maui Community Plan Advisory Committee, there were a couple of parcels in the community plan that were changed to Hotel, and it was difficult to see them on the paper maps, and it was kind of difficult to see them on the digital as well. Is there like a spreadsheet of land uses and the coordinating, I guess, TMKs or LCAs, RPs and stuff?

MR. FORSYTHE: So, yes. We could, you know, consult with our GIS folks and, you know, they have all of this within a database. And so, I'm sure it can be...so we can acquire it, yeah.

CHAIR PALTIN: Okay, cool. Community plans...oh. You know, for the island plans, like I think we had made a change after Moloka'i...where instead of having like a Moloka'i CPAC and then going to the Moloka'i Planning Commission, and then coming to the Council...or the Lāna'i CPLAC and then the Lāna'i Planning Commission, and then coming to the Council to like expedite the community planning process, that the planning commission would serve as the CPAC and the Planning Commission. Would Hāna Advisory Committee be able to do that? Like instead of us choosing a Hāna CPAC, would the Hāna Advisory Committee get to serve as the Hāna CPAC?

MS. TAKAKURA: Thank you, Chair Paltin. Those are great questions. With the existing 280(B), no...but there's time, we could change that and have that. That's a wonderful idea. And, you know, one thing we have been discussing internally is Moloka'i and Lāna'i being island plans so that...yeah, like you mentioned, it could be eliminating some of the redundancies. Yeah, that would make sense for Hāna too.

CHAIR PALTIN: And then I was thinking, you know, as Mr. Forsythe mentioned, he's a three...three-worker show and him, like how we're going over this Plan Implementation Division for Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Hāna, if they want to work with their...either advisory committee or planning commissions to...you know, instead of having those three guys going to all of that, like maybe they start with the annual review with either the Lāna'i Planning Commission, Moloka'i Planning Commission, or Hāna Advisory because they would have a lot more...like I certainly am not ma'a to what's going on Moloka'i, Hāna, or Lāna'i in the same way that I believe that those folks would be, and it might be just an opportunity for you folks to work smarter, not harder?

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MR. FORSYTHE: Thank you for that, Chair. That would be definitely I think a great help for us in updating the status reports by consulting with them.

CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, cool. Glad I could be of assistance. Anybody for a second round? Oh, Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo, Mr. Forsythe. So, just that follow-up question, and one additional question. What would it take for your division to implement the performance matrix?

MR. FORSYTHE: I have an easy answer. It would take a lot . . . *(laughing)*. . . meaning that I don't think that we have a really accurate assessment of all the available data that is being tracked Countywide and being tracked on a continuous basis. And that's the information that we would need in order to start establishing reporting on performance measures . . . *(inaudible)*. . . through them, you know, tracking in process, ongoing, complete, per se. And so, it would be quite a hefty undertaking to do, and it would also take coordination with all the various County departments who have access to this data, as well as State departments as well. We put some thought into it, it's just it would be an ongoing endeavor once we start, and it would take a lot of staff work. And so, that's just kind of the concern right now is, we just don't have all those people in place to do that.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo. So, our community plan on Moloka'i was adopted in 2018, and I've been using that plan to guide the priorities of my office. So, I have that information. If I gave you that information, would you incorporate that into your annual report?

MR. FORSYTHE: I think we could take a look at it and then have a conversation about it and see how useful it would be to incorporate it into the report. Certainly.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then my last question is regarding a dashboard. So, with the Climate Action Resiliency Plan, they've done a dashboard. And with the Housing Department, they're doing a dashboard. And I think this is really important information so that the public has access to this information, as well as the Councilmembers to just be updated on where we're at. What would it take for your division to have a dashboard?

MR. FORSYTHE: Thank you for the question. And that's something that we've been talking about. Before this year's reporting, we were exploring the...you know, the possibility of developing a dashboard for it. And the reason why we didn't this time around is that we really need to have Staff as committed...continuously be there. Once again, it's an ongoing effort, and it's something that this information...the way that we colored-coded it, the way that we tried to enhance the layout of it is...I don't want to say the best that we can do, but it's probably the best that we can do at this point in time without . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . it's something that we're exploring, I just don't know how huge of an effort it would be for us to actually implement it at this point.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I heard the timer, Chair. How long are you going to be exploring, and how seriously are you exploring?

MR. FORSYTHE: So, last year we did reach out to a few firms across...software firms...enterprise software firms across the U.S., and we were working with Invisio to get their platform in order to develop a dashboard type of product so we could post it on the Web. And either the initial cost for it, we were looking at around...I think around a half million dollars or so. But it was going to be a continuous cost as well for, you know, memberships...or not memberships, but a subscription to use their software. You know, the cost aside, it would be also the staff expertise...and not just the Planning Department, we would need to get the buy-in from other departments to really do their part to help keep that information updated. So, it would really would be a Countywide effort to do something like that.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that response, because it takes like half a million dollars to develop each plan, but some Councilmembers just put it on the shelf. So, I would like for us to not just waste money when we develop plans and actually use them. Mahalo. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Seeing no further questions, we may be flirting with quorum loss. So, if there's no objection, the Chair will defer this item?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion

CHAIR PALTIN: This concludes today's Disaster Recovery, International Affairs, and Planning Committee meeting. Thank you very much, everyone. The time is now 4:29 and like 30 seconds. So, I'm giving you an extra 30 seconds to your day. This meeting is adjourned. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

ADJOURN: 4:29 p.m.

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CERTIFICATION

I, Terianne L. Arreola, hereby certify that pages 1 through 50 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 14th day of April 2026, in Makawao, Hawai'i.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terianne L. Arreola', written over a horizontal line.

Terianne L. Arreola