

## Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2023-2025) on 2024-04-25 9:00 AM

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All Agenda Items A G E N D A BFED-1 Bill 60 (2024) PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2025... All User Locations

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Name	Comment	Position	Attachments	Submitted At
<a href="#">Jen Mather</a>	RE: Reso 24-77 - 266 Dickenson Street  I support granting 266 Dickenson Street to the Lahaina Community Land Trust. Despite the past controversies surrounding its planning and rezoning during previous sessions, this decision marks a pivotal moment for our community's rejuvenation, particularly in the aftermath of the devastating fires that ravaged Lahaina. By entrusting this property to the Land Trust, we not only preserve its significance in the Historic District, but also herald a new era of thoughtful, community-driven development that prioritizes keeping our local people in Lahaina. It is time to	Support		04-25-2024 03:43 pm

Name	Comment	Position	Attachments	Submitted At
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seize this opportunity to honor our heritage, foster resilience, and chart a course toward a vibrant, appropriate future for Lahaina.

<a href="#">Guest User</a>	<p>From: MauiCounty Councilmailbox            Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 2:56 PM To: BFED Committee            Subject: FW: Healing Lahaina with Living Communities - OED Green Building Grant - Please earmark FY25 funds for this project</p> <p>Forwarding to BFED Committee...</p> <p>From: Mark Deakos            Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 2:40 PM To: Alice L. Lee ; Tamara A. Paltin ; Keani N. Rawlins ; Thomas M. Cook ; Shane M. Sinenci ; Yukilei Sugimura ; Gabe Johnson ; Tasha A. Kama ; Nohe M. Uu-Hodgins Cc: MauiCounty Councilmailbox            Subject: Healing Lahaina with Living Communities - OED Green Building Grant - Please earmark FY25 funds for this project</p> <p>Aloha CouncilMembers,</p> <p>I heard some discussion about our grant proposal at yesterday's (April 24) budget hearing. I wanted to clarify a few items:</p> <p>Grantee: Hawaii Association for Marine Education and Research (HAMER) at West Maui 501 (c) 3</p> <p>Total Budget: \$780K (\$56K was originally requested but after learning about existing funds in the FY24 Green Building grant, we put in a proposal for \$99K before the April 30 deadline)</p> <p>Purpose: To build an affordable home for a Lahaina survivor (80% AMI) that showcases Living Building Challenge regenerative concepts (nature restoration, food, net zero energy, net positive water, non-toxic materials, zero waste) can be affordable to everyone. The proposal includes support for UH Maui College in education around</p>	04-25-2024 03:05 pm
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Name	Comment	Position	Attachments	Submitted At
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regenerative design, paid internships, and tradesmen training through their apprenticeship program.

Timeline: The timeline is 2 years (6 months design, 6 months build, 12 months performance monitoring), dependent on permit acquisitions. Status:

Status: We are waiting to hear decisions on funding support from the Hawaii Community Foundation (which provides the bulk of the funding support), Maui United Way, Lahaina Rotary, and the County Office of Innovations (Green Building Grant).

Given that funding has not yet been secured, please consider earmarking \$56 in the FY25 Green Building budget. If we don't need it, the budget amount could be reallocated later.

I'm happy to provide testimony if helpful.

Mahalo for your support of this very important project.

Mark

Mark Deakos, PhD President/Chief Sustainability Officer  
Regen Maui

<a href="#">Guest User</a>	<p>From: County Clerk Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 1:09 PM To: BFED Committee Subject: FW: Testimony in support of Councilmember Johnson's proposal to increase DHHC's Human Concerns Grant Subsidy Program</p> <p>From: Naomi Wick Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 9:05 AM To: County Clerk Subject: Testimony in support of Councilmember Johnson's proposal to increase DHHC's Human Concerns Grant Subsidy Program</p> <p>"I'm providing testimony in support of Councilmember Johnson's proposal to increase DHHC's Human Concerns Grant Subsidy Program by \$3 million dollars. By extension,</p>	04-25-2024 01:22 pm
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Name	Comment	Position	Attachments	Submitted At
	<p>I specifically support the increase to The Maui Farm's budget from \$279,666 to the requested \$313,588."</p> <p>-- Naomi Wick, Notary Administrative Specialist</p> <p>The Maui Farm P.O. Box 1776 Makawao, HI 96768 (808) 579-8271 <a href="mailto:naomi@mauifarm.org">naomi@mauifarm.org</a>   <a href="http://www.themaufarm.org">www.themaufarm.org</a></p>			

<a href="#">BFED Committee</a>	<p>From: County Clerk Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 7:22:50 AM (UTC-10:00) Hawaii To: BFED Committee Subject: FW: Strong Support for FY 2025 Mālama Maui Hikina Project</p> <p>From: mayumi Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 7:16 PM To: County Clerk Subject: Strong Support for FY 2025 Mālama Maui Hikina Project</p> <p>April 19, 2024 Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee Maui County Council 200 South High Street, 7th Floor Wailuku, HI 96793 Subject: Strong Support for FY 2025 Mālama Maui Hikina Project</p> <p>Aloha Chair Lee and Council Members,</p> <p>My name is Mayumi Miura, and I am an ‘Aina Steward with Ke Ao Hali’i and the Mālama Hāna Project. I work at Kaihalulu, Waioka, and Wailua, fostering cultural and ecological awareness among visitors to these wahi pana/ sacred sites in East Maui. For twenty years, I've deepened my connection to Hawaiian culture through hula and oli. Since moving to Hana in 2011, I've developed a particularly strong spiritual bond with the ocean around Ka'uiki. Through my work as an ‘Aina Steward, I educate visitors about the cultural and ecological significance of these wahi pana. Importantly, I also warn them of potential dangers in the wild environment. Witnessing this cultural connection fosters appreciation and respect for nature and Hawaiian culture among visitors. Positive Impact on Wāhi Pana and Visitors I've observed a positive impact on the natural environment through the project. This project raises awareness for everyone, prompting a global reflection on humanity's role in protecting our planet. I think visitor</p>	<p>04-25-2024 07:46 am</p>
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Name	Comment	Position	Attachments	Submitted At
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behavior has been improving, with respect and understanding, it's also reflected in parking and driving habits A Ripple Effect for Global Change I am passionate about creating a ripple effect of environmental awareness spreading outward from Hawaii to the world. I believe the unique ecology and living culture of our islands offer a powerful message for saving our planet.

The positive changes we've witnessed demonstrate the Mālama Maui Hikina project's vital role in protecting Hawaii's wahi pana and ecology. Continued funding is crucial for this project's success. Mahalo for this opportunity to share my testimony.

Sincerely, Mayumi Miura

<a href="#">Lisa Paulson</a>	Aloha, Please see my attached testimony with comments for the RPT discussion.	Neutral	<a href="#">Attachment</a>	04-24-2024 09:55 pm
<a href="#">Guest User</a>	My name is Mary Di Grande. I am writing to request that you add \$285,000 to the Lāna'i Feral Animal Control line item in the Fiscal Year 2025 budget and award it to the Lanai Cat Sanctuary so they can continue to provide feral cat services on the island.  The Lanai Cat Sanctuary has not only reduced the feral cat population on Lāna'i, but they are a leader in the industry for their progressive approach to saving endangered birds by providing humane solutions for cats predated in protected areas.  Unsterilized female cats in Hawaii that are 6 months or older can have up to 3 litters a year, with 3-5 kittens per litter. Without the Lanai Cat Sanctuary, feral cats would overrun the island of Lāna'i.  If the Lanai Cat Sanctuary does not receive the funding needed to continue accepting all feral and unwanted cats, it will severely impact the progress the island of Lāna'i has made in controlling the feral cat population and protecting the native and endangered birds on the island.	Neutral		04-17-2024 08:33 am

Name	Comment	Position	Attachments	Submitted At
	<p>Thank you,</p> <p>Mary Di Grande</p>			
<a href="#">Guest User</a>	<p>Aloha Esteemed Council members My name is Keith Imada and I am a STEM Teacher at Maui High School. I am also the STEMworks facilitator and team 2443 Robotics Coach. I am writing in support of the Maui Economic and Development Board's Economic &amp; Education Development Grant. Through my 30 years of teaching Science and now STEM/Robotics I have found MEDB's STEMworks educational program an invaluable resource and support for my program. They are the community leaders that fund projects and programs to help connect the students at the High School with local professional personnel and groups. They also financially support specific robotics program activities. We could not have sustained our dream of providing our students the rigorous high tech and engineering based competitive robotics program since our humble beginnings in 2006. I do not have enough time nor the space in this email to describe all the opportunities that MEDB's grants and support have provided to the STEM students at Maui High School, but please know that in all of the tragedies that we on Maui have survived, the students and children that we educators all work with will be the reason that Maui communities continue to thrive in the 21st century. We need to continue to provide all students the STEM education needed to make educated decisions in researching, designing and analyzing solutions that will keep our communities Maui Strong and Maui No Ka Oi - Thank-you for your time! Keith Imada - Teacher Maui High School - STEMworks teacher and Robotics Coach</p>	Support		04-16-2024 04:31 pm



*Maui Hotel & Lodging*  
ASSOCIATION

April 25, 2024

Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura  
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee  
200 South High Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Sugimura and Members of the Committee:

The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association (MHLA) is the legislative arm of the visitor industry. We represent 172 Maui County property and allied business members and 22,000 employees. These employees rely on their jobs at hotels, restaurants, activity companies, cleaning, construction, and agriculture to provide for their families, send their children to college, and plan their future here on the island.

As you are deliberating RPT rates, we would like to re-state our support for an equitable share of property taxes across all classifications. We are concerned about creating an unsustainable budget, with the proposed 60.6% of the RPT revenues generated from the visitor accommodation sector for FY25. If we genuinely look at diversifying our economy, the current trajectory of tax revenues will be unsustainable with the current overreliance on visitor industry tax revenues. We believe it is prudent to set up our county's future to be sustainable and look at equitable real property taxes.

When the counties took responsibility for establishing RPT rates in 1981, all classifications paid the same tax rate. Today, visitor accommodations pay effective rates more than six times higher than homeowners. I have included some historical RPT tables in this testimony for your review.

Furthermore, the persistence of illegal vacation rentals, largely due to lax enforcement and fining efforts, poses a significant challenge. The County is potentially losing out on millions of dollars in RPT, TAT, and GET. We urge the committee to consider the economic implications of this issue. Stricter laws and their diligent enforcement could provide more housing for our residents and significantly boost our county's income.

In conclusion, I would like to express my deep appreciation for the visitor industry and its employees for supporting their own teams and residents during the recent fires and recovery efforts. While it is true that the hotels received government funding to provide safe housing for our residents, they still had to cover their operating costs and maintain their employees to run their accommodations. Many properties went above and beyond in caring for our residents, organizing activities for the keiki, live music, and banquets for the holidays. Yet, there has been a lack of acknowledgment for the industry's efforts in ensuring the safety and well-being of our residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
Lisa H. Paulson  
Executive Director



**Maui County Real Property Tax Rates  
Proposed FY2025 Budget & Historical Data**

Classification	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	Proposed 2025 Mayor's Budget
Homeowner (Owner-Occupied)	\$2.85	\$2.90	-	-	-	-	-
Tier One: up to \$1M			\$2.51	\$2.41	\$2.00	\$1.90	\$2.00
Tier Two: \$1M - \$3M			\$2.56	\$2.51	\$2.10	\$2.00	\$2.50
Tier Three: > \$3M			\$2.61	\$2.71	\$2.71	\$2.75	\$3.25
Residential (non owner-occupied)	\$5.52	\$5.60	-	-	-	-	-
Tier One: up to \$1M			\$5.45	\$5.45	\$5.85	\$5.85	\$6.00
Tier Two: \$1M - \$4.5M			\$6.05	\$6.05	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.50
Tier Three: > \$4.5M			\$6.90	\$8.00	\$12.50	\$12.50	\$14.00
Long Term Rental	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tier One: up to \$1M	-	-	-	-	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3.00
Tier Two: \$1M - \$3M	-	-	-	-	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
Tier Three: > \$3M	-	-	-	-	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00
Apartment	\$6.31	\$6.31	\$5.55	\$5.55	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50
Commercial	\$7.25	\$7.39	\$6.29	\$6.29	\$6.05	\$6.05	\$6.05
Industrial	\$7.45	\$7.48	\$7.20	\$7.20	\$7.05	\$7.05	\$7.05
Agriculture	\$6.00	\$5.94	\$5.94	\$5.94	\$5.74	\$5.74	\$5.74
Conservation	\$6.35	\$6.43	\$6.43	\$6.43	\$6.43	\$6.43	\$6.43
<b>Hotel/Resort</b>	<b>\$9.37</b>	<b>\$11.00</b>	<b>\$10.70</b>	<b>\$11.75</b>	<b>\$11.75</b>	<b>\$11.75</b>	<b>\$11.75</b>
<b>Timeshare</b>	<b>\$15.41</b>	<b>\$14.40</b>	<b>\$14.40</b>	<b>\$14.60</b>	<b>\$14.60</b>	<b>\$14.60</b>	<b>\$14.60</b>
Short Term Rental	\$9.28	\$10.75	\$11.08	-	-	-	-
Tier One: up to \$1M				\$11.11	\$11.85	\$11.85	\$12.50
Tier Two: \$1M - \$3M				\$11.15	\$11.85	\$11.85	\$13.50
Tier Three: > \$3M				\$11.20	\$11.85	\$11.85	\$15.00
Commercialized Residential	\$4.55	\$4.60	\$4.40	\$4.40	\$4.40	\$4.40	\$5.00

### Maui County Real Property Tax Rates

#### RPT Historical Data FY05 - FY18

Classification	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
Homeowner	\$3.55	\$3.50	\$2.50	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.75	\$2.87	\$2.78	\$2.75	\$2.70	\$2.86
Residential	\$5.86	\$5.86	\$5.00	\$4.85	\$4.85	\$4.85	\$5.00	\$5.55	\$5.75	\$5.75	\$5.57	\$5.40	\$5.30	\$5.54
Apartment	\$5.86	\$5.86	\$5.00	\$4.55	\$4.55	\$4.55	\$5.00	\$5.50	\$6.20	\$6.40	\$6.20	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.32
Commercial	\$6.75	\$6.75	\$6.00	\$6.25	\$6.25	\$6.25	\$6.25	\$6.25	\$6.90	\$7.05	\$6.83	\$6.60	\$6.60	\$7.28
Industrial	\$6.75	\$6.75	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$7.00	\$7.10	\$7.30	\$7.07	\$6.85	\$6.69	\$7.49
Agriculture	\$4.93	\$4.93	\$4.50	\$4.50	\$4.50	\$4.50	\$5.00	\$5.80	\$6.00	\$6.05	\$5.86	\$5.75	\$5.66	\$6.01
Conservation	\$4.93	\$4.93	\$4.75	\$4.75	\$4.75	\$4.75	\$5.00	\$5.60	\$6.20	\$6.25	\$6.06	\$5.90	\$5.80	\$6.37
Hotel/Resort	\$8.30	\$8.30	\$8.20	\$8.20	\$8.20	\$8.20	\$8.30	\$9.00	\$9.15	\$9.40	\$9.11	\$8.85	\$8.71	\$9.37
Timeshare	\$0.00	\$14.00	\$14.00	\$14.00	\$14.00	\$14.00	\$14.00	\$15.00	\$15.50	\$15.55	\$15.07	\$14.55	\$14.31	\$15.43
Commercialized Residential	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4.00	\$4.20	\$4.50	\$4.60	\$4.46	\$4.35	\$4.35	\$4.56