

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Tom Cook
Gabe Johnson
Tamara Paltin
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

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

April 9, 2025

Mr. Bradford Ventura, Fire Chief
Department of Fire and Public Safety
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chief Ventura:

SUBJECT: **FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET** (BFED-1) (FS-03)

Thank you for participating in the Committee's discussion on April 7, 2025. The Committee respectfully submits the follow-up questions listed below. May I further request that you transmit a written response to bfed.committee@mauicounty.us by **April 15, 2025**.

1. The following relate to the Fireworks Auditor Fund: (TP)
 - a. Why is only \$4,000 anticipated to be deposited into the Fireworks Auditor Fund when the Department anticipates collecting \$15,500 by the end of FY 2025?
 - b. Has a position description been created for the Fireworks Auditor? If yes, has it been described? Would it require a reorganization?
 - c. Within the past three fiscal years, how much revenue was collected from permit fees for: non-aerial common fireworks, aerial/special fireworks, and fireworks display site inspections?
 - i. Could the fee revenue collected be deposited into the Fireworks Auditor Fund? Would the amount collected be enough to hire a Fireworks Auditor? Please explain.

2. What has been the Department's experience with the two software platforms, Genasys EVAC by Genasys Inc. and TRAFFIC AI by Ladris? (TP)
3. Has the Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization identified any high-hazard areas in the County? Is the Fire Prevention Bureau able to conduct inspections of these high-hazard areas and send notices to non-compliant landowners? (TP)
4. The Department's equipment total on page 290 of the Program Budget shows \$9,833,776. But the subfund total on page 9-2 of the Budget Details shows \$8,473,336. By adding the totals of the revolving fund and grant revenue fund, total equipment should equal \$9,841,942. Please confirm whether the Department's equipment total is \$9,833,776 or \$9,841,942. (TP)
5. Please explain Unified Command within the Incident Command System. Consider describing the organization, establishment, roles of each agency, purposes, and factors implementing Unified Command.
 - a. What is your Department's role in relation to the roles of the Department of Police and Maui Emergency Management Agency during an evacuation event? (TP)
6. How many personnel are Kanahā Beach Park Lifeguard Towers 10A and 10B each designed to accommodate? (TP)
7. For the proposed lifeguard tower at Pu'u Keka'a, how many personnel will it accommodate? What type of tower is being considered for this area? (TP)
8. Please explain what types of permits are required for lifeguard towers. (TP) (TC)
9. In your FS-01 response, you noted that the Ocean Safety Officer positions for Pu'u Keka'a are vacant until the Department obtains the necessary building permits for the lifeguard tower. Will the permitting, materials, and construction of the tower be paid for by Kaanapali Operations Association, Inc.? (TP)

10. In your FS-02 response, you noted that there are 12 remaining positions still in the creation process. Please clarify. (TP)
11. As a follow-up to your FS-02 response on CBS-1002 Ha'ikū Fire Station: (TP)
 - a. You noted that none of the CIP funds for this project have been encumbered or expended to date. Can the Department begin to draw down the FY 2025 appropriation of \$14,500,000 and work with the budgeted \$15,181,000 in federal funds? Does the Department still need the FY 2026 General Fund appropriation of \$3,400,000 or can the \$3,400,000 be delayed until FY 2027?
 - b. Is the Department aware of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's status under the Trump Administration? The County Department of Agriculture has paused programs due to an Executive Order that froze federal funding. What would be the status of the Ha'ikū Fire Station if the County does not receive federal funds?
12. For the Department's vacancies, please provide the position ID, job title, and date since the position has been vacant. (TP)
13. Are the proposed FY 2026 expansion positions civil-service positions? (TP)
14. When will Recruit Class 42 begin? Is this recruit class intended for the FY 2026 Fire Fighter I expansion positions? (TP)
15. Can the \$250,000 under Index Code 911488B-7541 County Funds be reimbursed to the General Fund once the Fire Hazard Removal Revolving Fund becomes self-sufficient? Can funds be used or transferred from the Plan Review, Processing, and Inspection Revolving Fund or remain a general fund balance instead of a revolving fund balance? (TP)
16. The following relate to CBS-1003 Countywide Fire Facilities: (YLS)
 - a. For Fire Facility Assessments Phase 3, what is the status of Phases 1 and 2? Were these projects previously funded under

the same CIP? Are the projects listed from 2 through 16 under the Project Description a result of Phases 1 and 2?

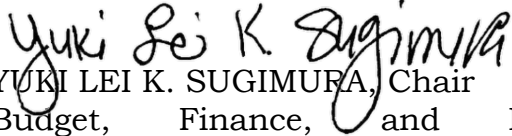
- b. Do the individual projects meet the definition of “capital improvement” under Section 3.04.010, Maui County Code? If no, should the funding be moved to an appropriate index code in the Budget? Please explain.
17. As a follow-up to your FS-02 response on CBS-8918 Kula Fire Station Apparatus Bay: (YLS)
- a. You noted “the department has reviewed the preliminary design. The design consultant is currently working on the construction documents and preparing for building permit submission.” Under the CIP’s Schedule of Activities, the Design period is July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024, with an amount of \$0. Why is the amount \$0? Is the design consultant in-house and has the final design been completed? Please update this information if needed.
18. Does the Department inspect private fire hydrants? If yes, how often? If no, who is responsible for the inspections? (TP)
19. Please explain the decision to install a Starlink in each Battalion Chief vehicle as opposed to installing it in the Department’s fire stations. (TP)
20. Under 911076C-7040 Motor Vehicles, please explain why camper shells are needed for Battalion Chief command vehicles. (TP)
21. You noted to the Committee last year that there were nine Ocean Safety Officer I position vacancies — P-30948, P-30957, P-32528, P-32544, P-32545, P-32546, P-32547, P-32568, and P-32534 — pending the Pu‘u Keka‘a contract. For FY 2026, why are these vacant positions listed as Ocean Safety Officer II? Why have four of these vacant positions — P-32544, P-32545, P-32546, P-32547 — received step movements? Please explain. (TP)

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

Mr. Bradford Ventura
April 9, 2025
Page 5

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

Sincerely,


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

bfed:2026bgt:250407afs01:jpp

cc: Mayor Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Budget Director
Deputy Fire Chief

BFED Committee

From: BFED Committee
Sent: Wednesday, April 9, 2025 11:28 AM
To: Bradford Ventura
Cc: BFED Committee; 'Michelle Santos'; 'Zeke Kalua'; Lesley Milner;
kristina.cabbat@co.maui.hi.us; tiare.p.horner@co.maui.hi.us; Janina Agapay; Gavin
Fujioka; Chasserae Kaawa; Richelle.Wakamatsu@co.maui.hi.us
Subject: FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET (BFED-1) (FS-03); reply by 04/15/2025
Attachments: (FS-3) Correspondence to Fire Chief 04-09-2025.pdf

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

JOSIAH K. NISHITA
Managing Director

BRADFORD K. VENTURA
Fire Chief

GAVIN L.M. FUJIOKA
Deputy Fire Chief



DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & PUBLIC SAFETY

COUNTY OF MAUI
200 DAIRY ROAD
KAHULUI, MAUI, HAWAII 96732
www.maui-county.gov

April 15, 2025

Ms. Lesley Milner, Budget Director,
County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

A handwritten signature in black ink, likely of Richard T. Bissen, Jr., written over the address of Ms. Lesley Milner.

The Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

A handwritten signature in black ink, likely of Richard T. Bissen, Jr., written over the "APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL" text.
Mayor **Date** 4-15-25

For Transmittal to:

The Honorable Yuki Lei Sugimura, Chair
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Chair Sugimura,

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET (BFED-1) (FS-03)

The Department of Fire & Public Safety has received your letter dated April 9, 2025. Please see our responses below in **bold**.

1. The following relates to the Fireworks Auditor Fund: (TP)
 - a. Why is only \$4,000 anticipated to be deposited into the Fireworks Auditor Fund when the Department anticipates collecting \$15,500 by the end of FY 2025?

The revenue in this fund is generated through the fireworks license (Import, Storage, Retail, and Wholesale) as stated in HRS 132-11. Since majority of the revenue for Maui County is generated from the retail license, the anticipated deposit will depend on if the fireworks vendors will be selling fireworks during the 4th of July and New Years. Other counties have Firecrackers Permits and Aerial Fireworks Permits also going into this fund. The Department needs to check if this is possible with the HRS rules.

- b. Has a position description been created for the Fireworks Auditor? If yes, has it been describe? Would it require a reorganization?

No, a position description has not been created as the currently generated funds are insufficient. If this position is created, it would require a supervisory only reorganization.

- c. Within the past three fiscal years, how much revenue was collected from permit fees for: non-aerial common fireworks, aerial/special fireworks, and fireworks display site inspections?

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Fireworks License	\$19,500	\$17,500	\$11,500
Aerial Display Permit	\$3,190	\$1,540	\$1,760
Aerial Inspection	\$5,800	\$2,800	\$3,200
Firecracker Permit*	\$26,600	\$29,200	\$22,500

*Calendar year.

- i. Could the fee revenue collected be deposited into the Fireworks Auditor Fund? Would the amount collected be enough to hire a Fireworks Auditor? Please explain.

The decision to follow the other counties and deposit revenue collected via permit fees for non-aerial common fireworks, aerial/special fireworks, and fireworks display site inspections should be decided by the County of Maui. If this change is made, it will likely generate enough funds to support the Fireworks Auditor position.

2. What has been the Department's experience with the two software platforms, Genasys EVAC by Genasys Inc. and TRAFFIC AI by Ladris? (TP)

The Department's Fire Battalion Chiefs as well as personnel who typically respond to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during activation have received an initial training of the Genasys EVAC software. Genasys has provided maps with distinct zones to assist with evacuation during emergencies. Fire Battalion Chiefs will utilize the zone maps to communicate with Maui Emergency Management Agency and Maui Police Department. The Department looks forward to additional trainings and discussions prior to going live.

The Department has been introduced to TRAFFIC AI by Ladris but it is software that will be used by the Maui Emergency Management Agency.

3. Has the Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization identified any high-hazard areas in the County? Is the Fire Prevention Bureau able to conduct inspections of these high-hazard areas and send notices to non-compliant landowners? (TP)

Yes, the Department sent letters at the beginning of April 2025 advising landowners of the areas that will be inspected. Inspections will be conducted by June 2025. If the landowner is not compliant, a warning letter will be issued. If landowners continue to be non-compliant, a violation letter will be issued.

4. The Department's equipment total on page 290 of the Program Budget shows \$9,833,776. But the subfund total on page 9-2 of the Budget Details show \$8,473,336. By adding the totals of the revolving fund and grant revenue fund, a total equipment should equal \$9,841,942. Please confirm whether the Department's equipment total is \$9,833,776 or \$9,841,942. (TP)

Yes, the total equipment is \$9,841,942.

5. Please explain Unified Command within the Incident Command System. Consider describing the organization, establishment, roles of each agency, purposes, and factors implementing Unified Command.

Unified Command is one of the many models used when organizing an incident. It normally works well when different agencies have similar levels of responsibility. For example, Unified Command would be used during a hurricane incident which effects many different agencies and/or jurisdictions over multiple operations periods. Factors for implementing a Unified Command may include the following:

- Clear communication protocols
- Agency capabilities and resources
- Jurisdictional boundaries
- Agreements, memorandums of understanding
- Familiarity with the Incident Command System

During a fire or police centric incident (e.g., Fire – Wildland Brush Fire, Police – Active Shooter) that will likely extend over multiple operational periods, the department with the most responsibility during the first operational period will become the Incident Commander (IC). The IC will organize the incident into divisions, groups, etc. During a fire-centric incident, the IC will likely assign Police a law enforcement or evacuation group with a single leader depending on their responsibilities.

At any time during an incident, an agency may provide a liaison to the IC which may not necessarily be named on the IAP during a unified command.

- a. What is your Department's role in relation to the roles of the Department of Police and Maui Emergency Management Agency during an evacuation event? (TP)

For fire-centric incidents, the Department may determine the need for evacuations which will be communicated to Maui Police Department (MPD) via face-to-face meeting in the field and/or through radio communications. Maui Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) via the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be monitoring the radio as well as the internal (MFD only) communications platform for evacuation notifications. MPD will conduct door-to-door evacuations, manage traffic, and ensure evacuation routes are safe. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will utilize its suite of alert and warning tools, including Genasys Protect, Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) to mobile phones, the Emergency Alert System (EAS) for radio and television broadcasts, and the Public Siren System, followed by EAS messaging.

6. How many personnel are Kanaha Beach Park Lifeguard Towers 10A and 10B each designed to accommodate? (TP)

Tower 10A can comfortably accommodate four Ocean Safety Officers (OSOs), while Tower 10B is intended for one. However, for optimal coverage at Kanaha we strive for four OSOs at Tower 10A and two OSOs at Tower 10B.

7. For the proposed lifeguard tower at Pu'u Keka'a, how many personnel will it accommodate? What type of tower is being considered for this area? (TP)

The Pu'u Keka'a lifeguard tower will be a wooden building that will accommodate four personnel.

8. Please explain what types of permits are required for lifeguard towers. (TP) (TC)

The Department met with the Department of Planning do discuss the permits that may be required:

- **SMA Permits:** For any projects taking place in the designated SMA zone, which is typically makai of major roadways running along our coastlines. Subtypes of SMA permits include:
 - **SMA Minor:** Projects under \$500,000. All of the Department's simple lifeguard towers should fall within this category. Once all requisite information and documentation is submitted, the Planning Department can issue these without going through the Planning Commission. (Application: SMX)

- **SMA Exemptions:** There are projects that can be issued an exemption from the Planning Department, however this still requires you to submit an application and receive explicit approval from the Planning Department. (Application: SMX)
- **Shoreline Permits:** There is a tool known as the Shoreline Setback Viewer that shows the designated shoreline area for planning purposes. The “red line” is the erosion hazard (shoreline setback) and the “blue line” (200’ from the shore) is the default for areas where no red line appears. For any project taking place within the shoreline area or makai of the red line (shoreline setback) the project is subject to the Shoreline Rules of the Maui Planning Commission. The scope of work determines which shoreline application is required:
 - **Shoreline Setback Approval and/or Determination Application (SSAD):** There are currently 26 allowable activities/ structures in the shoreline setback area. Most of these involve repair or replacement of existing structures. The Department must submit a SSAD application to receive approval.
 - **Shoreline Setback Variance Application (SSV):** If the scope of work does not fall within the 26 allowable activities/ structures then a shoreline setback variance application is required which is strictly approved by the Planning Commission. Note: A part of the SSV application will likely include an Environmental Assessment and a certified shoreline survey.
- **Change in Zoning (CIZ):** Required when the proposed project is inconsistent with the current zoning designation for the location. Either the zoning designation must be changed, or a Special Use Permit must be issued, which involves approvals from the Planning Commission.
- **Community Plan Amendments (CPA):** This is required when the proposed project is inconsistent with the currently approved community plan. In such instances, the plan must be changed to be consistent with the project, which involves various steps.
- **Chapter 343 Environmental Compliance:** There are 9 types of actions that “trigger” environmental compliance. The use of county/state funds or lands use of a shoreline are two types of actions that trigger environmental compliance, thus, an MFD project will most likely always trigger environmental compliance. If the project does not meet any of the exemption categories, then an Environmental Assessment is required.

9. In your FS-01 response, you noted that the Ocean Safety Officer positions for Pu’u Keka’a are vacant until the Department obtains the necessary building permits for the lifeguard

tower. Will the permitting, materials, and construction of the tower be paid for by the Kaanapali Operations Association, Inc.? (TP)

Yes. According to the lifeguard tower agreement “the cost of constructing and installing the tower along with the cost of major equipment needed for the tower to be placed into full operation shall be funded by Kaanapali Operations Association, Inc. (KOA)”.

10. In your FS-02 response, you noted that there are 12 remaining positions still in the creation process. Please clarify. (TP)

FY 2025 Adopted Budget P-XXXX	Title
P-00546	Fire Captain (PIO/PubEd)
P-00545	Fire Fighter III (Health & Safety)
P-00526	Fire Fighter III (BC Driver)
P-00527	Fire Fighter III (BC Driver)
P-00528	Fire Fighter III (BC Driver)
P-00529	Fire Fighter III (BC Driver)
P-00530	Fire Fighter III (BC Driver)
P-00531	Fire Fighter III (BC Driver)
P-00541	Fire Fighter III (FPB)
P-00542	Fire Fighter III (FPB)
P-00548	Fire Fighter III (FPB)
P-00549	Fire Fighter III (FPB)

The positions listed above are currently awaiting processing by the Department of Personnel Services. The Fire Captain (PIO/PubEd) and the Fire Fighter III (Health & Safety) is in the process of being created. The six Fire Fighter III (BC Driver) positions are under review by the Department of Personnel Services as they do not agree with the rank (Fire Fighter III). The Department has received approval from the Mayor and County Council via the FY 2025 Adopted Budget. The Department continues to work with DPS to get these positions created and filled.

11. As a follow-up to your FS-02 response on CBS-1002 Haiku Fire Station: (TP)
- a. You noted that none of the CIP funds for this project have been encumbered or expended to date. Can the Department begin to draw down the FY 2025 appropriation of \$14,500,000 and work with the budgeted \$15,181,000 in federal funds? Does the Department still need the FY 2026 General Fund appropriation of \$3,400,000 or can the \$3,400,000 be delayed until FY 2027?

The Department has received notification that the federal funding for the Haiku Fire Station will not be available in Federal FY 2025 as Congress is

operating under a full year continuing resolution. The Administration continues to push for inclusion of the funding in Federal FY2026 as a Congressionally Directed Spending appropriation, as the timeline for Federal FY2026 funding does not delay the project. If notification is received that the funding will not be available in County FY2026, the Administration anticipates asking the Council for consideration of a budget amendment to add the funds to the County FY 2026 budget, most likely using bonds. If the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee would prefer to add the bond funding at this stage, the Administration has no objection. If the project continues to move forward as planned, we will need the \$3,400,000 to put towards the project.

- b. Is the Department aware of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's status under the Trump Administration? The County Department of Agriculture has paused programs due to an Executive Order that froze federal funding. What would be the status of the Haiku Fire Station if the County does not receive federal funds?

As mentioned in the response to Question 11a above, if Federal funding will not be immediately available the Department will be asking the Council for consideration of a budget amendment to complete this project.

12. For the Department's vacancies, please provide the position ID, job title, and date since the position has been vacant. (TP)

The vacancies include the following:

P-XXXXX	Job Title	Date of Vacancy
P-32527	Ocean Safety Officer I	1/16/2024
P-32528	Ocean Safety Officer I	1/16/2024
P-32529	Ocean Safety Officer I	1/16/2024
P-32530	Ocean Safety Officer I	1/16/2024
P-32531	Ocean Safety Officer I	1/16/2024
P-32532	Ocean Safety Officer I	1/16/2024
P-32534	Ocean Safety Officer I	1/16/2024
P-32535	Ocean Safety Officer III	4/16/2024
P-32535	Ocean Safety Officer III	4/1/2024
P-29742	Ocean Safety Officer I*	4/13/2024
P-29744	Ocean Safety Officer I*	4/1/2023
P-32568	Ocean Safety Officer I*	2/16/2023

*Half-time.

The following expansion positions are not considered to be vacant as they are in the creation process with the Department of Personnel Services.

FY 2025 Adopted Budget P-XXXX	Title
P-00546	Fire Captain (PIO/PubEd)
P-00545	Fire Fighter III (Health & Safety)
P-00526	Fire Fighter III (BC Aide)
P-00527	Fire Fighter III (BC Aide)
P-00528	Fire Fighter III (BC Aide)
P-00529	Fire Fighter III (BC Aide)
P-00530	Fire Fighter III (BC Aide)
P-00531	Fire Fighter III (BC Aide)
P-00541	Fire Fighter III (FPB)
P-00542	Fire Fighter III (FPB)
P-00548	Fire Fighter III (FPB)
P-00549	Fire Fighter III (FPB)

13. Are the proposed FY 2026 expansion positions civil-service positions? (TP)

There are four civil service positions: 1) Building Maintenance Supervisor, 2), Building Maintenance Repairer I, 3) Communications Support Technician, and 4) Grants Coordinator.

14. When will Recruit Class 42 begin? Is this recruit class intended for the FY 2026 Fire Fighter I expansion positions? (TP)

Fire Fighter Trainee Recruit Class 42 is scheduled to start on June 16, 2025. This recruit class is intended to fill the balance of the FY 2025 expansion positions, vacancies caused by retirees, as well as the FY 2026 expansion positions, if approved. Note: It is difficult to anticipate the number of vacancies that will be caused by retirees.

15. Can the \$250,000 under Index Code 911488B-7541 County Funds be reimbursed to the General Fund once the Fire Hazard Removal Revolving Fund becomes self-sufficient? Can funds be use or transferred from the Plan Review, Processing, and Inspection Revolving Fund or remain a general fund balance instead of a revolving fund balance? (TP)

The 911488B-7541 County Funds will only be used to add funds into 101063 Fire Hazard Removal Revolving Fund which is created by HRS Chapter 132 and are guided by Maui County Code Chapter 3.68. As we collect from people that will reduce our need to transfer from 911488B. The timeline for collections is unknown. Once collections are able to sustain a level of working capital in this account the department would welcome a discussion to reimburse the funds to the General Fund.

The Plan Review Revolving Fund (Index Code 101075) can only be used for two Plan Reviewer positions, or services and equipment for the Fire Prevention Bureau as indicated by Maui County Code 16.04E.060.

16. The following relate to CBS-1003 Countywide Fire Facilities: (YLS)

- a. For Fire Facility Assessments Phase 3, what is the status of Phase 1 and 2? Were these projects previously funded under the same CIP? Are the projects listed from 2 – 16 under the Project Description a result of Phase 1 and 2?

Phase 1 and 2 of the Facility Assessment have been completed. However, they were funded under Administration 911008B (Professional Services) in past budgets. Majority of the projects listed in the Project Description is a direct result of the Phase 1 and 2 assessments.

- b. Do the individual projects meet the definition of “capital improvement” under Section 3.04.010, Maui County Code? If no, should the funding be moved to an appropriate index code in the Budget? Please explain.

The Department did its best to align budget requests with the definitions dictated in the County Code. If necessary, the Department does not object to moving an item to a different index code.

17. As a follow-up to your FS-02 response on CBS-8918 Kula Fire Station Apparatus Bay: (YLS)

- a. You noted “the department has reviewed the preliminary design. The design consultant is currently working on the construction documents and preparing for building permit submission.” Under the CIPs, Schedule of Activities, the Design period is July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024, with an amount of \$0. Why is the amount \$0? Is the design consultant in-house and has the final design been completed? Please update this information if needed.

A design consultant contract was secured with CIP funds during the FY 2024 cycle which is reflected in the period mentioned above. Design work continues and is nearing completion of the construction bid package. If the requested funding is approved for construction, the Department will put the project out to bid and move forward with construction in FY 2026.

18. Does the Department inspect private fire hydrants? If yes, how often? If no, who is responsible for the inspections? (TP)

The Department inspects installations of private fire hydrants and are in the process of working on a maintenance inspection program. In this program all third-party inspections for maintenance of private hydrants will be entered into the LIV (Life Safety Inspection Vault) software. Inspections will be required annually, and the software will allow our personnel to ensure compliance.

19. Please explain the decision to install a Starlink in each Battalion Chief vehicle as opposed to installing it in the Department's fire stations. (TP)

All fire stations currently have internet service through the County of Maui. The Starlink devices will provide a reliable avenue of communications in areas with no or poor cellular service during an emergency incident. The Starlink device will also provide reliable internet service to the department's drone operators while in the field which will allow for live videos to be streamed to the Emergency Operations Center and Department Chief Officers for situational awareness during an emergency incident. If necessary, these devices could be set up at a station if cellular or internet service is lost during an emergency.

20. Under 911076C-7040 Motor Vehicles, please explain why camper shells are needed for Battalion Chief command vehicles. (TP)

The funds budgeted in this request are for two pick-up trucks with camper shells. The camper shells are needed to provide protection and security for important and costly items (e.g., SCBA cylinders, oxygen cylinders, PPEs, Command Board, medical equipment, thermal imagers, etc.) carried in the beds of the Battalion Chief vehicles.

21. You noted to the Committee last year that there were nine Ocean Safety Officer I position vacancies – P-30948, P-30957, P-32528, P-32544, P-32545, P-32546, P-32547, P-32568, and P-32534 – pending the Pu'u Keka'a contract. For FY 2026, why are these vacant positions listed as Ocean Safety Officer II? Why have four of these vacant positions – P-32544, P-32545, P-32546, P-32547 – received step movements? Please explain. (TP)

The numbers listed in the question were errantly provided last year. The nine Ocean Safety Officer positions for Pu'u Keka'a are designated as follows.

FY 2024 Council Adopted Budget	Official P-XXXX	Title
P-X3055	P-32527	Ocean Safety Officer I
P-X3056	P-32528	Ocean Safety Officer I
P-X3057	P-32529	Ocean Safety Officer I
P-X3058	P-32530	Ocean Safety Officer I
P-X3059	P-32531	Ocean Safety Officer I
P-X3060	P-32532	Ocean Safety Officer I
P-X3061	P-32534	Ocean Safety Officer I
P-X3053	P-32535	Ocean Safety Officer III
P-X3054	P-32536	Ocean Safety Officer III

The Ocean Safety Officer I positions reflect the Ocean Safety Officer II level in FY 2026 as the incumbents are projected to satisfactorily pass the 6-month probation period and be reallocated upwards to Ocean Safety Officer II in FY 2026.

As noted above, the four positions (P-32544, P-32545, P-32546, and P-32547) were incorrectly designated. The funding for the Pu'u Keka'a positions has not been increased. The four positions are currently filled, and the incumbent is expected to receive a step movement during FY 2026.

We would also like to put in writing our budget adjustments that were requested on April 7 at the BFED meeting.

Proposed Budget Item	Requested Change
911008B-6132	<u>Reduce</u> by \$40,000.
BMR Supervisor, BMR, Comms Tech and Grant Coordinator	<u>Reduce</u> funding to 4-month funding Net \$89,176 savings.
6 FFI Positions	<u>Reduce</u> funding to 6-month funding Net \$90,760 savings.
911421B-6135	Request <u>addition</u> of \$143,000 for repaving the training center.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the Fire Chief at (808) 270-7561.

Sincerely,



BRADFORD K. VENTURA
Fire Chief

BFED Committee

From: Janina E. Agapay <Janina.E.Agapay@co.maui.hi.us>
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 4:16 PM
To: BFED Committee
Cc: Lesley J. Milner; Bradford K. Ventura; Gavin L. Fujioka; Chasserae K. Kaawa
Subject: (BFED-1)(FS-03)
Attachments: (BFED-1)(FS-03).pdf

Hello,

Please see attached correspondence (BFED-1)(FS-03).

Thank you,

Janina Agapay

County of Maui | Budget Office

Phone: (808) 270-7836

Email: Janina.E.Agapay@co.maui.hi.us