

# **BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**Council of the County of Maui**

## **MINUTES**

**April 25, 2024**

**Online Only via Teams**

**CONVENE:** 9:11 a.m.

**PRESENT:** Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair  
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Vice-Chair (in 9:24 a.m.)  
Councilmember Tom Cook, Member  
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Member  
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member (out 4:30 p.m.)  
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member  
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member  
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member  
Councilmember Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins, Member

**STAFF:** James Krueger, Senior Committee Analyst  
Kasie Apo Takayama, Senior Committee Analyst (back up)  
Jarret Pascual, Legislative Analyst  
Clarissa MacDonald, Legislative Analyst  
Carla Nakata, Legislative Attorney  
Megan Moniz, Legislative Attorney  
Yvette Bouthillier, Senior Committee Secretary  
Lenora Dinneen, Council Services Assistant Clerk

### **Additional staff**

#### Executive Assistants for Councilmember Tom Cook:

Jared Agtunong  
Stacy Takahashi

#### Executive Assistants for Councilmember Gabe Johnson:

Kate Griffiths  
Axel Beers

#### Executive Assistants for Councilmember Tasha Kama:

Davideane Kama-Sickels  
Nayleen Kamai  
Evan Dust

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Executive Assistant for Councilmember Alice L. Lee:  
Michele McLean

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Executive Assistants for Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez:  
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Jordan Helle  
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Laura McDowell  
Susan Clements

Residency Area Office (RAO):  
Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, East Maui Residency Area Office  
Roxanne Morita, Council Aide, Lānaʻi Residency Area Office  
Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Molokai Residency Area Office  
Christian Balagso, West Maui Council Aide  
Bill Snipes, Council Aide, South Maui Residency Area Office  
Jade Rojas-Letisi, Council Aide, Makawao-Haʻikū-Pāʻia Residency Area Office

**ADMIN.:** **Richard** T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor  
Josiah Nishita, Managing Director  
Lesley Milner, Acting Budget Director, Office of the Mayor  
Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

**OTHERS:** Sharyn Stone  
Gabrielle Schuerger, Executive Director, The Maui Farm  
Ihilani Catugal, Program Manager, The Maui Farm  
Natalia Barboza, Case Manager, The Maui Farm  
Debbie Cabebe, CEO, Maui Economic Opportunity  
Lisa Paulson, Maui Hotel Lodging Association

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Shanna Willing, Molokai Community Health Center  
Lesley Milner  
James Langford  
Others (30)

**PRESS:** Akakū: Maui Community Television, Inc.  
Chelsea Davis

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**ITEM 1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI** ((BILL 60 (2024), BILL 61 (2024), BILL 62 (2024), BILL 63 (2024), BILL 64 (2024), BILL 65 (2024), BILL 70 (2024), BILL 73 (2024), BILL 74 (2024), RESOLUTION 24-66, RESOLUTION 24-67, RESOLUTION 24-68, and RESOLUTION 24-77)

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(*gavel*). . . Good morning, everybody. Welcome...back, I should say, to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. Today is April 25th, and it is now 9:11. My name is Yuki Lei Sugimura, I'm the Chair of this Committee. And I'd like to thank all the Committee Members who've been working tirelessly this work for decision...decisions week, and I think we ended like 9:00 last night, but it is part of what we do. This meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Sunshine Law. And as a reminder, Members who are not here, please do say who is with you in your meeting space. Minors do not need to be recognized. (*Echoing*) Hang on. My phone is transferring (*audio interference*). Back up. Okay. I'd like to welcome Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Good morning. And if you are going to East Africa--and believe it or not, I ran into somebody in Foodland who came from...who had just visited Kenya--so, the greeting in Kenya is hujambo. Not who jam up, but hujambo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Hujambo, and probably Member Sinenci would have translated it for us that way. Next we have Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Let me guess, was that Heidi Ho?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, it was.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, we met her at your West Maui meeting, yeah?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha kakahiaka and hujambo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Hujambo to you. Member Johnson.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We can't hear --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you can't hear?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- on...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, now we can.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. We're good? Okay. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aloha, Chair, Councilmembers, community members.  
There's no testifiers at the Lānaʻi District Office. And hujambo to all of you.  
Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Hujambo. Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka, mai Molokai Nui Ahina.  
I'm at the Molokai District Office, alone on my side of the office, and we currently  
have no testifiers here.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Member Cook, good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aloha and hujambo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aloha. Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Aloha, everyone. Hujambo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aloha. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha, Chair. And I'd like to think that we all jambo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Good morning. Nice to see you here. From the  
Office of the Mayor eventually we'll have, I guess online, Acting Budget Director  
Milner, Corp. Counsel Kristina Toshikiyo. And thank you very much, Office Staff.  
As long as we are here, you...these loyal workers in our Office of Council Services

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are our backup. Yvette Bouthillier, good morning, and congratulations to your daughter who's graduating from college this weekend. James Krueger and Kasie Apo Takayama, thank you very much. And always in the shadow and learning are Jarret Pascual and Clarissa MacDonald, thank you very much, Legislative Analysts. Carla Nakata and Megan Moniz are our attorneys. And Jean Pokipala, our Council Services Assistant Clerks. Please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity. And we have one item on our agenda today, which is BFED-1, Proposed Fiscal Year 2025 Budget for the County of Maui. And we are in the review process, going through decisions. Today we have the last two departments that we're going to be making decisions on, which is Water and Public Works. Did you pass out anything yet? Okay. So, Members, as we continue to...our work today, as I said on Water and Public Works, we'll also be considering additional legislation as the day goes on. When we finish with Public Works and Water Supply, I was hoping to have the Mayor or Managing Director present to do an update on what's happening and our plans forward with the Legislature, but I see they're in the audience. So, I hope that's what we're talking about. Thank you very much for being here, Mayor and Managing Director. And in order to keep us on track with our proposed schedule, we will be implementing the following time limit, which is one minute to propose amendments and 30 seconds for each Councilmember to ask questions. And before we start our discussions, we will be taking up public testimony. Members, at this time, do you want to go over the Exhibit 1? After testimony? Okay. It looks like we have testifiers. Testifiers wanting to provide testimony should sign up at the lobby, join the online meeting via Teams link, or call in to the phone number noted on today's agenda. Written testimony is encouraged, and can be submitted via eComment link at [mauicounty.us/agendas](http://mauicounty.us/agendas) as well. Under the Sunshine Law, the Chair will receive oral testimony for agenda items as the item is called up. For individuals wishing to testify, testifiers are listed in the order, and will be called up in that order. You may raise your hand on Teams, and...or if you're calling in, you can use star-four or star-five to access. At this time, Staff will also enable your microphones and video. If you wish to testify anonymously, please notify Staff, otherwise please state your name on the record at the beginning of your testimony. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes per item, and if you need more minutes, we will give you another 30 seconds. Once you are done testifying, or if you do not wish to testify, you can also view...view the meeting on *Akakū* Channel 53, Facebook Live, or [mauicounty.us/agendas](http://mauicounty.us/agendas). I'd like to do this in an orderly fashion. And before we call up the first testifier, I want to find out from the Mayor how long we have him.

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: About an hour? Okay. Good. And is...oh, that's Josiah next to you. Okay. I'm going to take the testifiers...how many testifiers do we have? Nine? Okay. So, we only have the Mayor until what, 9:00...10:15 or so? 10:15?

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 10:45. Okay. Can we take up the Mayor first before we lose him? Oh, wait...okay. Can we designate him as a resource and bring him down? He's right there. He's...he's here to talk to us. Okay. What...what do you...what...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm okay . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you are? Okay. Okay. Let's call up...we have nine testifiers. All right. I don't want to lose the Mayor. It's so important. First testifier.

**. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .**

MR. PASCUAL: Thank you, Chair. The first testifier is Sharyn Stone, to be followed by Gabrielle Schuerger.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Good morning.

MS. STONE: Good morning. Good morning. Aloha, Chair. And hujambo, or if I'm going to be true to my roots which are Australian, I'd say good day. . . .*(laughing)*. . . Okay. I'm Sharyn Stone, one of only 146 local families who own and operate a legal B&B here. It took almost eight years to get my license. I applied in 2001, and it was finally granted in 2009. Thank heaven for dear Gladys Baisa, who untiringly shepherded B&B legislation through the Council because she believed that local families deserved to be able to benefit from the visitor industry, not just big hotels, condos, and STRs. Gladys, we miss you. Let me please emphasize that point. I am not a big hotel, I am not a condo owner, I am not an STR owner. We're a small family who have made our home on Maui since 1992. We live on-property, and are deeply embedded in our local community. For example, I know pretty well everybody on our road. They all run for cover when they see me coming because I'm in charge of the road fund, so I get to shake down the trees whenever it rains in Huelo, and believe me, it rains a lot...and we've got areas that look like the Grand Canyon. Anyway, our son Kai was born and raised here, this is his home. Now, he's starting his own small software company so he can work from home. I am so proud of him. Our bed and breakfast, one of just 146, we provide work for people--housekeepers, landscape gardeners, handymen, solar contractors, local accountants and bookkeepers. The money we make stays here on island. We send our guests to restaurants in Pā'ia, Ha'ikū, Makawao, Kula...local. Yet none of these 146 families even gets the privilege of a homeowners' exemption, and we are homeowners. Yet every year, we have to come to you hat in hand, begging you not to increase our taxes. You just got a 3 percent increase in the form of the Maui TAT, and now you want to increase our property taxes. Not fair. We've dealt with COVID, fires, floods. It's been a traumatic few years for many of us,

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and we're barely making it as it is. Local businesses like ours give so much back to the community, so much more than hotels, condos, and STRs. For example, we care for our land. We've been organic since 1992. We grow produce for our guests and our neighbors to enjoy. Please do recognize and respect that. Yet, so many of these family-owned businesses operate on a razor's edge of . . .(timer sounds). . . viability. You want more of people and businesses --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 30 seconds.

MS. STONE: -- like us, not more hotels, condos, and STRs. They've been overbuilt, and you know that. We are a beneficial future. We are the face of regenerative tourism. Please support us. Keep our dollars here. Don't bleed us dry. You need us. We already pay our fair share. Please recognize that fact, and give us the help we need to stay viable. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, yes, Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Ms. Stone, for your...my clarifying question, is there...for the 146 B&Bs, is there an association or a group?

MS. STONE: We used to be very much present in the form of MVRA, but MVRA now represents more the interests of STRs, so we feel we got to stick up for ourselves.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, is there a mailing list or somebody that you communicate with?

MS. STONE: Well, at the moment, we call each other.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: My clarifying question, I was curious because you knew that there's 146 --

MS. STONE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- units.

MS. STONE: Of course. You go to the County website and they list it.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Thank you very much for your testimony.

MS. STONE: Thank you.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Next testifier please.

MR. PASCUAL: Thank you, Chair. The next testifier is Gabrielle Schuerger, followed by Ihilani Catugal.

MS. SCHUERGER: Good morning.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning.

MS. SCHUERGER: My name is Gabrielle Schuerger. I am the Executive Director of The Maui Farm, and I'm here to speak on behalf of The Maui Farm. The Maui Farm is a transitional housing facility on a therapeutic farm that supports women and children fleeing domestic violence and homelessness. We're extremely grateful to Councilmember Johnson and his team for recognizing the social services organizations that have not been recommended the full funding request for the County for this Budget for 2025. I'm providing testimony in support of Councilmember Johnson's proposal to increase DHHC's Human Concerns Grant Subsidy Program by \$3 million, and by extension, I'm specifically supporting the increase for The Maui Farm's budget from 279,666, which is our current year's budget, to the requested 313,588. And I think it's important to note that these budgets and budget increase requests were submitted prior to the Lahaina and Kula fires. Just a reminder, during that time we were managing the socioeconomic impacts of COVID, including high unemployment rates, increased housing costs, decreased housing inventory, in addition to significant inflation, and the potential threats of recession. So, that's...that's when we were doing those budgets, and now we're in the shadows of the Lahaina and Kula fires. So, that has just compounded the obstacles remarkably that we were dealing with before. Also, during these times is when we see significant increases in these sorts of incidences, right. So, significant increases in domestic violence are well-documented in the wake of community crisis, such as the Lahaina and Kula fires, also COVID prior to that. In an article about the Maui fire response released by FEMA in November of 2023, it's reported that the surge in domestic violence on Maui is consistent with research findings about the connection between stress and violence...meaning that significant increases in domestic violence are occurring here on Maui specifically. And while demands for our services have spiked, and cost to implement services have increased, funding to support these efforts have mostly been diverted to directly support the fire recovery efforts. This not only impacts our organization, but also our capacity to facilitate our programs in our community's greatest time of need. The Maui Farm is one of few, if not the only, long-term transitional program on the island for survivors of domestic violence. We provide transitional housing, support trauma recovery, and teach life skills that results in families becoming self-sufficient. And if you're not familiar, we're kind of the next step for women that are going to Women Helping Women. So, that's the emergency point where they have a limited time there, but a lot of them are obligated to be here by law, whether they're going through a

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divorce proceeding or custody proceedings, which is often the case. . . .(timer sounds). . . They don't have anywhere else to go. Our program has an 85 percent success rate in transitioning participants from a state of crisis, which often includes homelessness to a safe, stable situation, including permanent housing such as a long-term rental. This helps to alleviate the pressure on our other social services' programs on Maui by helping families transcend their need for that support. I know this is an incredibly difficult time, and you all have some...many, many challenging decisions to make, and so I'm deeply grateful for your service and your consideration of my testimony. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. I have a question before Member Johnson. So, are you receiving any funding from the Department of Human Services, which is the State?

MS. SCHUERGER: No, not currently.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Are you receive...or did you receive any funding from Hawai'i Community Foundation?

MS. SCHUERGER: Very limited funds. Yes, ma'am. Not for the fire though.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Or other funding sources --

MS. SCHUERGER: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- besides the County of Maui?

MS. SCHUERGER: Yes, we are.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Ms. Schuerger. Thank you for coming, and thank you for all the work that you do. Right now, the rental market is...is crazy tight, and can you...I know you said you help with that. How successful has it been for you recently to help people find long-term rentals?

MS. SCHUERGER: On Maui, not successful. We've had to extend most of our program participants' stay in the program because they don't have anywhere to go, and they're legally obligated to be here on Maui. Other participants that are able to exit the program are having to leave the island.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Have any short-term rentals or B&Bs come to help you in any form or any way?

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MS. SCHUERGER: Since the fires? Not directly, no.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any other questions? Seeing none. Thank you very much for being here.

MS. SCHUERGER: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next testifier please.

MR. PASCUAL: Thank you, Chair. The next testifier is Ihilani Catugal, followed by Natalia Barboza.

MS. CATUGAL: Aloha kakahiaka, everybody. So nice to be here with you. My name is Ihilani Catugal, and I'm the Programs Manager at The Maui Farm. So, I'm also here in support of Councilmember Johnson's proposal to increase the Department of Human Concerns Grant Subsidy Program by \$3 million. By extension, I specifically support the increase to The Maui Farm's budget as well, just like Ms. Gabby. Let's see here. Recently, we have experienced a great increase in applications to our program, which is transitional housing and social services. Attaining safe and permanent housing here on Maui has been a struggle for people on island for many years. At this point in time, the Maui's...Maui's scarce housing market and nationwide inflation have further compounded the need for our services. So, I really am here to ask that you please continue to support us. Please continue to support these social services programs so that we can continue to guide and support these at-risk families and help them to secure a stable future here on island. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any questions for the testifier? Okay. Thank you. Thank you for being here. And good morning, Member Kama. I didn't see you around my computer.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Good morning, Chair. And good morning to everyone.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning. Okay. Next testifier.

MR. PASCUAL: Thank you, Chair. The next testifier is Natalia Barboza, to be followed by Debbie Cabebe.

MS. BARBOZA: Good morning, everybody.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning.

MS. BARBOZA: My name is Natalia Barboza. Following Gabrielle and Ihilani, I am also

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supporting the increase of DHHC's Human Concern Grant Subsidy Program, and by extension, The Maui Farm's budget. Before becoming a program participant and residing at The Maui Farm, my children and I were in a dangerous, unstable, and vulnerable situation. As a newly single mother with insufficient income for housing and no support system, leaving our home was terrifying and heartbreaking. At the time, I felt depressed, hopeless, ashamed, and alone. In contrast, our life now is a testament to the impact of The Maui Farm's Family Strengthening Program and the power of the aloha shared by the TMF staff. We, along with many other families, consider The Maui Farm staff as 'ohana as they nurtured, believed in, and fought for our safety and wellbeing. The Maui Farm prevented us from being homeless, while providing a safe and peaceful environment that was healing and therapeutic for my family. This was...this calming environment allowed us to move beyond our trauma and focus on a brighter future. The 'āina-based work offered at the farm provided agricultural skill building, useful cultural activities and knowledge, financial support through work...the work stipend program, and nourishment from the plant harvest. The Malama Pono'i meetings with the staff and families helped us build a sense of community and build a safety network as we brainstormed options towards self-sufficiency. One-on-one meetings with staff allowed my family and I to identify our needs, create a plan, and focus on the necessary steps to become financially and emotionally stable. Through the TMF program, I was able to further my education, raise my income, attain childcare, transportation, secure housing, and strengthen my family. Two years after exiting the program, I was able to come back and join the team at The Maui Farm. In a full-circle moment, I am currently a case manager at The Maui Farm, and I am so grateful for this program and the staff for providing the services that they do they helped my family heal and thrive, while believing in me to grow and blossom in my passion to help others. I am also very grateful for the funding that supports organizations like The Maui Farm, allowing for that positive change, empowerment, and stability for families in our community. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much for sharing. Any questions for the testifier?  
Seeing none. Thank you very much.

MS. BARBOZA: Thank you.

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, the next testifier is Debbie Cabebe, to be followed by Lisa Paulson.

MS. CABEBE: Aloha. Good morning, Budget Chair and Councilmembers. I'm Debbie Cabebe, I'm the Chief Executive Officer for Maui Economic Opportunity. I wanted to thank you for putting funds...proposed funds in the budget for the National Dislocated Workers Program. We've been running that program since October with Federal funding that went to the State of Hawai'i Department of Labor. And many of the sites that were set up were organic sites that started out doing

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volunteer work, and many of the folks working there were unpaid. And so, we were able to work with the Department of Labor and create classifications to qualify people to be employed. The program funds the position for one year, and it will not...there's no extension. So, when that funding ends in a year, they have to exit the program and hopefully get them into other...other types of employment. I was approached by somebody in the community asking if the...you know, the Council was able to fund it...the program, would we be interested in extending it to those people that would have to exit or to people who didn't qualify...because Federal programs have a lot of requirements and sometimes disqualify very good people...so, would...would help employ that gap group as well. So, I thought that was a great idea. I was a little concerned yesterday--and I apologize, I wasn't able to be here--some of the provisos that have been implemented or...or proposed might be a little problematic. And the reason for that is, the...the positions right now, they're...they're kind of in general categories...there's office assistants, there's laborers, there's humanitarians. The Department of Labor...the State Department of Labor and I work back and forth when we were setting up the contract to make sure that the classifications were broad enough to catch a wide range of people, but it also says that you have to pay prevailing wage, and I know that there was some suggestions about using the economic recovery wages. The wages we're using were...were industry wages that were approved by the Department of Labor, and if we create more classifications to extend this program, it's going to be very hard to administer. I think it's going to be very confusing to the participants, as well as very hard for our staff to manage it. So, while provisos are well intended, sometimes they have unintended consequences that may have a negative impact. And so, while we are 100 percent committed to doing this, we just want to make sure that we keep it simple. The other thing is there were...there was conversation about giving priority to County positions, and we, actually in the beginning, had...we were supposed to do government jobs, and then we were told we couldn't do that because of the union, and that we would be using temporary labor to fill union positions. So, I heard yesterday some conversation about appointed positions, and that may work, but again, I...I respectfully ask that you allow us . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . to work within the categories that are already in place, as opposed to creating new categories. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, thank you for...you were listening. Thank you very much. So, that was just discussed yesterday. Any questions, Members? So, it sounds like the work that we try to do may be hindering your...the...the project as it was set up to do. Okay. Any other questions? Okay. Thank you very much.

MS. CABEBE: Thank you very much.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next testifier.

MR. PASCUAL: Thank you, Chair. The next testifier is Lisa Paulson, to be followed by

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Shanna Willing, and both of them are on Teams.

MS. PAULSON: Good morning, Budget Chair Sugimura and Committee Members. My name is Lisa Paulson, and I am a registered lobbyist. Before I give my testimony, I do want to thank you all for your very long hours and the important work that you're doing. I represent Maui Hotel and Lodging Association, and we are the legislative arm of the visitor industry. We represent 172 Maui County property and allied business members, and about 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 for their future here. As you're deliberating the real property tax rates, we would like to restate our support for equitable share of property taxes across all classifications. We are concerned about creating an unsustainable budget, and with the proposed 60.6 percent of the RPT revenues generated from the visitor accommodation sector for Fiscal Year '25. 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's prudent to set up our County's future to be sustainable and look at equitable...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. I uploaded it to eComment last night, happy to share it via email later if...if you don't see it. Furthermore, the persistence of illegal vacation rentals, largely due to lax enforcement and fining efforts, it poses a significant challenge. We're losing out on potentially millions of dollars in RPT, TAT, and GET. We urge this Committee to consider the economic implications of this issue. Stricter laws and diligent enforcement could provide more housing for our residents and significantly boost our income. And in conclusion, I'd like to express my deep appreciation for the visitor industry and their employees for supporting their own teams and residents during the recent disaster. While it's true that the hotels received government funding to provide safe housing for our residents, they still had to cover their operating expenses and maintain their employees and their benefits to run the 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 acknowledgement for the industry efforts in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our residents. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much, Ms. Paulson. Any questions for testifier? Seeing none. Thank you. Thank you for joining us.

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, the next testifier is Shanna Willing, to be followed by Lesley Milner. Chair, Shanna Willing is online and...oh, there she is.

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MS. WILLING: Aloha and good morning. My name is Shanna Willing, and I'm the Interim Executive Director here at the Molokai Community Health Center. First, I'd like to mahalo all of you for your hard work on this budget. Your time and attention to detail has not gone unnoticed. Also, mahalo to coming...for you folks for coming to Molokai last week, and...where our Board President, James Rarick, provided testimony for the \$330,000 ask for our dental program, which is about 7 percent of our total organization expense. We receive about 40 percent from the State and Federal, and 53 percent from our patient revenue and other funding sources to help cover the lion's share of our costs. This is our first time requesting funding through the County, and we mahalo Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez for adding this request to her priority proposal, and the Department of Human Concerns. Community Health Centers are the backbone of our primary care safety net in Hawai'i, providing medical, dental, and behavioral healthcare to people of all ages regardless of their ability to pay. Molokai Community Health Center is the only Federally-qualified health center on the Island of Molokai, where we provide behavior health, primary care, dental, and WIC services to the community. We also provide transportation services for our patients that do not have other means of transport, as well as distribute goods and food through our food pantry. We partner with the Diaper Bank and the Ma'i Movement for ma'i kits that we provide to our community at large. MCHC has serviced over 2,600 patients in 2023, and growing as we speak. Our dental department services about 1,400 of those patients, with over 3,000 annual visits. We do offer . . .*(inaudible)*. . . discount program, where patients may qualify to receive free or discounted care. Last year, we were made aware at the ending of the year that two of the dental offices on island were going to go to cash basis only, and were not going to be accepting insurance come January, 2024. Since January, we have seen an influx of patients on top of our current patient panel. Right now, we have an appointment wait time to three to four months. Our dental department currently operates with two part-time dentists that make up one FTE. Both of our dentists right now currently fly in from the Big Island to operate here. And our dental operations team also consists of two dental assistants, one hygienist, an operations manager, and a front desk registrar. Last year, we did apply and receive \$1.2 million in congressional district spending money to renovate and expand our current dental building to provide additional operatories and new updated equipment. We're currently going through the process now on obtaining an SMA . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . but . . .*(inaudible)*. . . needing additional funding to help support our operations. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony on behalf of MCHC. I've also emailed the Committee my written testimony. Mahalo nui for your time.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much for your testimony. Any questions, Members? Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, Ms. Willing. So, my question is, you know, you...you mentioned in your testimony that 40 percent of

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the...of your funding actually comes from the patients and...and their, I guess, insurance payments and whatever they pay, and 60 percent comes from government. So, out of the 60 percent that you get from the government, how much of that is restricted?

MS. WILLING: Sorry, we...we...7...actually, 53 percent is from --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MS. WILLING: -- the patients, and --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay.

MS. WILLING: -- then 40 percent is from State and Federal. Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Okay. And those are unrestricted or restricted funds?

MS. WILLING: Those are restricted funds.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MS. WILLING: Yeah. We have Federal funds, but they're restricted on operational services.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. And you...you mentioned earlier that your dentists were now going to go on a cash-fee basis, as opposed to taking on some other patients that...whose medical may not be paying enough. So, are...so, is some of this funding going to be used to offset some of those patients that will probably have to see the dentist on a fee basis...for-fee basis?

MS. WILLING: Yeah. No, so...sorry, we're...we're not going on a cash basis. There are two other dentist --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. WILLING: -- offices on the island, private dentist offices, that are going to cash basis, so we, as a result, absorbing their patients.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. But if...if they need...

MS. WILLING: Because we're the only ones accepting insurances.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Right. Okay. Okay. I get that. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

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MS. WILLING: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Any other testifiers [sic]? Seeing none. Thank you very much.  
Next testifier please.

MS. WILLING: Thank you.

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, the next testifier is Lesley Milner, to be followed by Gina Young.

MS. MILNER: Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Members. Just as I came to speak to you yesterday about additional information from the Parks Department, I'm here today to speak to you about additional information from the Office of the Mayor Administration Program. The...while the positions in the Mayor's Office are appointed positions, just as other appointed positions in the County, they are appointed at a certain SR and step. So, the proposed cut of 365,500 would necessitate stepping down a significant number of those individuals. In addition, I was informed that we do have someone in position to step into one of our vacant positions by July 1st. So, with that in mind, we would request...obviously it is up to the Council, but reconsideration of this reduction. The Office of the Mayor Admin Program feels they could make do with a reduction of 126,504, but as you all know, it is currently the Council's Budget, so that is your determination to make. Thank you for your time, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Question from Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Milner, for your testimony. Is the 126,504 reduction taking into account cancelling raises across the board?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. No, that would not cancel raises across the board. That takes into account the two vacant positions. If you were to cancel the...the EM raises across the board, that would be 177,080. As I stated, if you cancel the SR increases, we would need to step those positions down.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Do you know the number of cancelling the SR raises?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair? Chair? I'm sorry. I'm watching the clock go down and we...we're only going to have like 20 minutes with the Mayor. So, if we can have the discussion after we have...you know, are able to talk with the Mayor...since Ms. Milner will be with us in deliberations.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sorry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Are you...are you almost done, Ms. Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sure, sure. She can answer me when we're...well, I mean we're not taking up the Mayor. She can email me.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. MILNER: I'll do that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you very much. Next testifier.

MR. PASCUAL: Thank you, Chair. And apologies, Gina Young is not going to be testifying, so our last individual signed up is James Langford.

MR. LANGFORD: Aloha, everyone. I was...I was hoping that, you know, as we have this...this...this housing crisis and we're here working on real...real estate property tax, right, it...I think we're at a point where we need to take a look at using cocaine forfeiture laws to house these people. I mean since the Bayonet Revolution, the Victorian Era, riddled with cocaine and infusing people with poor choices, it's scientifically proven. So, if we don't step up and get help by changing our behavior and how that we perceive the...the morality that we all take an oath to aloha first, which is to preserve life, to vibrate. Aloha. Not to think how not to get in trouble. Not to try to angle on how not to be held accountable. Our hearts, our...our leadership, we're here to dictate truth and aloha to vibrate. You know these calculations, these Bayonet Revolution policies, are illegal and apologized for in 1993 by President Bill Clinton. So, you know, we do have a sovereign nation here that has been completely ignored. And, you know, as a member of this family in many different ways, I'm remiss to say hey, in case you haven't noticed, I told you how to do the right thing, and nobody is calling me back. Had to call Brett Kavanaugh's Office at the Supreme Court today. Do you folks understand, you have HRS 84, you have the Sunshine Law, you have someone whose rights have been completely destroyed who might represent a whole lot of people that walk with aloha and not their brains. We serve the tree of life. We do not serve the tree of knowledge. So, shame on you. Sorry, I had to do that. Okay. So, you have a responsibility to hold people accountable. I'm going to give you guys a chance to do that right here, and then after the Mayor speaks, I need to speak with him in private once, and then we're all...then he and I are going to come back here and talk to you guys because that's how men who talk about the truth behave. They're not afraid . . .(timer sounds). . . of dying, and they'll --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 30 seconds.

MR. LANGFORD: -- put their life on--yeah, I know--and they'll put their life on the line

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to say aloha is more important than your F'in' ideas. So, shame on you, Richard Bissen. Go tell the truth when you get up here, bud. See you boys soon.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Please don't speak like that.

MR. LANGFORD: I'll do what I want, and you know it. Take care.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. No questions for him. All right. Next testifier.

MR. PASCUAL: Thank you, Chair. That's currently all the testifiers who have signed up to testify. If there's anyone out there in the Chamber or on Teams that would like to testify, please come up to the mic and begin your testimony or use the raise-your-hand function on Teams and Staff will unmute you. And I will provide a brief countdown...three, two, one. Seeing none. Chair, no has indicated that they wish to testify.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Thank you very much. I'm going to close public testimony and receive written testimony.

**COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.**

**. . .CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I would like to invite Mayor Bissen and Josiah Nishita --

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- thank you--to come here and sit with us and...you know, away from the podium. Thank you for making the time, appreciate it. Thank you, Mayor. Thank you, Managing Director. As I said, the last couple of days I've been waiting for the...to find out what the Legislature is going to do, and...yes?

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I thought I did. Okay. Close public testimony and receiving written. Yeah. Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No objections.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. And so, Mayor, thank you for being here. And Managing Director, you have been working many, many hours, you know, working with the Legislature. And we have...we are waiting to hear what, you know, your plans are to move forward with the wildfire, and what you have been asking the Legislature and how that would impact us, which is...we are the

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Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee, is what I was hoping for. I know that the Senate Bill 3068 is going to be heard today in Conference Committee, but I...I look forward to hearing any wisdom you may share, and I look forward to hearing what the plans are in the future. Thank you. Mayor, or...

MR. BISSEN: Yes. Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning.

MR. BISSEN: Good morning, Councilmembers. Well, I don't know about wisdom, but I can share with you what we know so far about the process. We had hoped that the Legislature would have made their decision by now on how much they were going to appropriate to our County. The latest we know, and this is just from this morning, is that they were supposed to announce it today at 2:00. But what they're going to announce...their current version is \$63 million of the 150 million that we requested, and that 63 million was a loan to the County with interest that we would need to repay. Now, because we believe these funds can be reimbursed by FEMA, we would be doing that. We don't think that refund or that reimbursement will come until 2027. But the...the amount that they're asking us to accept, and the form in which they're offering it to us, would cost about \$3-1/2 million a year for five years, which puts that loan at \$17.5 million to the County. That part is not reimbursable. And so, that's the offer, or that's the...that was what was appropriated by the Legislature. So, what that prompted was a letter that I sent to them last week, which unfortunately, they characterize as a late request from the County. I just want to clarify something about that. We went to the Legislature on February 20th in person. I think you may have been there that day as well, Chair. We testified, we had a presentation that was...that Josiah spent all weekend working on because that was what the committee requested, a detailed account of why we were asking for \$400 million in three installments, the first one being the 150.95. And while we were there presenting, I...I made the request. So, the entire Senate, and the entire State, I would say, was aware of the County's request. It was detailed, it was broken down, it was justified. And we went...you know, we...we waited for the result. And the bill, when it first came out, the HD-1 [sic] version, the entire amount was put into the bill. The entire amount that we requested was approved, and then when it went to SD-1 [sic], it was completely taken out. So, one of the questions asked was well, how come we didn't submit testimony. The reason we didn't submit testimony is because we got...we were granted everything we requested in the first version. When it was changed, it was taken out, and then when it was put back in, it was the \$63 million, and that's when we sent the letter. And we reduced our request to 120 million...125 million...sorry, my math. 50 million of that we were willing to accept as a loan without interest, and the 75 million is what we requested in cash. And that's what's currently on the table--our request for 125 million, which is--has reduced our...our original request. Because our

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original request was all cash, that was our original request. So, we basically cut it in half. We asked for 75 million in cash and 50 million in a loan. I...I would suggest to you that if we have to accept a 63 million loan with a \$17 million interest rate, that that would not be fiscally prudent since...since I'm talking to the Budget and Finance Committee. I think you folks can see that clearly as well. So, it's not so much that we rejected it as much as we reduced and repeated our request. It wasn't in the form of testimony. We understood testimony closed. But when we found out what their...what they were offering us, we felt it necessary to restate our position. So, if they don't grant us our request, then obviously we'll have to carry the load ourselves as the County, or seek our loans which we...you know, I mean I'm going to turn it over to Josiah because that's where you're going to get wisdom from in a second, and you will have more detail and some of the options that I think we're considering. We're not there yet. I hope it's a good sign that they haven't come out with their decision. I'm hoping our letter caused them pause and reflection on what our needs are. But that's the state of affairs, I guess, with...with regard to us and the State. Josiah?

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. I think what we've been hearing--and of course, it's been delayed a few times already--is that it's in all likelihood, they'll delay decision making again until probably tomorrow. I know that it's making it really tight on Council in terms of your deliberations and whatnot, but that's kind of the latest we're hearing right now. There was...just to kind of expand on...on Mayor's comments. There's three different areas that we had provided comments to the Legislature on. One was regarding SB-2831. That was originally the...the TAT bill essentially that was in reference to the County Auditor's report that got significantly modified and changed over time to put a significant amount of restrictions on the County in terms of use of TAT funding. So, we did ask them to defer that measure because it doesn't aid at all in our wildfire recovery efforts or our County's financial position at all. Regarding SB-1099, that was the...the GET proposal. We did indicate some changes...recommended changes to them in which case could be supported. Those are primarily some just minor language tweaks so that we can ensure that we're all on the same page, and then that it's implementable to what the County's needs are. And then SB-3068 is really the funding mechanism, or the funding vehicle right now for the County, and that one is what we included some additional language. Recognizing all the...the meetings we've been to, the discussions being had with legislators about concerns in a variety of different areas, we wanted to make clear that we heard and understood those, and took those into account, and factored in some of the, you know, different thinking and ideas that different legislators had in order to help to finance the recovery effort, and incorporated that into the...the recommendations to them, hence the...the slight reduction and modified way in which to finance it. Diving into a little bit of the specifics about the...the GOR piece, the interest piece, was a...a big component of it. Just so you folks know, that the County of Maui currently has a better bond rating than the State, and so that's factored into the...the fiscal and financial impact of charging interest on

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that. And the other piece of it too, is a lot of the infrastructure projects were excluded from the...the \$63 million piece. And so, we...we did ask for all of those to be lumped together so that we had some flexibility in how the GO reimbursable was allocated. But, you know, the...the County did make a commitment to the State that, you know, we're not here to make money off of the State or anything for those Federal reimbursements coming in, and of course, there's a bridge piece to this because of the...the time lag...time lag for reimbursements, that the County would be willing to reimburse the State for those projects identified in the...the GO reimbursable bond. So, Chair, you know, we have a variety of different scenarios at play, depending on how things shape up at the State. Obviously it's still dealing with ongoing negotiations and...and discussions and deliberations. So, there is some sensitivity to all this on how the County moves forward at this time. And so, happy to take any questions or...or whatnot, but just with that kind of understanding in mind. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much for being here and that update. We look forward to the 2:00 meeting. Is that when the Senate bill is going to be heard? The committee; is that right?

MR. NISHITA: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Okay. So, Members, I know you all have lots of questions, so I'm going to take it around, and four minutes per person. Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. And thank you, Mayor, for being here, and Mr. Nishita. Okay. So, my question is, what other alternatives do we have if the State doesn't come through?

MR. NISHITA: Thanks, Chair, for the question. I'm...I'm not sure if the Committee's appetite for executive session or anything, but I...I'd be happy to get into some of the specifics --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We can...

MR. NISHITA: -- maybe individually or...or whatnot if needed. But obviously there's a variety of different funding mechanisms at the County's disposal...that obviously our West Maui residents are top of mind for us, and we have to get these projects done for them.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You know, that's really a good point if...because of the sensitivity of the bills coming up in Conference. And can we have this discussion in executive session because of...

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, I would defer to our Legislative Attorney, but if you do take that route, can we please ask for a brief recess to provide...just make sure we're

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following all the right procedures?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Okay.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Maybe we'll go through --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- get everybody to ask their questions. Wait, Member...Chair Lee and then --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- really quick. I...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's 10:07, and I thought you said earlier that the Mayor was leaving at 10:15.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 10:45.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: He said 10:45.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo for that clarification.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, Managing Director and Mayor, are there things that you would like to share with us in executive session? Yes?

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. I mean there's things involved with ongoing negotiations. So, I believe--and I can't recall the--I should know as the former Clerk. I can't recall exactly the...the executive session provisions, but I do believe there's a piece related to negotiations.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Okay. Okay. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I have a question that can be answered in open session.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And so, what is the worst-case scenario, is it 75 million in cash that we could get from the State?

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. I mean worst-case scenario is we get nothing, or we get something that's not useable. That's...that's --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No. Okay.

MR. NISHITA: -- the worst-case scenario.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Not...not taking it to the extreme. They offered 75 in...million in cash and a \$50 million loan.

MR. NISHITA: No. Thank you, Chair. That's...that's what we offered them as a revised proposal.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: That's what you offered them.

MR. NISHITA: What...what they...the latest bill that's publicly available is essentially \$63 million in a general obligation reimbursable bond, where the County would be required to repay the interest on the loan as well. So, that's...that's the only public proposal that's available at this time. And in...in that case, what we...what we relayed previously is that at this time, the County has a better bond rating than the State does. So, the interest payments on that would actually be higher than what the County would expect . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Right. So, we would get our own bond in...in that case. Okay. So, do you have anything else you want to share with us in open session?

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. I mean we kind of went over the...the revised proposal just very briefly that was highlighted. I...I would just note, as many of you know, I mean spent a lot of time there, especially in the past few weeks. I think I made Pualani Gold in the last like three weeks. So, we have had a lot of discussions, you know, with a whole variety of members and, you know, obviously we're...we're just looking forward to obtaining some support from the State in the overall recovery efforts. Thanks.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin, do you have anything in open session?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thanks, Mr. Nishita. One time you said that they self-imposed April 26th as a drop deadline. If it wasn't a self-imposed deadline and it really was a drop-dead deadline, what would that date be?

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MR. NISHITA: Thank you...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Mr. Nishita?

MR. NISHITA: Thank...yeah, thank you, Chair. My understanding is basically Friday night, this coming Friday night, like tomorrow, is going to be their...like they have to have everything finalized essentially. Because practically speaking, as you folks know, for OCS Staff, like they're going to have to revise bills and they're going to have to print stuff out and modify things and check things. And so, Monday, essentially, would be their, I guess, like filing of some of the final things. So...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: What time on Monday?

MR. NISHITA: I...I...we can follow up with our consultants and...and find out. But I believe all the announcements will essentially be made by like late Friday night.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. All my questions need to be asked in executive session. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair, I'm looking at Section 92-5, Exceptions to Public Meetings, under our Sunshine Law, and I'm not...I know that Managing Director Nishita cited, you know, negotiations, but the...that Subsection (a)(3) is to deliberate concerning the authority of persons designated by the board to conduct labor negotiations or negotiate the acquisition of public property during...or during the conduct of such negotiations. So, that's the negotiations provision. The rest is personnel, criminal conduct, public safety, security, private donations, or information that must be kept confidential pursuant to Federal or State law. So, before we use up all of our time in...with...with Mayor, perhaps we can get that clarified quickly whether we have any authority to go into executive session for any of these discussions.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Carla Nakata just popped up.

MS. NAKATA: Yes. Thank you, Chair. And I actually just spoke briefly with Kristina Toshikiyo as well, and I believe she plans to sign on also. We haven't heard

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anything stated thus far that would sound as though there's a basis to go into executive session under 92-5(a). We did review the exceptions under (1) through (8), and as I've just noted, haven't heard a reason that would qualify as a basis for executive meeting yet. The conduct of negotiations exception under 92-5(a)(3) appears to be limited to labor negotiations or negotiations related to the acquisition of public property. But perhaps Ms. Toshikiyo could also weigh in.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes. Yes, thank you, Chair. Yeah, I'm in agreement with Ms. Nakata on...that we really haven't heard anything that would fall under any of these exceptions that would allow you to go into executive session. I do believe that the Managing Director did offer to speak to each of you one-on-one to answer any questions, and that would be possibly the route that you would take in order to get the information that you're looking for. But yes, we don't believe that executive session in this scenario would be appropriate.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Toshikiyo and Ms. Nakata.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I thought Ms. Milner said they also wanted to talk about their salaries. We could go into executive session for that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, we could. So, Mr. Nishita, I actually would like to hear more about what's happening as it relates to budget in the bigger way, which is the negotiations that you're doing. But are you saying then that whatever you...there aren't anything...there isn't anything that you do not want to or want to share at this point? Or do you --

MR. NISHITA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- see a need to go into --

MR. NISHITA: I think --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- executive session?

MR. NISHITA: -- I think the only piece maybe that I heard from the attorneys that maybe is applicable is just regarding the Kupuohi project. I believe I heard something there about...relating to acquisitions and whatnot. But the...regarding...yeah, all the other items, I guess, hearing from...from them, I'd agree to that. Of course, I offered to talk with the Members individually. I think generally, the information

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that we shared this far is kind of what's publicly --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. NISHITA: -- you know, available already. And we'll just have to work with the Council on some different funding scenarios should the State, you know, either provide a partial amount, full amount, or...or something that can't be used. Thanks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Members, I...if you...you can or cannot talk about Kupuohi. That's a Bigley project.

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. I guess my only concern about Kupuohi, I...I believe...my understanding is that there may not be any appropriations in...in the State budget regarding that. But until we really see the State budget, we really don't know what the State may offer to assist that project in moving forward.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, if the State does not, is the County taking a position on that, or is that executive session question?

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. I guess...although there's not an executive session provision related to this, I mean it's...it kind of is in regard to the overall negotiations regarding funding requests and whatnot.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we have to wait. Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Okay. Having heard what I just heard in regards to executive session rules, I'm going to just ask a few questions here. So, Senator Schatz has been really good at finding funds for our County and our State. Is...is there any way we can get some congressional funds, or any way that funds from the Feds can leap over the State and help us in this time?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for the question. Yeah...no, Senator Schatz and...and other congressional members have been great partners. There's been a lot of Federal agencies assisting us in many different ways. In many cases...well, more than, you know, other communities have experienced. So, whenever possible, we've been tapping into those different sources, and right now, Senator Schatz is, you know, advocating for the CDBG-DR funding --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

MR. NISHITA: -- so that we can get that process rolling and access to additional funding

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if...if allocated.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I think the last time I heard on CDBG funds, it's going to take a while to get here, right? Is...is that my understanding?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's not...

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. First, the County of Maui would have to be a designated recipient in the Federal Register, which I guess under normal circumstances probably would have happened already, but because of some of the instability at Congress right now, there's been a lot of things that haven't been able to be decided. So, Senator Schatz has been advocating for like a supplemental measure or whatnot. But if, you know, those different funding vehicles aren't available, I believe the County's next opportunity to possibly be included would probably be about August/September time frame.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. NISHITA: And then in which case once we're...once...you know, if we become a recipient, we would have roughly about 18 months to develop the action plan, and then work to receive funding.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay, 18 months is kind of long. So, put that aside. I know we're working in the framework of government. How about Hawai'i Community Foundations and those nonprofits that gather...gather all those funds, can we ask them to help us with some of these projects? Because at the end of the day, it's going to help the fire...the folks who...affected by the fire.

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. And I'm not sure if Mayor wants to add anything else, but HCF has...has been a . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Of course, as you guys know, as people have come... . . . *(coughing)*. . . excuse me...have come in for grants and whatnot, a lot of questions have been raised to them about have you received funding, and...and many of them have. We have been in discussions with Hawai'i Community Foundation about a few different scenarios on what could be possible.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Could they help with the Ikaika Ohana's 36 million, something like that?

MR. NISHITA: And I guess once again, Chair, I would just say this kind of relates to the overall State Budget request.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Okay.

MR. NISHITA: Yeah. Thanks.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: All right. Thank you so much. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Mayor Bissen, Managing Director Nishita. Mahalo for being with us today. It...it's...it's been frustrating, and mahalo for your folks' fortitude at the Capitol. I wanted to hear if there's any mana'o you'd like to share with us regarding how we can, you know, play a role in helping to get those funds allocated to our County.

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. I mean, you know, the State legislative process is...is a bit different than County Council's process. You know, a lot of the budgetary decisions are made in Conference and so, you know, obviously the main thing really, I think, that if we've heard anything from State legislative members that, you know, would remain to be helpful is that the County is, you know, unified and speaking in one voice in terms of financial requests and legislative requests and whatnot from the...the Legislature so that there's clear understanding at the State level what the County of Maui is clearly asking for and needing. So, I guess to the part that we can play--and of course, you know, I think there's always areas for improvement and whatnot--but to the part that we can play, please let us know how we can assist in...in that effort. And then same thing, please let us know how we can assist in that effort to...to remain unified in...in our support and whatnot for the...the State. And Mayor has something.

MR. BISSEN: Yeah. I think you folks are probably already doing this, but contacting our Maui legislators that sit on...in key positions and key committees is...is probably the most direct way to impact. I mean I don't know everybody's relationships with everyone at the Legislature, and they're mostly new for me, but I would say any established, you know, relationships with folks that are in key positions would probably be the most direct way to impact this.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mayor. So, for folks that perhaps live Upcountry, for example, who are the constituents of the Finance Committee Chair, they...they should probably try to contact Kyle Yamashita, who's the Finance Committee Chair, to help advocate on Maui's behalf, I would think would be a good idea. Whoever is in the Finance Committee, we have a couple of Maui County representatives that's on the Finance Committee, as well as on WAM, the Ways and Means Senate Committee...so, whoever's the conferees there, you know, reaching out. So, mahalo, Mayor, for some of that guidance, and mahalo, Managing Director, for your...your response as well.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Cook?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. I mostly just have encouragement for

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you two. You've been going back and forth. I know and seen your efforts. I don't understand the pushback. I don't understand the lack of support. The...when the Legislative Session came in at the beginning of the year, it was all about Lahaina, it was all about Maui, and it was all about unity, it was all about Hawai'i. And not like that now, pushing back...and I understand it's a lot of money that's been spent for hotels and other things, and it's a really hard rub for everybody in every position. But the people in Lahaina and the needs that Maui has now for temporary housing and permanent housing, and to put the infrastructure back, and to try and keep our people from leaving is all still very real. And anyway, hopefully the Council and the Administration stay on the same page, we'll all work together, advocate to the Legislature to please understand that...just drive to the West Side. That's all they got to do. Go to the West Side and they'll see that the need is very real. Thank you.

MR. BISSEN: Chair, may I comment? Okay. Sounds like majority. You know, I just want to be fair to...and put into perspective what's happening and what has happened. The State has committed lots of funds to Maui. Most of those...I would say all of those were requested by the State. The distinction we tried to make at the Legislature is these were the first requests from the County for the County's benefit. So, it's not that the State hasn't been providing for Lahaina because they have, and...and we note that all the time, and that's what we mahalo them for. This was the first time that the County put in requests for the things we need, for the infrastructure to help us rebuild. Much of the funds they've contributed have gone to the...the hotels and...and...and some of the other projects, and they're still putting up projects for us. So, I just want to be clear that it's not that they haven't. And I think it's tough for the legislators at this stage because they have their constituents to consider. And so, they are looking for some of that balance too. We recognize all that, which is why we reduced our request, and...and shifted the way we would accept the funds so that it would work for everybody. And we have already made a huge commitment on behalf of the County that we put in the budget that we've asked you folks to consider. But I just want to draw that distinction that so far, the funds have come have been at the State's request from the State, and these are the County's requests from the State...if that makes sense and...and helps clarify that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Cook, are you done?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Mayor. That...that does really make sense, and very appropriate to acknowledge all of the kōkua and the aloha that they have given Maui County to date. And thank you for clarifying to the Council and to everybody that this is the first actual Maui County request after the time has passed and we're putting it back together. This is what we need. This is what we need. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member U'u-Hodgins?

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Mayor and Managing Director. Thank you for being with us today. Thank you for flying over there and...and asking for all the things that we need. I really do appreciate it. I wanted to touch on what Member Rawlins-Fernandez said because she made a good point. I...I do live in both Lynn's district and Kyle's district, and I'm happy to help out wherever I can...what little that might mean, but I'm happy to do so. We might maybe connect a little bit more and then I know what I'm asking for moving forward and I'm happy to do so, but with that said, so I know that you guys asked for 400 million for the next three years in this year's allotment, next year, and in the third year. This year seems a little bit shaky. Who knows what they're going to give us or maybe not give us. What can we do next year? And I know we're at one day at a time, but what can we all do next year so that we're not playing double Dutch with the State when it comes to budget?

MR. NISHITA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. No, thank you for the question. I think...on one hand, I think some of the concern, I think, that's there is as you get further away from an event, the desire to help or be able to sacrifice cutting other...in other areas and whatnot tends to kind of wane over time. So, you know, we do have a little bit of a concern, as...as time elapses, the...whether, you know, additional support will continue to be provided. A benefit that we'll have with next year though is time. So, as you folks know, I mean in the midst of response and...and all those efforts, and damage assessments are still going on and whatnot, we'll have like a lot better information and a lot more time to be able to kind of relay things. Because I think, you know, others have said this before, like having to build the plane while we're flying it. It's...it's the same thing with, you know, these infrastructure needs and...and...and whatnot are being like assessed and reassessed and, you know, new things are coming to light and as...as time is going on. And so, we'll have better information to provide you folks, and we'll be able to have more discussions now that we're outside of this response period that will help make, I think, stronger arguments the next year. And Chair, I apologize, a consultant got back to us, they said the Conference Committee's deadline is 6:00 p.m. tomorrow. The full...I guess both chambers don't actually pass the things until Wednesday, but generally, whatever comes out of Conference is what is going to be passed. And their ultimate deadline is 6:00 p.m. tomorrow. Thanks.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Managing Director. And I know I probably can't speak for everybody, but I can in this moment, but we would all be happy to assist in going with you and advocating for the State...or Maui County. I don't look good in red, but I would wear red for Lahaina's infrastructure. Thank you. Thank you, Chair. Thank you guys.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You look good in any kind of color. . . .(laughing). . .

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo, Mayor and Managing Director, for joining us this morning. Just...as we went around the County to our budget district hearings, you know, we heard a lot from our constituents...a lot of needs for human concerns, additional social services, with...there's...there's been an uptick in, you know, domestic violence, those types of things, as well as homelessness. So, I think is...in this last couple days, with the help of Member Paltin, we've been slimming the budget as...you know, we add more, but we're trying to address some of the needs from...from our...our community. That said, the...the Budget Chair has put aside some of our larger asks, including the affordable housing, the housing projects in Lahaina, as well as maybe some larger infrastructure projects, over \$100 million worth. So, I mean moving forward, and in anticipation of the State's...if we are going to accept the deal on the table now, how do we move forward or direct our efforts in anticipation of...of their move?

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. I guess...so, to the second part of that question, I'd be happy to provide you a proposal that...that you folks can consider. Obviously there's many ways to skin the cat so to say--maybe bad terminology for cat lovers--but...but...but in any case, like that can be a point of discussion at that...that...you know, we can evaluate how, you know, we can proceed forward. Regarding the...the grants piece, it's...this is something that came up a lot at the State Legislature regarding overall concerns, I guess, for grant funding being provided by Maui County. And so, I did talk through with some of them some specific examples of funding that...that we provide, and demonstrating how it is related to overall wildfire recovery efforts, such as like the Mental Health Kōkua, you know, and...and many other agencies...Women Helping Women and, you know, that have come forward and really stepped up to the plate. And...and...and although they've been past grantees, many of these organizations have to had...had to shift their focus and/or expand their areas to accommodate all the additional need in the community. And so, it's not that, you know, we're just giving out money with no purpose, it's that it is related to specific purposes that our community is in dire needs of right now. And so, you know, I guess that's...that would be my comments to...to that piece.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Director. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, if I could. So, you're saying on the other piece for housing that you're not ready to discuss it until you hear from the State?

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. I...I think the...you know, some of the legislators, I believe, had been talking about possible funding scenarios for Kaiāulu o Kupuohi and how...what may or may not be possible. And so, that...that would be factored

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into kind of our overall, you know, budgetary request.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we'll wait then. You did mention to Member Sinenci that you do have a plan, or a proposal, and I really wish that you would share it with us because that's exactly what we need to hear. How do we...and...and we've asked every single department that has had...has CIP, can you do it all? Because we saw your one Department with the list of CIP, and I think this is what you asked the State Legislature for in...which is in that Senate Bill 3068. And whatever is not supported by the Legislature, what are your plans forward? Because somehow it's going to have to be paid at every single...I believe every single project that you put in your capital improvement program on page 910...910 and 911, that has to be done for West Maui recovery. And...and makes me wonder, can you realistically look at all the departments that have CIP and see if they can do all of this? Because it looks like a lot, and I'm looking for ways of cutting down cash.

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, we are working with Department of Finance and our Budget Office, as well as different departments, and I guess...as I mentioned earlier, I'd be happy to meet with you folks individually to kind of go over some, you know, different scenarios that might be possible. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Do you have a plan that you can share with us? Yeah, it sounds like you want to do it individually, and there's nine of us. I hope you have plenty time. Now, I mean soon. Managing Director, you do have a plan that you can share with us?

MR. NISHITA: Sorry, Chair, I didn't know your question. But yeah, as...as I mentioned, I think...I don't want to use the same terminology, but there's a lot of different ways to go about things, and so I...I'd be happy to share like a proposal that we can talk through and come up collectively as to the...you know, the right solution.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I will definitely make an appointment with you today then if it has to be done individually. Because this is exactly where we are in our budget, and we need to hear from you ASAP if we could. Okay. Are you here today on island, or are you traveling to Honolulu?

MR. NISHITA: No, Chair, I'll be here. I mean we have meetings scheduled, but I'm happy to accommodate Members as needed...as well as I'd be happy to meet with your Staff too, if...if your schedule can accommodate it. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, can you schedule...I will call on Member Kama, but can we schedule, I guess, a one-on-one with Member...I mean Managing Director? Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. I was going to ask if you were available for lunch today

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at my office.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . You're...

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. I feel like I'm going to have a lot of lunch dates.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MR. NISHITA: Yeah, I'll...I'll make myself available --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MR. NISHITA: -- as needed.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MR. NISHITA: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I don't know when lunch is but, you know, whenever we're not here.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Chair Lee?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: You're invited too, Mayor.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee, you have another question?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes, I do.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Three minutes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: We would need to know if things change for you in the budget because, let's say, you had anticipated some assistance from the State. And if we're not going to get it, which projects will not go forward as a result so we can cut that from...cut or defer or reduce. That's going to be real important to us going forward. And I was there in February advocating for your request, and I got bombarded by the State legislators because they want to see proof from us, what are we cutting...what are we cutting? They...they don't like the idea of expansions in the budget. They don't like the idea of overfunding even the nonprofits because they don't do the grant in aids anymore. So, you know, we have to show them something too. That's what I keep telling our...you know, my

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colleagues is that, you know, we have to...we have to cut back, as difficult as it might be. But this is one thing that we will really need to have, and you don't have to answer now, an indication from you on what projects can be cut. And, at the same time, what did you...we cut that you want back because we're open to that. You know, some of...some of this is kind of guesswork on our part, so we need to...you know, if we...if we cut the wrong place, let us know. And then finally, I just want to let you know that if we're going to be working together as far as advocating and lobbying the State, we're going to have to be on the same page. And you know, all nine of us are not on the same page, you know, but...

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. But we're not always singing the same song. So, you know, we...we need...just keep that in mind, that we want to help, we want to show our support, and we want to show unity, but I...I can tell you, only to a certain extent. Because we can't...we can't get together ourselves on a lot of things. But we do appreciate all the work you guys have been doing, you know, and I know the stress and strain of everything. One of our top priorities, I'm going to repeat it, is housing because that is the...the cry of the Lahaina folks. They don't want to live in Central Maui, they don't want to live anyplace else. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair Lee. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I don't have anything to say.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Johnson? No? Member Rawlins...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No thanks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: My questions been answered.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I was just going to say that we keep asking them for...to respond to the questions that will help us to be able to make our decisions, and they don't have those answers. They already said what some of the options are in their opening remarks, and no matter how many different ways we try to ask them, they...they won't be able to tell us with certainty because we're waiting on the Legislature to make that decision. And I fully agree with not, you know, openly discussing it right now because I've listened to some of the deliberations at the State, at the Legislature and, you know, whatever they can get away with not supporting Lahaina and Maui with, I...they will. They...they

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would prefer to, you know, take the funding that Lahaina's GET, TAT, and, you know, South Maui's, all the funding that we've generated and, you know, put it toward the other districts, and...and not have to, you know, support Lahaina and Maui in...in our time of need. And so, you know, my preference is to just directly speak with Managing Director and Mayor and the team, you know, for whatever it is. But even privately talking to them, it's going to be the same response. They won't know until, you know, the State makes a decision on what it is they're going to support funding. And so, you know, I mean it makes our job a little harder because then we...we...we're waiting on them, but that's...that's what it is right now. So, I...I don't want to, you know, tip our hand either. I...I...I want the State to step up, as they said they would at the beginning of session, when they got all the headlines about how they're going to support Lahaina leading. So, you know, they were going to make recovery a priority. And so, as Mayor stated, you know, we want to see that happen. Maui's contributed a lot to the State financially with TAT and GAT [sic]...GET, among other things. So, you know, I...I think it's appropriate for the State to step in now and to support our people. Our constituents are all our constituents. So, you know, we...we need to help our people. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Cook?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I don't have anything really to add. I think we look forward to when time allows to have a further conversation, but this is fine now. Thank you very much.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member U'u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. Well, in respect to Managing Director's time, with whatever he wanted to share with us in executive session, we can meet with him two-on-two so we're not individually taking up all his time. We can do that, we can buddy up.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Thank you, guys.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. No comments. Just mahalo, Mayor and Director and Staff, for...for joining us this morning. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any last words, Managing Director or Mayor?

MR. BISSEN: I just wanted to reiterate one point, that most of this 125,000 [sic] that we're requesting from the State will be reimbursed by FEMA...much of it. So,

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really, what we're asking for is a loan.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Are you talking about 125 million?

MR. BISSEN: 125 million. Sorry, sorry. And so, we will be...I mean for however you want to factor that in, whatever the shortfall is from the State. Unlike some of the other CIP projects which we're expending money and not getting anything back except for obviously the structure or the item, this is something that I think shouldn't be lost on everyone is that this is money that we expect to get reimbursed by the Federal Government.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Managing Director?

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair. No, just thank you for allowing us to be here today and be...welcome any additional discussions or conversations that needed. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much. And I'm sure that...well, my office will be calling you to see if we could schedule because I think what you're going to share has huge impacts of this Committee. Okay. Any...that's it. Thank you very much for...for coming, and you can always come back anytime. Sure, want to take a break? Sure. Okay. We'll come...we'll take a break until 11:00. Thank you. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 10:46 a.m.  
RECONVENE: 11:12 a.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(gavel). . . Welcome back, Members, to Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. Thank you very much. And I appreciate the Mayor and Managing Director being here and talking to us about what's going on with Legislature as it end...as it impacts our plans with budget. At this time, I thought, Members, that the Staff could talk to us about Exhibit 1, which is accumulation of what we've done. Okay. James? (silence) Oh, thank you.

MR. KRUEGER: Members, we distributed the Exhibit 1 with the changes from yesterday at the start of the meeting, so you should have that in your emails. So, for this...for this version of Exhibit 1, we actually started with EP&S because the Committee made changes to EP&S because some of those grants used to reside in the Office of the Mayor, Economic Development Program. So, we just wanted to give you this section again so you can see the changes that were...that the Committee made yesterday. Then afterwards, on those couple of pages...oh, I just wanted to let you know...so the pagination at the bottom, it's going to be off just because of the way that the Exhibit 1 was printed, so apologies for that...because we're printing it in portions. After that, we have the Office of the Mayor. I...again, the...the color scheme is...reds are decreases, greens

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are...greens is increases, and blue is conditions and things that don't necessarily touch the total amounts. If you see some of the...that neon-purple, like yesterday, that's just a note for Staff to know numbers that are auto populating for our sheet when we're doing certain calculations. So, after Office of the Mayor, you should also have...you can see 'Ōiwi Resources...oh, Parks and Recreation, Planning, and Police. Oh, apologies, it...it looks like I didn't include Transportation, but we did update the sheet for Transportation as well. I believe Transportation just had the subtraction of about 29,000 from salaries. We included this portion for Appendix A, Part I, because there was...those departmental requests, we're regulating through the transfer of one grant from Parks to Management, and then the other departmental request for the Office of the Mayor. And then at the end is the...is the Revolving Funds the Committee discussed yesterday. So, that includes CORA, the Economic Development and the Culture Programs Revolving Fund, and the Hawaiian Cultural Restoration Revolving Fund. Oh, I'll...we'll also note that I...I don't think we included a portion for the Police CIP, but we have that change notice as...noted as well, for that change to Countywide Police facilities from Councilmember Cook's motion that was taken yesterday. That concludes Exhibit 1. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Was...was the Police on our priority list?

MR. KRUEGER: No, Chair. That...that...that was a new addition.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, my.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, I did want to bring that...it was brought to my attention, and I wanted to ask the Chair, for me to address the body and say since that was basically Molokai, Lānaʻi, and Hāna Police, that basically is to design and get the buildings so that they can do one of those design-registered two- and three-bedroom houses. So, it's going to benefit them for all of their future housing. So, it benefits the whole, and it was brought to my attention after the meeting that that was an extra, and I'm hoping that the body would be accepting and forgiving for that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Members, we are on a schedule, and today...oh, go ahead. Oh, yes. Sorry. Kasie.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Okay. So, here, you'll see the new department totals. And yeah, as James pointed out, we did revise Transportation, so that is reflected here. But...so, your total difference in operating and CIP is the 36,421,203 under; however, that does take into account the 54.55 million difference in revenue. So, your net difference is 17.938...well, 17,938,312. And then you take into account also the grant revenue. So, as of right now, the Council is appropriating \$7,068,536 more than what was proposed in the Mayor's Budget.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we're over. Okay. And here's King (*phonetic*) taking a look at us.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Chair? Could you repeat the total?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Sure. Yes. We are...uploaded it to Granicus.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's in...it's in Granicus. Okay. What is the total?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: So, the total is 7,000...sorry, 7,068,536.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What item in Granicus, number 206?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Number 206.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow. 206. Okay. Thank you. Any other questions?

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I know, I know. Appreciate that. And I know Member...Member Paltin has been working hard for finding cuts. All right.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we're going to start with Department of Public Works, and next go to Water, and that'll take us hopefully...lunch, right? We're trying to break at 12:00 so all of you can make appointments with Managing Director. I think Member Kama wanted to meet with him at 12:00, and I'm going to meet with him at 12:30. So, at this time then, anybody have any proposed amendments for Department of Public Works? Okay. Seeing none.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I have, but --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- I didn't mail it in yet. I'm...I can just say them if that's all right with the people, and I can mail it afterwards.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is it okay? . . .(*inaudible*). . .

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We the people . . .(*inaudible*). . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No, I'm asking the Staff.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Let me get there.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And then you can email it also to Staff when you can.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Okay. On Budget Bill 60, line 19, Department of Public Works, a.(1), Category A, I move to decrease by 35,000 plus fringe \$29,134.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Motion made by Member Paltin, second by Member Kama. Decrease in salaries, Admin Program, is 35,000 plus fringe. Any discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: This is an expansion position. Historically, Public Works don't fill their expansion positions the first year. I know it's only funded for not the full amount of months, but they have an expansion position that I didn't delete from last year that didn't get filled yet, so I'm not taking all their money.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any more? That's it? Shall we vote?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm ready to vote.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All in favor...oh, did you hear the motion, right? Okay. All in favor say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aye. Okay. Nine "ayes." The motion carries.

**VOTE:           AYES:           Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.**

**NOES:           None.**

**ABSTAIN:       None.**

**ABSENT:        None.**

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**EXC.: None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION: APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Next on small b.(1), Category A, I move to decrease salaries by \$100,000 plus fringe of \$83,240.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Member Paltin made the motion, second by Member Sinenci. Discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: For discussion, I think that this will still leave them with adequate to hire people. I don't anticipate that they'll be hiring all their people on July 1st that they have vacancies for.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any more discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: A quick question. Is that the Engineer Program?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, that's the Engineering Program. A lot of the openings are in the higher level engineers that we're still waiting for the STEMwork kids to grow up and fill those positions. I don't know if...if MEDB and STEMworks is pushing County engineers hard enough.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Okay. Any more discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Chair...Chair Lee is making a joke, so that's not a discussion, right?

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All in favor raise your hand say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aye. Nine "ayes"...yes, motion carries.

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**VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES: None.**

**ABSTAIN: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**EXC.: None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION: APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Next, for small c.(1), Category A, I move to decrease by \$100,000 plus fringe \$83,240.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin...I'm sorry, yeah, Member Paltin made the motion, and second by Member Kama. Discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: This one also just based on vacancies, not taking all the money.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any more discussion? Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Quick question for Member Paltin. So, it's for the Special Maintenance Program, the proposal is for about the same amount as the Engineering Program? I just want to make sure that that was...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. All in favor...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Support.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All in favor raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Nine "ayes." The motion carries.

**VOTE:           AYES:           Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.**

**NOES:           None.**

**ABSTAIN:       None.**

**ABSENT:       None.**

**EXC.:           None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:       APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: DSA.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: My next one is small d.(1), Category A, I move to decrease by \$50,000 plus fringe \$41,620.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Oh, Member Paltin, second by Member Kama. Discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Same thing. They had...they had less vacancies, so less cut.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any more discussion? All in favor raise your hand and say "aye." Nine "ayes."

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**VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES: None.**

**ABSTAIN: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**EXC.: None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION: APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Next.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: For small e.(1), Category A, I move to decrease by \$100,000 plus fringe of \$83,240.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin, second by Member Kama. Discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I know this is a Revolving Fund. I have...one of my priorities takes from the Revolving Fund, so I'm just offsetting it. I did see in, I think it was PW-3, that a number of my pedestrian requests were in the burn zone, so they're not going to be completed anytime soon. And some of my pedestrian requests are scheduled for May of this year. So, I will be decreasing my initial ask to 100,000, and I'm just offsetting it here because there a lot of vacancies, and the Highway Fund does pull heavily from the General Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any more discussion? Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. I just...I believe the Highway Fund is not a Revolving Fund, I think it's just a Special Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That whatever revenue is generated, it has to...the expenses have to match. That's all. Support.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, Special Fund. But it does get to carryover, right, into its own fund?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I don't think so, but I...please, any of the attorneys or Budget Director, correct me. I thought whatever revenue is generated has to be spent. The same...the...the...it's the same as, you know, like the Wastewater/Sewer Fund and the Solid Waste Fund, whatever is generated has to be spent.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Nakata?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And so, if they have a carryover of the Highway Fund that they got General Funds for, at the end of the fiscal year, it goes back into the General Fund? Is that how it works?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That is a great question. And perhaps we can ask Budget Director that question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I actually asked Carla Nakata or Corp. Counsel. Yes, there they are. Hi.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Hi. Thank you. Sorry. I would also defer to the Budget Director, but my understanding is that for the Highway Fund, yes, when you're balancing the budget, the...the revenues have to match the appropriations. But, you know, like so many of the other . . . *(inaudible)*. . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . there's potentially carryover if the funds are not encumbered by the end of the year. And I believe then it goes back into the Highway Fund as a carryover and . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Fund. But yes, Member Rawlins-Fernandez is correct, is that during your budget process, the...those numbers have to match at this point.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, it's a little bit like a Revolving Fund, but we just call it a Special Fund. Because they get to keep...even if we transfer money from the General Fund and they have carryover, they don't give it back to the General Fund.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: No.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh...

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yeah, you're correct. It doesn't go back to the General Fund, it stays within the Highway Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, even if we transfer \$20 million, and they have a \$20 million carryover, they're not going to give it back?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: That's correct. It stays in the Highway Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Like how they didn't give it back last year. Nah, just joking. Sorry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But to clarify, Ms. Toshikiyo, the revenue...so the...any carryover funds recognized in...from the following...from the previous fiscal year would need...would be recognized in revenue, and the expenses would at least need to match the revenue, right? Like it would have to zero out?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That's why --

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes, in order to balance...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- they do that large interfund transfer.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes. That's the way the supplemental transfer from the General Fund comes from. If the expenses exceed the amount that's in the Highway Fund, then there's a supplemental transfer.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Toshikiyo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion on this? Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I don't know. Oh, she's on...she's online. She's not physically with us you mean?

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. When called upon. Okay. Members, any more discussion? Seeing none. All in favor say "aye." Okay. So, Member Kama, Member Cook, Member Johnson. Are you voting? Member Rawlins-Fernandez, are you voting? Is this roll call vote? I think...maybe Rawlins-Fernandez is frozen

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm frozen? I was voting. My hand was up. I don't know.



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she didn't include, I will bring up. Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we just did...I'm doing it section by section.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I know, but you have a day for corrections, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, that's next week.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, next week.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, that's what you're talking about. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Cook?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. So, I have one in Operations before we go to CIP.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Can you tell me what...what...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. This is an add, \$1 million for flood mitigation in South Maui, add language under project description to read, "6, drainage master plan implementation, research and evaluating funding and partnership opportunities to facilitate implementation of the drainage master plan recommendations."

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's Revolving Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is it your priority, yeah?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . priorities.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: We do that at the end.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

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COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I have it in two...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And that's coming from a Revolving Fund, I think --

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I have it in two places.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- I think, or GET? Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. I just had like a .5 departmental wide cut across, but it still didn't add up to all of Member Paltin's cuts. So...I just wanted to say that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's what happened to me with the Office of the Mayor. All the cuts I had, my Staff said, oh, she got it. Okay. So, you're...you're fine then, right? Oh, okay. Okay. So, CIP, no changes. Chair Lee, you wanted to make any change now?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No. I was just going to make a comment following Member Sinenci. You know, I...I...I wanted to commend him for trying, you know, but no sense compete with Member Paltin. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No, but...and...but only because Public Works is one of those larger departments that did have Carryover/Savings, significant Carryover/Savings. So, I didn't do that with all of them, but just the larger ones, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. So, we have...we're not going to...you're fine with the CIP then, right? We have consensus on that with CIP, no changes. Appendix A, page 42. Page 42 is Public Works, and there's just Federal Highways Administration, 20 million; private contributions, 100,000. No changes. Consensus? Nobody has anything to add. Appendix A, Part II, Special Purpose, and go to page 43, which is Plans Review, Permit Processing, and Inspection Revolving Fund, which is item D. Any amendments or changes? Seeing none. Consensus, Members? Do I see it? Yeah. Okay. Members...Member...okay. Thank you. Member Sinenci...oh, you're fine, that's your thumbs-up. Okay. Oh, this is going fast. Next E., Highway Beautification, Abandoned Vehicle, page 43 to 44. Any changes? Seeing none. No hands up. Okay. Consensus. Appendix B, Rates and Fees, page 34 to 47, and I use the appendix...I'm sorry, the Ramseyer version. So, page 34 to 47. Any revisions? *(silence)* Okay. Do I see none? Are you saying something, Member Paltin?

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. Can I have just a couple seconds? I got to find it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Sure. Sure, sure. So, page 34 to 47.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Sorry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead, Member Paltin. Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm on page 40, Appendix B, number 8.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 40, Appendix B, number 8. Wait now, Appendix...you're saying B as in boy?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Page 40, Appendix B, number 8.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I would like to double all the rates.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And this is electrical permits?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I'm in the wrong place.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Number 8 is Swimming Pools, Fountains, and Similar Installations. \$100 for wiring in or about outdoor commercial swimming pools, hot tubs, spas, fountains, and decorative pools: for each branch circuit for lighting and receptacle outlets. Wiring in or about outdoor residential swimming pools, hot tubs, spas, foundations and decorative pools: for each lighting fixture, switch, or receptacle outlet. For each large pool heater requiring three-phase power connections, 96 bucks. For each pool heater requiring single-phase power connections, 48 bucks. And if I get a second, I'll explain.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You're not going to do the last one?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Huh?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You're not going to do the last one?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: That was the last...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That was the last one...

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Swimming pool heater...oh. For each pool heated...that one?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: 48. Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Oh, I thought this is 24.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, I'm...I'm...I'm...my motion is to double them all.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Double all. Okay. All right. Do I see a second?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, motion made by Member Paltin, second by Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, for plenty years before, the Fire Department would say that, you know, all the swimming pools in Launiupoko and like that was a...a fire safety measure because they're...they got swimming pools. When the actual fires hit Launiupoko, they didn't use the swimming pools with their bucket, they used the ocean or the reservoir, and when they use the reservoir, they have to shut off the water to the kuleana in Kaua'ula Valley, like they illegally did this past week to fill their reservoir. And when I asked the Fire Chief, well, I thought like swimming pools were some sort of safety for fires, why didn't you dip the bucket in the pool? And he said well, you know, the bucket might damage the concrete, and then we'd be liable, and nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, or, you know, it might damage the roof as it comes up. And so, really, all these pools serve purpose is to waste our precious water. We got County pools that are able to be used for free in nearly every single district. Swimming pools, it's just...it's kind of a luxury tax because water is very precious, especially right now. We're still trying to find new source. If you can afford to pay for a swimming pool for luxury, then you gonna pay...afford to pay more. That's my discussion. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion? So, the motion is that Member Paltin...

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I have . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you have discussion? Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I hear you, Member Paltin, and maybe we should change that too in the Code so we can stop using that for fire safety measure if that...we cannot use it for fire safety.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Like fire safety measure, it was kind of like...I don't want to say anecdotal. I don't know what is the right word, but the former Fire Captain, I forget his name, but I know he used to Honokōwai Kauhale, said like oh, having swimming pools is a benefit to the Fire Department, you know, and I'm not seeing how swimming pools is a benefit to the Fire Department. It only serves to take more money on an individual commercial basis when we're not managing our water well. So . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . that's...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Cook?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. I have no problem with raising the rates. I'd like to clarify on the...the fire deal. It...I don't think it's like helicopter type, but they use the swimming pools as fire protection. If you don't have fire...County fire protection, you have an option...you can either use a pond, a pool, or a water tank. And if you have a water tank, it has to be like standing water available at all time, you can't use it. So, that's the...that is the justification or part of the thing...the swimming pool. The swimming pools do use water. What it is . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . is the evaporation each day, which can be substantial if it's a windy, dry area. So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- I...I don't have a problem with raising the rates on that. I just wanted to clarify that it is legitimately for a fire benefit, but mostly for that particular homeowner or neighborhood.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, I will support this. I will tell you that during the August 8th wildfire, in my community, some of the swimming...well, swimming pools actually saved buildings because of the location and, you know, see the helicopters going. And it was amazing and lucky that they...some of those people had swimming pools. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: They dipped the bucket in the swimming pool?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: But I thought they weren't able to fly the helicopter because it was so windy?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. Well, maybe this is after. Not August the 8th, but the...after fires, the hotspots, they were being...they used some of the water from the swimming pools, so...okay. This is about raising the fees. Any more discussion? All in favor raise your hand and say "aye." Okay. Nine "ayes." Motion carries.

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**VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES: None.**

**ABSTAIN: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**EXC.: None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION: APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Anything else, Members? No? Okay. So, that was Rates and Fees. Departmental requests.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I apologize for my mistake previously. My million dollars for the --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, coming up.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- . . .*(inaudible)*. . . was CIP.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. It was CIP? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Yeah. So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, is it in...is...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- do you want me to...I know I'm going out of sequence, and I'm throwing off the rhythm here.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, under priority. Sorry. You know what? You're going to come up next because under priorities is...is where your priority will be. So, let me see if anybody has any comments.

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COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I think this is different than my priority list.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Let me look. So, I don't see what page number it is, but it is one of your priorities.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Yeah, it's on 37. I stand corrected.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, page 37. Okay. This just doesn't have the page number. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Moving on.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So...okay. Public Works. Oh, wrong...wrong . . .*(inaudible)*. . . I don't see my departmental letter requests form. Anybody has any requests for departmental requests? Seeing none. Oh, we do?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: But wait, wait. We had...are we going to do our priorities separately?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes. That's next, priorities. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Under Public Works.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Members, next we have your priorities. So, first...so Members' priorities on page 35 to 38 of matrix. We'll start with Councilmember U'u-Hodgins, Residency Area One. Okay. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. Members, my priority is...you can find the section on page 8 of section...or Appendix C under Public Works CIP in the Countywide Traffic...Traffic and Safety Program. So, I move to increase this budget by 100,000, making it 6,900,000, to include a gate...or 100,000 must be for the assessment, planning, design, permitting, and installation of two gates on Holomua Road to improve the security and safety for Holomua community and the Pā'ia community. My intention is not to close up the entire thing, but the gravel section behind old Maui High to Baldwin intersection. I don't know how familiar you folks are with that road, but only about one-third of that is paved. And so, my intention is not to close up that paved area, but rather the gravel area that is owned by the County that hasn't been maintained or upgraded in a really long time. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good. And we heard them loud and clear during your residency meeting. So, motion made by Member U'u-Hodgins, and second by

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Member Cook. And that's the discussion. So the motion is to add...increase by \$100,000 General Fund for that Holomua Road, it is CBS-6067. Yeah. You have any more discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Well, Member Cook seconded it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So, I can go back into discussion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: There's a lot of illegal dumping that happens on that road. The night of the meeting that I know you guys have heard me talk about where we had MEMA, Police, Fire...that very night somebody had left a boat on the road a couple weeks before, and it was lit on fire that night that we had our meeting a month or so ago. And the night that we were all in the Pā'ia Community Budget Hearing, there was a car that was lit on fire. So, it's an extreme fire hazard, an extreme concern. There's a lot of illegal dumping activity that goes on there, a lot of criminal activity. I love that road. That's where I learned to drive. You've heard me say that before, but that's not the part I'm hoping to close up.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Just a couple questions. Did...Director Molina is okay with this section? And this section is not the paved portion? And then I know the last time he said that we couldn't restrict access, but for this section, he can restrict access?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you for that question. I did speak to Director Molina, he's okay with it. You're right, it is a gravel section of the road. We won't be restricting access for emergency services. So, the reason why this gate is not cheap is this is a whelping (*phonetic*) gate. So, when . . . (*timer sounds*). . . emergency services come through, they can activate a siren that the gate will open.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh. Oh, so that would be better than just like putting cement barricades?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah...no. So, this gate, like I said, Police, ambulance, and Fire, they have an ability to activate a siren, and then the gate will automatically open. And so, it would be used for emergency services and

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emergency requirements, but not for everyday traffic use and illegal dumping.  
Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Member Sinenci.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, very good. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I was wondering if you could make one rough diagram of what that would look like, and pass it along down this way.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I can. Do you want it now?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That'd be cool.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And it doesn't have to be pretty, just like labeled.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah. I can...I can...I think it might be best because I'm a terrible drawer...or what...artist, I don't know, whatever, this is not arting [sic]. But I can maybe have somebody print something, and then I can show you where it is so you can kind of see better what it looks like, and then you can see what the road looks like in relation to the town as well.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And so . . .(timer sounds). . . then only emergency services would be allowed to go through that and nobody else?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Unless there's an emergency where we would need to evacuate.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And could...what if people don't have cars and they go in that area and --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Do interesting things?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- habitat, whatever?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: That's a good question. So, I would probably have to follow up with MPD on what happens. It is County property, so I'm not too sure. I do know that in Pā'ia, if you're familiar with the old Sunnyside Road...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Only on paper.

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COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Yeah. I pass it nearly every day. So, as you’re going in and out of Pā‘ia--my grandma used to actually use this road on the makai side of Hāna Highway to go to the airport when she was a janitor at the airport--but Hāna Highway, if you’re going this way, up this way where there is Mahi Pono, they closed that road, and it just is a long turn. It’s closed on both sides, as well as going this way makai, we have a gate that’s closing that road too. I...I think the County owns that as well. That’s the last time we had a road closed in Pā‘ia. Now it’s for safety issues too. But I can get you a diagram.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And just the last question. Whelping wouldn’t be the only way to open the gate?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: No.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: No. And so, right now what’s happening is when the roads are closed--and not this one because there’s no gate--and we need them for emergency and evacuation purposes, they just bolt cut the gates and be used to go through.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, sorry. One more.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Will it open like this or like this?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: I believe it opens like this. So, Parks has one too, which is where we got the cost estimate from. I...I don’t think we would have the space to open it like this because it’s a narrow road, but because we have zero electricity and no water, which is why the fire is a huge concern, I think it also has to be solar powered as well.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And it would go towards the pavement, fold out towards...

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: You know, I’m not --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I mean toward the gravel?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: -- too sure of that part, the ins or the out has been discussed, but I would assume because I have to have a gate in my house, it would go out so that the whelping...you wouldn’t have to reverse the truck. I don’t know how close you have to be. So, you wouldn’t have to reverse the truck to allow the gate space to open. But I would assume it would go in, but that’s just my assumption. But I can get you...we have a companion legislation to go



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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, this is for a feasibility study and preliminary design for a dedicated right turn from north-bound Waiale Road onto Kuikahi Drive, to include needed land in the future...to include needed land acquisition and signal adjustments, and for preliminary design for traffic calming measures, such as speed bumps, roundabouts, bike lanes, and sidewalks on Waiale Road in Wailuku.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member made by...Member...motion made by Chair Lee, second by Member U'u-Hodgins. Discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: The discussion would be, it's...it's...it's pretty self-evident when you see...we all went to the blessing of the...the massive apartment building complex off of Waiale. And unfortunately, a lot of these projects did not take into consideration all these additional needed improvements because cumulatively, maybe project by project, it doesn't show a need for all of these improvements. But cumulatively, we're...we're almost trapped in our subdivisions as a result of the way the traffic improvements have not been done. So, I'm...I'm asking if you could please help me with this. This begins with design and planning for a future improvement maybe next year or the following year.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Anybody have any questions? Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm going to need a roll call.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Anybody else? So, I have a question.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Was...wasn't there a master plan already done on this...Public Works?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Did you check with Public Works?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, yeah. We've been checking with Public Works all year. Yeah, because we...we actually even checked with the Schatz project, the one with the 300-something apartment units, and asked if they were planning to or required to provide improvements, but apparently when they got approved, no one saw the need for all these additional improvements...improvements...including Kuikahi and DHHL and all the projects that are coming up. So, that's the reason why we need to do this by the County.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Surprising. Okay. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I...I can't support this because we're already way over 7 million over, and we have projects in Lahaina that I'd like them to work on so people can get back to their homes. And, you know, I...I...I posted the costs for that project and overwhelmingly, people were like that's not realistic, it's going to cause a lot of people to move off the island. And...and, you know, we got a lot of expenses this year. If we can put it off a little bit. This is pretty much the entirety of my cuts for the Department taken up here with an add. So, I think...I think we almost got to revisit all our adds and delete them because it sounded pretty bleak like we're not going to get any money from the State, and so, just saving time by not supporting it now.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. This is for \$325,000, and as I said, next week I'll...I will be proposing many more cuts and...that will clearly cover this expense.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, a following-up question. Those proposed cuts, do you plan to cut any of the Members' priorities?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, no. Departments.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. I mean truly, we've added . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm raising my hand.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we've added \$7 million to this budget already, and not even done. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Chair Lee, so this is the Engineering Division.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Do you know if...or is...is this General Fund, or is this supposed to be under the Highway Fund?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: General Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. General Fund. Okay. And then,

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you know, I...I know that you're planning to make cuts to the budget next week, but we have to set RPT rates before next week, and then it'll be whatever we set RPT at is where it'll basically have to stay. We have a deadline for that, that's why, yeah. So, when we set the rates, then whatever revenue we're generating is what it'll be at. So, I don't know . . .(timer sounds). . . what reductions those are, but we should probably consider them tomorrow. Okay. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Members, are you...any more discussion? Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you tell us the deadline to set the RPT rates?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You know, I'm going to have a discussion with Staff because of the new information that we just got from the Mayor and the Managing Director and how it affects our budget. I think all of that is going to be relevant. I'm meeting with Josiah at 12:30, and after lunch, if you don't mind, I'll come up with that proposal.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. But I mean --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, plan, I should say.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- what...what I was asking for was the absolute drop-dead deadline that we need to do it by --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- which I don't know that that would change because it would be the absolute drop-dead deadline. So, that's just something I wanted to know.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Okay.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, go ahead.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: The RPT rates are due the Clerk's Office by Tuesday.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: So, they need to be set prior to that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, that's why I wanted to hear from...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Like how much prior?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: What?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: How much prior to Tuesday, like Monday?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: If you set the rates and then adjust the budget accordingly, you know, I guess. But I think what Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez was trying to point out is that regardless after you set the rates, that's what your...your number is, you know. So, even if you cut, you're going to have to just throw that money into something else. So, if your intention is to cut the budget to lower the number then you also have to amend RPT accordingly.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we'll have a plan. We'll...we'll talk about it and we'll let you know, Chair Lee and Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, you know, I hate to do this, but did anybody cut the professional services from Engineering?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes. Yeah. That's what we cut, right?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You did cut?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Page 60...I mean Bill 60. I'll look.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Can somebody check? Because then...then you wouldn't have to add, I will just deduct it from there, which is I...I believe it's 751,000.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, from Engineering, and you're asking what, if there were any cuts on professional services?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I'm looking at the Budget Bill 19.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: 19.b.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, the only cut made to that program is the \$100,000 from the A Account thus far.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, because this would fall in B, it doesn't...we don't have to add anything, yeah.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Sorry. Because the...this add would be to the B Account, there's

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no cuts currently to offset that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: There's no cuts. So, I mean I can make that motion to take it from the...from the Professional Services, but initially, I was going to add that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. So, why don't you just --

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: So, what you could do --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- why don't you amend it.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: -- is just condition 325,000 must be --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: -- used for this.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, I'll change my motion to condition the Professional Services, \$325,000 for the...for the improvements...for the study for the improvements on Waiale Road.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Motion made by Chair Lee and second by Member Johnson. And that would be on page 19, Department of Public Works, B...small b. and in section b...c. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I still wouldn't be able to support it. They have listed that this money is for additional funding for consultant services for GIS data structure development, 100,000. Surveying support services for Lahaina, 200,000. Flood program permit review and support transfer from the Department of Planning, 100,000. Base is survey consultant services for subdivision review, separate lot determination, road ownership research, which probably is North-South Collector Road, topographic survey, and traffic control for in-house field survey, third-party drainage reviews, and equipment annual maintenance, 351,000. So, it kind of looks like they have it all planned out, and I support all these things that they have it planned out for.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is the money used up? Can you check, Staff? Is there any...is there any funds left over for Chair Lee's motion for 325,000?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: It doesn't look it, but...and maybe this would be a question for Department or Budget Director, but again, this condition would just be to the B Account. And so, they could adjust accordingly if they have the wiggle room, but I'm not sure if they do.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And then too, Chair --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- you have to keep in mind that they're shorthanded, so I highly doubt that they can get to all of these projects.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: All of them.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Including a new one that we're adding on.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, let's take the vote, how about that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Members, this is a roll call vote. Is it Megan?

MS. MONIZ: Yes, Chair. Proceeding with the roll call vote. Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

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MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tom Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Vice-Chair Tasha Kama...excused.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Excused.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, there are six “ayes,” two “noes,” one excused. The motion passes.

**VOTE:           AYES:           Chair Sugimura, and Councilmembers Cook,  
Johnson, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, and  
U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES:           Councilmembers Paltin and Sinenci.**

**ABSTAIN:       None.**

**ABSENT:       None.**

**EXC.:           Vice-Chair Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:       APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.



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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: CIP Traffic Program --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- to...to condition that...that fund by \$325,000 for feasibility study and preliminary design for dedicated right turn lane from the north-bound Waiale Road onto Kuikahi Drive, to include needed land acquisition and signal adjustments, and for preliminary design for traffic calming measures, such as speed humps, roundabouts, bike lanes, and sidewalks on Waiale Road in Wailuku.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That's your discussion.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, my apologies. Can we get clarification? I'm just not sure if we can condition CIP. So, I guess, we're wondering if this would either be an add or to add this to the description of that CIP?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Can we ask the Budget Director? Because she made that proposal.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Ms. Milner, what is the CIP number? Oh, here.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. This CIP number would be the same one Councilmember U'u-Hodgins conditioned.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: 6067.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: 6067. Is that okay, Kasie?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: So, is this adding to the description of that CIP?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Does everybody understand the vote...the motion?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All in favor say "aye." Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Roll call, please.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Roll call.

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Chair? Quickly.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Point of order.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you. So, clarification, we did the vote to...for reconsideration.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is it the understanding now that we are....because the...after we did the reconsideration, the...the motion wasn't withdrawn. The...the...the motion is just being friendly amended, or are we voting to amend the motion now, and then we'll take a vote on the main motion as amended?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So we reconsidered...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: We took a vote on the reconsideration.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Yeah. So...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That wasn't the question. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: So, what you have...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, we did...we did...go ahead.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: What you have on the floor before you is your original motion. And so, Staff's understanding is that you've amended the motion, but you can . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Was there a second?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes. It was Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Not on the main motion, on the motion to amend.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right now, yes. Oh, we...we did that. Chair Lee and Gabe Johnson is my notes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: There was a second to the reconsideration. Did Member Johnson also second the motion to amend right now?

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: For the record, I second the motion to amend.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Okay. So, can you say the motion, James?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, on the roll call now, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, roll call. Just...just to be clear, since we're having this discussion.

MR. KRUEGER: So, Chair, Staff's current understanding is that the motion on the floor was made by Chair Lee, seconded by Member Johnson to amend Chair Lee's motion --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MR. KRUEGER: -- to change it so that it's instead an add to the Appendix C description for the Countywide Traffic and Safety Program instead of as a condition to the Engineering Program. The add would be to--sorry, let me just grab the language--for a feasibility study and preliminary design for a dedicated right turn lane from the north-bound Waiale Road onto Kuikahi Drive, to include needed land acquisition and signal adjustments, and for preliminary design and traffic calming measures, such as speed bumps, roundabouts, bike lanes, and sidewalks on Waiale Road in Wailuku.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That is exactly what she said. All right. Members, any more discussion? Roll call vote.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.



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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. And you have to go, right? You're leaving. Member Paltin? Oh, yeah. Oh --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- we got to do a main motion as amended. Sorry about that. Yes, Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. And also...so, now that we're putting it under CIPs, did the motion include the reduction of the Professional Services as Chair Lee had spoke to earlier under Account B?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I think you withdrew that, right, Chair Lee...that question?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, in the sense that we reconsidered that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, reconsidered.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. So, is the intention to reduce that or not?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: We're...we're... ..*(clearing her throat)*... we're no longer dealing with the Engineering Program. We went to the new...the new source, the Traffic CIP.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, no, I...so I understand that it's being...the expense is put somewhere else, but is the intention to offset the cost of 325 by reducing the General Fund under the Engineering Program in Account B by...I think you said 200,000 or whatever?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: 325. I think that was...I'm just following the recommendation of the Budget Director. Is she on the line? Is that...what Member Rawlins-Fernandez said, is that what you had suggested?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Chair Lee. Thank you, Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez. So, I think we would rather not reduce the Professional Services line item. So, my understanding is this is just adding a condition under this line item without increasing the amount for this study.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that clarification.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Support.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Okay. So, main motion as amended, all in favor...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, roll call.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, roll call.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tom Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Nohelani U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Vice-Chair Tasha Kama...excused.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Excused.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aye.

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MS. MONIZ: Chair, that's seven "ayes," one "no," one excused. Motion passes.

**VOTE:           AYES:           Chair Sugimura, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.**

**NOES:           Councilmember Paltin.**

**ABSTAIN:       None.**

**ABSENT:        None.**

**EXC.:           Vice-Chair Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:        APPROVE main motion as amended**

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Okay. To help your neighborhood, Chair Lee. Okay, next. Member Paltin...I'm sorry, what? Oh, yeah, you want to go to lunch already? We didn't finish this. Yeah, I have a meeting at 12:30. Okay. You guys don't want to just go to 12:30? Shall? Okay. So, I want to...I want to get Member Paltin, your...your priority. Did you have one here?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sure. This is my resident area number one priority for Appendix C, page 8, Budget Bill, CBS-6067, Department of Public Works, CIP, Countywide, Traffic and Safety Program. I would like to request speed tables on Lower Honoapiilani Road near the Kahana Nui Bridge and the Lum Lung Boat Ramp. Also for Niheu Street, again for Mr. Nip (*phonetic*), multimodal and pedestrian safety improvements on the lower road in Honokōwai and for the crosswalks at Nāpili Park, and I'm asking for a condition of \$100,000.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member Paltin, second by Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, every year I put in requests for pedestrian safety and multimodal safety. It usually does not get done, but it is still needed. And, you know, although I put in money last year for Mr. Nip's speed bump, when the

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residents in Kahana by the boat ramp put out their own speed bump, it was taken down, and then it was put back up, and then it was taken down, and then it was put back up, and then it was taken away. And the Department of Public Works told the constituents to tell me to put money in the budget for their real speed bump, and I said you tell Public Works what happened to all the money I put in for the last five years for all the pedestrian and multimodal improvements. So, don't ask me to put more money.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, I'm conditioning 100,000.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion? Seeing none. All in favor raise your hand.

MR. KRUEGER: Can we just clarify? So, Councilmember Paltin, earlier you had indicated that you were cutting \$100,000 in salaries from a highway-funded Public Works' program. So, is the intent to increase the CIP here with that same 100,000, or is it just to add the language to the Appendix C description?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I would just add the language because that's what other people do, right?

MR. KRUEGER: We...we will just note that that might mean we might be a little out of balance for Highway Fund for the meantime.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Because they can use the money that I put in the last four years because it rolls over anyway.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Members, you have a question? Member U'u-Hodgins or Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I'm just wondering if she should add in the language so she can get these speed...or speed tables, if that might...I don't know how to make it work, but however we can make it work.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes, I'd like to add the language. Except for when it says junction...junction of Lower Honoapiilani Road and Hui Drive D. I guess...I think that is by the boat ramp, but in that area there's a lot of kids that cross the street to the boat ramp area, and that's the area where majority of the supplies came into West Maui when the Mayor shut the road. And so, nobody could bring supplies into West Maui except for the boat ramp, and so, it's a safety issue. At that time, the bridge was closed, and there was no thru traffic. It's been under construction for about two years, so, you know, the kids got used to free and safe access to the beach across the street. It was safe, as all the supplies came in

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because the road was shut down because the bridge...20-foot bridge was under construction for two years. And now that it's open, everybody's speeding along there, and there's a real concern, as they bought and put out their own speed bump, that somebody is going to get hurt.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: So, if we can just clarify. Are we taking out the "and the junction of Lower Honoapiilani," that...the rest of that part of that condition?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: You could say "and the junction of Lower Honoapiilani Road and Hui Drive D near the Lum Lung Boat Ramp."

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we're leaving it in or taking it out?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Adding on "near the Lum Lung Boat Ramp."

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Adding on. That's a cute name.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: And then just to clarify, what we'll do then for the cut that was made earlier to Highway Fund is we'll just decrease the interfund transfer.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, good. Okay. All right. Members, so if no other discussion, let's vote. All in favor say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. This is...there's seven of us, right? Member...oh, yeah, Chair Lee and Member Kama excused. Oh, okay. Six, and excused Member Rawlins-Fernandez, and Chair Lee, and...and Member Kama. Motion passes.

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**VOTE:**       **AYES:**       **Chair Sugimura, and Councilmembers Cook,  
Johnson, Paltin, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES:**       **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**   **None.**

**ABSENT:**   **None.**

**EXC.:**       **Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Lee  
and Rawlins-Fernandez.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:    APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, now we have you, Member Cook.

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, let’s finish. You’re the last one. So, on page 37 on your priorities, the condition...page 37.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. It’s a new and condition, CBS-6069, Department of Public Works, CIP, CW Bridge and Drainage Program Flood Mitigation, add \$1 million, add the language under the project description to read, “Drainage Master Plan Implementation - research and evaluate funding and partnership opportunities to facilitate implementation of drainage master plan recommendations. Funding will support the continued work on flood mitigation measures for Waiakoa Gulch and conduct study at Kulanihakoi Gulch as it relates to the sediment removal project.”

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Second?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Second. Motion made by Member Cook, second by Member U‘u-Hodgins. I think you already gave your discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So...well, my discussion. Members, this is a continuation of the progress that’s being made in South Maui for the flooding. The Department of Public Works has really stepped up, and I ask for your support.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion? Seeing none. All in favor say “aye.”



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wondering. I did meet with Josiah, and I think he is available to meet with all of you. And...and basically what is...what he shared is that the Legislature is going into negotiation on 20...at 2:00, so he can't...we can't talk about anything until we learn more from what the Legislature is doing, so...

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Well, that...that's when the meeting starts, the Legislature starts at 2:00, and they're going to be looking at Bill 3068 and others, but our bill is in it, so...I'm really glad, you know, that the Mayor and Managing Director came today and...which opened up communication with each of you. I hope you take advantage of it because then we can all be on the same page with, you know, what's happening. I wish we did this earlier and didn't wait until today, but it is what it is. And we will march and dance together. So, I'm glad that, you know, finally...finally, this is happening.

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We'll sync together first. Okay. Okay. So, now...we're...we're done with Public Works. And I got a text from--you handled it...okay--from Acting Budget Director Milner. and...all right.

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, with...the Department of Water Supply, look on pages 20 to 21 in Budget Bill 60. Any...any amendments...proposed amendments. None?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Any amendments to Water?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh. No, because they use all their own money.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That is the correct answer. Okay. Anything else? Okay. So, next we have CIP, and the CIP bill is on 26 to 27. Any amendments...proposed amendments?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Page 26 to 27?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yup. None? We're good? Okay. Consensus, everybody, we're fine? Appendix A, Part I, Grants, which is page 42. Any proposed amendments? Page 42. Department of...number 15, the last one. So, you know, these are what we're receiving, right, so I wish you could just add more to it, but it's FEMA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and additional revenues. Oh, that's...the additional revenues

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is 16, so it's a million dollars for this section. Okay. All good? Okay. Special Purpose Revenues, which is on 48, page 48. Oh, so, this is...on the very top is Upcountry Water System Expansion Capital Improvement Reserve Fund, and there is \$489,491 in a Revolving Fund...in this Revolving Fund, and I hope one day to use this. The Upcountry Kamole Weir will be ready for construction, so hopefully for next year. This...this water...I mean this is designated for Upcountry. Any...any amendments?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Are...I have an amendment on rates and fees. Are we on rates and fees?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That's...that's next. So...wait now. Okay. Appendix A, Special Purpose...oh, wait. Do we have that correction from Water? So, Water is saying for this Upcountry Water System Expansion...oh, Ms. Milner, Appendix B...oh, you know what? That's next. Appendix B, we're going to take that up next. So, Appendix B, Ramseyer version, go to page 49 to 61. And I'll call on Ms. Milner, also Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Me now?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wait. Okay. Why don't you go first?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Members, I'm on page 49 --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- Department of Water Supply Water Fund, 3475, Water Service Rates General Water Costumers [sic]. I move to have it say, "Water service charges to single-family dwellings with their own meter, single-family and accessory dwellings with their own meter (monthly)."

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, the motion made by Member Paltin, second by Member Sinenci. So, if I can...if you can correct me, right? So, this is under 3475, Water Service, charges to single-family dwelling with their own meter...oh, paren, single-family and accessory dwelling with their own meter, right? Where...where does the monthly come in? At...just one time at the end?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. That's the motion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That's the motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Discussion.



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MS. TOSHIKIYO: I did, Chair. Thank you. I'm...I'd have to look that up. I have to look at the relevant Code section --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: -- so I could have some time. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. We can come back to it.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It also does say on the other side, Charter 8-11.4(2).

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Oh, Ms. Nakata?

MS. NAKATA: Chair, I don't believe there is a corresponding Code provision for these rates, but if I could just ask...I know there's already been a vote, where that language is going on page 49?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. Is right under...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Right under the header, Department of Water Supply Water Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Middle of the page.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I would...

MS. NAKATA: So, where...where it currently says Water Services Charges to Single-Family Dwellings, Single-Family and Accessory Dwellings (Monthly)?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah.

MS. NAKATA: Is...is there a change to that?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. NAKATA: Was the change to that language there?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's just adding that the single-family dwelling would have its own meter, not a shared meter.

MS. NAKATA: Oh, I see. So, at the end of that phrase?

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: At the end of “Single-Family dwellings with their own meter, Single-Family and accessory dwellings with their own meter.”

MS. NAKATA: Okay. Got it. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: You’re welcome.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion? Okay. All in favor raise your hand and say “aye.” Aye. Member Johnson is still not here, yeah? Oh, we voted already? Oh, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair? Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, we did. Eight “ayes,” one excused, Member Johnson. Go ahead. Yes, Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I was asking what we were voting on because we voted already, but Staff clarified. Mahalo, Staff.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: We’re just making sure it’s really pa‘a.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Okay. Anything else?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sounds good.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Anything...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I’m happy to make it really pa‘a.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Anything else, Members? No? Okay. So, we are good then with rates and fees for Department of Water Supply.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair, I have a question...oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is Member Johnson not here? Because I think he had a proposal for rates and fees under Water. I think he wanted to restore the ag water rates, but...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: He’s not here.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, I don’t know if that would...okay. Because that’s something I think he wanted to do. But I also see Acting Budget Director Milner, who turned on her video.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. So, I was going to get to her. Thank you for helping run the meeting. Ms. Milner?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Anytime.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I didn't know if now would be an appropriate time. I know I reached out to you during the recess that the Department of Water Supply does have a request for a change to rates and fees that was not included in the April 12th correspondence, if the body will be willing to consider it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, please do, and explain it, it's...

MS. MILNER: Okay. Thank you, Chair. So, this would be on page 50 of the Ramseyer Rates and Fees. At the top of the page, underneath where it says Multi-Family, the Water Department would like to propose adding, "in the case of a single meter serving three or more Single-Family homes, the Multi-Family rate will apply. In the case of a duplex or a one house plus an ADU, the Single-Family rate will apply."

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So moved.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Motion made by Member Paltin, and second made by Member Sinenci. Did you get that?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Discussion, Ms. Milner?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, you got that...you got the verbiage? Ms. Milner? Oh, we're on Rates and Fees for Water.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Yes, the Department is proposing this change to address the issue they discussed with Councilmember Paltin earlier in the session about multi-family rates being used on single-family homes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Call for the question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Okay. Anybody else? Member Johnson, welcome to the meeting, and we're on Water --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- rates. Okay. So, all in favor raise your hand and say "aye." Aye.

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COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It looks like we now have nine “ayes.”

**VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES: None.**

**ABSTAIN: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**EXC.: None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION: APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Okay. Member Johnson, you’re ready to do your proposal...your amendment?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, Chair. Sorry, I...I...I was trying to clone myself. I got too many meetings going on right now, but...so, this is...I move to amend Water Service Rates, the Agricultural Consumers, Agricultural Rates, to read as following, and it is...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: What page are you on?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I’m sorry. Page 50, Appendix B, Department of Supply’s Water Services Rates...and give people a moment to get there.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. So, basically we’re going back to the original rates. So, it would be scratching 2.50...for 0 to 500 [sic] gallons, scratching \$2.56 and going back to \$2.13. Second tier, 5,000 to 1,500...15,000 gallons with...scratch the \$5.05 rate and go back to the \$4.21 rate. The 15,000 gallons and up, scratch the \$1.43 rate and go back to \$1.19 rate. In a time of post-fire, we have to make sure our farmers have the amount of water to water their lands and keep it green. The 20 percent increase in ag water rates, I...I...I wouldn’t

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support, so, I'm just trying to bring it back to what it was. And I spoke with Director Stufflebean, and he said that his Department could absorb the costs. I think he called...he said eat, he could eat it, but that...that's...if any questions, you can certainly ask Director Milner on anything else she wants to add, but that's my proposal. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much. So, motion made by Member Johnson. Is there a second?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is that a second? Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez made the second. So, discussion, you...that was your discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Anybody else? Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. So, the Water Department is self-funding, so the revenue they generate is the expenses that they have. Question for either Member Johnson or Acting Director Milner. What would be the estimated revenue loss in restoring the rates to previous rates, and do we have to make any cuts to the expenses to accommodate the new rate?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Milner?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez. The impact of this rate change would be approximately \$250,000, and the Water Department . . .(timer sounds). . . feels comfortable increasing their Carryover/Savings amount by that same amount of revenue loss to cover that change. So, no other cuts are needed. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Very nice. So, I...I believe we would...Staff would just make that corresponding change, or would Staff like us to include that in the motion?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Can you just...it would just make it clear, but yeah, we will reflect it.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, it would be an increase in the Carryover/Savings of 250,000.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, that's correct.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: And reduce charges for current services by that same amount.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Exactly.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So move.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So moved.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. And discussion. Member Cook?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. I'm supportive of this. I want to remind everybody that the ag rates are highly, highly subsidized by everybody else. Farmers need water. We, as a community, want and need to be as self-supporting as possible. I just want us to be aware of the infrastructure needs to develop more sustainable ag water in the future. And because everybody is subsidizing this, and it's...my...the challenge is this. During drought, when the farmers need more water, is the time that we have the least amount of water, and that's something we have to fix. So, that's it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Anybody else on this? Seeing none. Time for a vote. All in favor raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aye. So Member U'u-Hodgins is excused, and so that's eight "ayes." Motion carries.

**VOTE:           AYES:           Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, and Sinenci.**

**NOES:           None.**

**ABSTAIN:       None.**

**ABSENT:        None.**

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**EXC.: Councilmember U‘u-Hodgins.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION: APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Mahalo, Members.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other revisions to Rates and Fees? Okay. Anybody have any departmental requests, or any comments regarding departmental requests?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Ms. Milner.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Yes, there's one departmental request. It's on page 24-20 of the Budget Details, under the Water Administration Program, to increase Index 953701B-6215 by 200,000, and make a corresponding increase in Carryover/Savings. The recent renewal of the County's insurance premium in December 2023 increased, and so, the Department of Water Supply's portion of that premium increased by the same percentage.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Do I hear a motion anybody? So moved, Member Sinenci. Is there a second?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Johnson. Any changes?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you repeat the motion?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Any revisions?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you repeat the motion?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. So, what the Department of Water Supply is asking is, the Risk Management...the recent--oh, this is the explanation, I guess--the recent renewal of the County's insurance on December 10, 2023 had an increase...increase...increased premium, therefore the Department's portion of



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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So...okay. Okay. We will...we will wait to learn more from Managing Director. Interesting. That was fast. Okay. So, we are now done with...with Water, and I want to know...oh, Carla is on. Oh, sorry, didn't see you. Ms. Nakata.

MS. NAKATA: Oh, apologies, Chair. I just wanted to follow up. I believe the Department had a revision request in its response WS-5, and this had to do with Water Services Charges to Other General Water Consumers. I believe Director Stufflebean was going to be there with the Acting Budget Director to explain.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Milner, is that what you described to us earlier? I think so. Ms. Milner.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I believe this is a different request. Could you remind me which question it was, Ms. Nakata?

MS. NAKATA: Let's see. I don't have the question number, but Director had laid out the revisions he was requesting in an attachment to the back of the document. I believe he was clarifying that Commercial and Multi-Family were the only All Other General Water Consumers. He had asked that Multi-Family be broken out separately, followed by Other General Water Consumers, and deleting the Commercial category.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Milner.

MS. MILNER: Okay. I see...yes, I'm just scrolling back up to the answer to the question. Yeah, let me look into this.

MS. NAKATA: I believe we wanted to ask the Committee to vote on this, as opposed to making it a nonsubstantive revision because it resulted in the deletion of the Commercial category?

MS. MILNER: Okay. Thank you, Chair. Yes, I see the portion you're talking about, and if the body and OCS Staff feel that this requires an amendment, the Water Department is open to having this amended to reflect what was in their correspondence.

MS. NAKATA: Okay. And the only change from the correspondence is, I believe that at the bottom line of the attachment, they had inadvertently copied the hotel and resort water shortage rate, and it should actually be the water shortage rates that were in Appendix B. So, it would be the 7.58, 9.46, and 11.34 under Other

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General Water Consumers for the Water Shortage Rates.

MS. MILNER: Yes. I thought they sent a revised attachment, but let me see if I can find it, and I will transmit that to the Committee if it was not sent already.

MS. NAKATA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

MS. NAKATA: So, Chair, I...I don't know if you want to handle that by motion to incorporate those revisions.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Ms. Milner, can you send that to us?

MS. MILNER: Yes, Chair. I'm just looking for it in my emails, and I will get it over as soon as I find it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you, Ms. Nakata. Did you send it?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I just transmitted it to the BFED Committee.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Did you get it? Not yet? Okay.

MS. NAKATA: I think the way the motion was proposed would be that WS-5 response number (2a) notes a request from the Department of Water Supply to delete the Commercial rate on page 50 of Appendix B, and insert in its place Other General Water Consumers Rate at 7.58 per 1,000 gallons, with the Water Shortage Rates being those set forth on page 50--Stage 1, 7.58; Stage 2, 9.46; Stage 3, 11.34.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Nakata, this is on page 51, did you say?

MS. NAKATA: Yes, page 50 the Ramseyer version, Chair. Is that consistent with your understanding, Acting Budget Director?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Ms. Nakata. Yes, that is consistent with my understanding. Apologies that it took me a minute to find where we were. Thank you.

MS. NAKATA: Oh, no, thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes? Okay. So, check your inbox. Members, check your email, the...the attachment was sent over.

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Did you...did you get it? You got it? Oh, my. Okay.

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. . .*(inaudible)*. . . back. Did you all get it? You got it? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Um...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. Go ahead. I'm sorry. Member Paltin? Sorry, I'm trying to open this. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, that's for hotels, it's 10.56, but it says page 49?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . 50.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, it's 50? Oh, okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's what...that's what...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- isn't that what it already says, 10.56 per 1,000 gallons? Or...or we're just...we don't need to put December 31st, 2023, is that what the change is? We just say...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Nakata?

MS. NAKATA: Thank you, Chair. No, this would be at the top of page 50 of the Ramseyer version, where it refers to water service charges to all other general water consumers.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. NAKATA: And right below that to the Water Shortage Rates with Commercial and Multi-Family laid out.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: But the hotel stuff is on page 49, right?

MS. NAKATA: Yes, that's correct. There's not a change to the Hotel rates. What I was just pointing out is that the original response cited the Water Shortage Rates for Hotel and Resort, and it should have actually been the rates that I read off earlier, the 7.58, 9.46, and 11.34.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Ms. Milner?

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MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Yes, I believe the amendment that's being requested on page 50 is to change the word "commercial" where it appears twice at the top of the page, to "other general water consumers."

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I only see Commercial once.

MS. MILNER: It says it once at the top, and once under Water Shortage Rates. So, it's to change both those instances to "other general water consumers" from "commercial."

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Your mic.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, under the Commercial rate, Ms. Milner, where it says 7.58 under all usage, and then below that water shortage Stage 1, is that where you're seeing the 7.58, that's what we're talking about? Change it to 10.58. 6...

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Kama. No, there would be no change to the rates. The only amendment that's being requested is to change word "commercial" to "other general water consumers." Because it's not just commercial properties to whom these rates apply to, so the Water Department feels this would be clearer. But no change to any of the numbers on page 50, just change "commercial" to "other general water consumers."

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So moved.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member Paltin, second by Member Sinenci.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I know why it's confusing...because this page 49, but it's actually page 50, that's why. Right? So, it's page 50 on top of the page, and then where it says "All Usage" and there's Commercial. Change that to, "Other General Water Consumers," and then below "water shortage rates," it says Commercial again, and that's where the other "general water consumer" will be. Delete that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Call for the question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All in favor...any...any discussion? Oh, all in favor say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay, nine "ayes." The motion carries.

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**VOTE:           AYES:           Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.**

**NOES:           None.**

**ABSTAIN:       None.**

**ABSENT:        None.**

**EXC.:           None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:        APPROVE**

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair, I got one more, I...after seeing this attachment.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: On page 49, for 3475, Water Service Rates, General Water Consumers (continued), for Hotels, I move to delete the line that says "All Usage through December 31st, 2023 for...per 1,000 gallons" and "All Usage through December 31st, 2023, Water Shortage Rates" because that doesn't exist anymore. December 2023 is pau.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member Paltin, second by Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Okay. Ms. Milner, did you hear that for the Department?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Chair?

MS. MILNER: Yes, Chair, thank you. No issues.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay, great. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. So, where Member Paltin corrected, so all...all reference to December 31st, 2023, I think, would need to be removed because there's above that too. There's like four of them.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, all --

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: There's...okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- all December 31st, 2023 deleted, and all it would say is "All Usage, All Usage." Because December 2023 is pau, and we're just looking forward.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sounds good.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Members, any...any discussion? Department's good with it. All in favor raise your hand and say "aye."

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aye. Okay, nine "ayes." The motion carries.

**VOTE:       AYES:       Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.**

**NOES:       None.**

**ABSTAIN:   None.**

**ABSENT:    None.**

**EXC.:       None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:     APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Okay. Great. Anything else for Rates and Fees, Members? And there's no Member priorities. So, we are done with Water, unless...if anybody has anything else.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I thought Member Cook had one for wells or something, Water.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: I think we did that, and that was with...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: He was trying to put it under the Affordable Housing Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That was Public Works, what Member Cook just did.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I thought he wanted to like acquire...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Yeah, basically it's under Department of Management CIP --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- Member priorities.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: 20...oh, no, that's the wrong one.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: But it had to do with Water, so did you want to...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Oh, no. Here you go. It's...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The Affordable Housing Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: GET revolving...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Mine is the GET Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, where is...where does that fall? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Yeah, we're tabling it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we didn't take that up yet. Okay. So, look in the Special Revenue...Special Purpose Revenue, page 42 on priorities. Okay. Page 42 priorities. Member Cook. Okay. So, this is the...do you see it, Member...it's page 42, and it is Department of Management, General Excise Tax Fund. See it? Oh, Ms. Milner?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I'd just like to reiterate a request from the other day,

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that if the body could wait to consider adding conditions to the GET Fund until we know more about what the State Legislature is planning to do, we would really appreciate it. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. We can do that. So, we can hold that then. Are you okay, Mister...Member Cook? Yeah, we going hold that. Thank you. Is there anything else, James or Kasie, for Water? We're done, yeah? Okay. All right. Members, we are done for Water. Any...any amendments or additions? None. Consensus? Okay. Thank you. So now, the next thing that we will do is action on Bill 65, Resolution 24-67. So, Bill 65 is a bill for an ordinance amending Section 2.08.060, Maui County Code, to revise the pay and....pay plan and ranges to the Office of Council Services. Resolution 24-67, Suspension the Provisions of Subsection 2.08.060(D), Maui County Code, for Fiscal Year 2025; and Resolution 24-67 [sic], Setting the Pay Ranges and Pay Steps for Staff of the Office of Council Services; and Resolution 24-77, Authorizing the Grant and Disposition of Real Property Located at 266 Dickenson...Dickenson Street, Lahaina, Hawai'i, to Lahaina Community Land Trust. And we also have Bill 70, Bill 73, and 74. You want to take a little break so you can all look at this? Yeah? Okay. So, you want to take...what time is it? Oh, here. So, it's 2:40, you want to take to 2:50, or you want to wait until 2:00...2:50? Okay. We're in recess until 2:50 to look at the bills. Thank you. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 2:39 p.m.  
RECONVENE: 3:13 p.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(gavel). . . .(laughing). . . Sorry. Welcome back, everybody, to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee . . .(laughing). . . Nohe, you so funny. Okay. We are now back in the meeting. And just to let you know, we have the bills that I mentioned for us to review. And we did talk about it last week, so it's...it's something that, you know, you have had some time. And where is my notes? Sorry. So...what? Wait, one second. I think I took my notes to my office. Can you give me a short recess? . . .(laughing). . . Let me...wait, wait, wait. I just want to make sure. Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I don't know that there is such a thing as a short recess.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Short recess. I know, everybody was having too much fun talking, yeah. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: We weren't violating any Sunshine Law though.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You folks were laughing too. Okay. Okay. I have my notes. Sorry, Kasie. All right. So, what we're going to do is hopefully passage after, you know, you have some time to discuss.

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**BILL 65 (2024)**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, Members, we are taking up Bill 65, which is Maui County Code to revise the pay plan and ranges in the Office of Council Services. And the big thing about this bill, as...as Member...Director Raatz says, is during the term of appointment of any employee in the Office of Council Services, the Director of Council Services may adjust the salaries of...of the position within the pay range step established by the Council. The pay schedule for positions in the Office of Council Services is as follows. It has all of the...all of the other...all the pay ranges. Any discussion, Members? Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay, Chair. First off, I know our...our Office of...OCS works hard, and I just want to commend them. I support a 4 percent raise for these folks, but the step increases, I...I don't support. I think at the time we're cutting nonprofits, we should be...not be giving ourselves step raises. We cut the 9th Floor, so I think, you know, we should look inward as well. And just...just to let everybody know, I don't know if everybody knows this, but we already lost one member of OCS over these step increases. So, those...those are my points I just wanted to remind the Members of. Nothing personal, I think they work hard, it's just a matter of all of a sudden we had a say in how it went, and then this bill, it takes the Council's decision-making out of it, and that's a concern I have, especially when we're talking about trying to balance this budget. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you, Member Johnson. Any other discussion? Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I...after hearing what Member U'u-Hodgins said, I kind of feel the same way about the raises, but I am okay with allowing the Director of Council Services to move up and down the pay and stuff. This number 4 of Bill 65 --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- and as well as this Director of Council Services on the bottom of page 6, I'm okay with that. I just would like to be notified either orally or in writing or something --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- of any action being taken.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, make note of that. I'm sure Director is listening to this conversation. Any other comments, Members? Okay. Chair Lee, you want to say something?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, I just agree with Member Paltin.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we will be notified. That's kind of a bold move, to put this in there. I was surprised. All right. If there's no other discussion, all in favor then say...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . no motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, there's no motion. Sorry. Okay. Motion...who wants to make a motion to accept this? Oh, I'm going to do Bill 65. What are you...what are you saying?

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I am. Okay. Who would like to make a motion to accept Bill 65?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So moved.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Chair Lee and Member by U'u...second by U'u-Hodgins. Discussion? Is this roll call? Okay. It's roll call.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm raising my hand.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. I support recommend passing, on first reading, Bill 65. I think that this will help to depoliticize and, you know, use our hardworking Staff as a way to...as being the sacrificial lamb sometimes of having to take cuts to their salaries unnecessarily, and to not make a spectacle of our Staff's salaries. No one else is...is...is exposed to that kind of discussion on salaries. And so, I would like to be able to retain our hardworking Staff. And we have such amazing, talented, dedicated Staff, and I'd like to continue to attract such qualified, you know, individuals to work for us. So, I...I support passing this bill.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Anybody else would like to say anything? Roll call.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Council Chair Alice Lee.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tom Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Vice-Chair Tasha Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, that’s eight “ayes,” one “no.” Motion passes.

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**VOTE:**       **AYES:**       **Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES:**       **Councilmember Johnson.**

**ABSTAIN:**   **None.**

**ABSENT:**   **None.**

**EXC.:**       **None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:**    Recommending **FIRST READING** of Bill 65 (2024) by C.R.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you.

**RESOLUTION 24-67**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next, I want take up Bill No. 70...or should I just...oh, you want me to take up Resolution 24-67...oh, and recommend adoption of Resolution 24-67.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So moved.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, this is “SUSPENDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION 2.08.600(D) [sic], MAUI COUNTY CODE, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025.” Pay plan for the Office of the Council Services is what this is. Did I hear Chair Lee and Member Kama, yeah? Okay. Chair Lee, and Member Kama with the second. Any discussion? Is this pay...are we...oh, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can...can someone break down how this differs from our current practices?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. So, shall we get --

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: David.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- David Raatz? Is he here? He's not here. Is he online?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: I can just briefly say that...so the...the reason this is here is that there's the proposed pay increase or the pay steps, and so instead of the Council Services Staff getting their pay step when their anniversary date comes up, this suspends that provision because there was this step increase.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Is this roll call? Okay. Roll call vote, please.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tom Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Nohelani U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Vice-Chair Tasha Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, there are eight “ayes,” one “no.” Motion passes.

**VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES: Councilmember Johnson.**

**ABSTAIN: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**EXC.: None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:** Recommending **ADOPTION** of Resolution 24-67 by C.R.

**RESOLUTION 24-68**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Then we’re going to go to Resolution 24-68, “SETTING THE PAY RANGES AND PAY STEPS FOR STAFF OF THE OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES,” Exhibit A of the . . . *(inaudible)*. . . --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- the people. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: To adopt the resolution.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee, with a second by Member Kama. Any discussion? Any discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: The title explains the resolution.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, just clarifying, this is for Exhibit A and, you know, I supported it, but with the new information and what we did to the Office of the Mayor, at this time I can't...I cannot. Not that I don't want to, but we don't have the money, it sounds like.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Out of fairness. Any other comments, Members? Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sorry. Okay. So, the Exhibit A...two...four...six...seven...so, for like Director and Deputy Director, it keeps it on par with like both our attorneys, and it would keep it on par with the Corporation Counsel and Prosecuting Attorneys, and that...that's been the intention. And then for the others, it looks like leadership and...I guess...I'm...I'm supportive of...of setting the two...four...six...eight individuals that's on this resolution.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion? Okay. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I only see seven.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you're counting the people?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Is that...is there eight?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Seven. There's seven.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh. Two...four...six...seven...the individuals on Exhibit A.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Whatever.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I'm going to do roll call.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No.

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MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tom Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Vice-Chair Tasha Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, that’s seven “ayes,” two “noes.” Motion passes.

**VOTE:**           **AYES:**           **Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES:**           **Chair Sugimura and Councilmember Paltin.**

**ABSTAIN:**       **None.**

**ABSENT:**       **None.**

**EXC.:**           **None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:**       Recommending **ADOPTION** of Resolution 24-68 by C.R.

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**RESOLUTION 24-77**  
**DICKENSON STREET TO LAHAINA COMMUNITY LAND TRUST**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Next, I'd like to entertain a motion to recommend adoption...and we're going to Resolution...oh, you know what? This one, on 24-77, Member Paltin...no, no, no. We cannot do it. I need to amend it because it came from the Affordable Housing Fund, we have to send it to Corp. Counsel for an amendment. So, I'm going to present this tomorrow --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- for passage.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I do have one other update for 24-77.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. We have . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Last time I said that we would be adding in another TMK that was acquired at the same time that was 1,500 feet...square feet.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And Mr. Raatz checked in on it, and there is some County utilities located on that other TMK, and so, we wanted to do a deeper dive. So, within this Budget process, we wouldn't be transferring that on. If it's not anything that we need, we'll do it at a later time, not a part of this budget process. Does that make sense?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, in other words, that other parcel, we'll...we'll do more research?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Hold off.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, hold off.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes, more research.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. But I am...we are...we already did send this back to Corp. Counsel for revision --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- as it ties to the Affordable Housing Fund. Okay.



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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. All right. This is going fast. Are we done with all the bills for right now? Oh, 73. Okay. The back of my notes.

**BILL 73 (2024), HOMEOWNER PROGRAM REVOLVING FUND**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Bill number 73, "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO UPDATE THE NAME OF THE FUND ESTABLISHED BY"--oh, okay--"CHAPTER 3.34, MAUI COUNTY CODE, "HOMEOWNER PROGRAMS REVOLVING FUND," AS REFERENCED ON [sic] SECTION 2.96.060, MAUI COUNTY CODE." This sounds like an Alice Lee bill.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I don't recall.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, I...I know.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Do you know what item this is in Granicus?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, 148 --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- says Yvette.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, for this one, perhaps we could go to the drafter, which is our Leg Attorney, Ms. Nakata.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Ms. Nakata?

MS. NAKATA: Yes. Thank you, Chair. This is really just a housekeeping bill to conform the name of the fund in a location in the Code where it wasn't updated.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'll make the motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee made the motion...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Move to approve Bill 73.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Second from...I think I heard Member Kama, yeah? Okay. Any discussion? All in favor raise your hand, say "aye."

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aye. Thank you. Okay. Bill passes.

**VOTE:           AYES:           Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.**

**NOES:           None.**

**ABSTAIN:       None.**

**ABSENT:        None.**

**EXC.:           None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:**       Recommending **FIRST READING** of Bill 73 (2024) by C.R.

**BILL 74 (2024), RELATING TO AN ASH DEBRIS TRANSPORTATION FUND**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And last one, which is Bill 74, which is "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 3.60, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO THE ASH DEBRIS TRANSPORTATION FUND." This sounds like Member Paltin.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yep.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I move to repeal Chapter 3.60, Maui County Code, relating to an ash debris transportation fund.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Motion made by Member Paltin, second by Chair Lee. Discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, there was no support for this with the Department,



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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, we didn't post it.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: It's posted on tomorrow's agenda.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Foreshadowing.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, my bill also, yeah, tomorrow? Okay. So, there will be other bills tomorrow to consider. Thank you. This was fast. So, we have Human Concerns initiatives that we put aside until we could hear what the Legislature is doing. And so, at this time...can you tell me who has Human Concerns? I'll look, I'll look. Water Authority. Environmental. Housing. Oh, here, Human Concerns. So, it's page 12, 13, 14, 15 of the initiatives...conditions. The Members' proposals. Oh, okay. Oh, thank you. Thank you. Okay. This helps. So, Members' Priorities, continuing where we left off yesterday, we'll take up your priorities for the Department of Human Concerns, page 12 to 18 of the matrix, and the first one, Member Paltin.

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You must be on page 12. Yeah. Women Helping Women.

**REVISITS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN CONCERNS**

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I move to increase County Grants Subsidy by \$22,000 for Women Helping Women in alignment of their original request.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Motion made by Member Paltin, second by Member Cook...I'm sorry, Member Kama. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I called up Sanoe K., and she had mentioned in her testimony 22,000 was their original request. I asked her, is that all? She said yes. And so, that's the request, 22,000.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any discussion? Seeing none. All right. That was your discussion? Any more discussion, I guess I should say. All ready to vote? All in favor raise your hand and say "aye."



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public understands that the people who are doing this work are doing it for love, they're not doing it for money, so this money is helping them get the supplies and the basic necessities they need to provide this function to the people who desperately need it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Ready for the vote? All in favor raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Nine [sic] "ayes," motion carries. Next. Member Kama?

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Keani's not here. Oh, sorry. All right. Eight "ayes," one excused, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

**VOTE:           AYES:           Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.**

**NOES:           None.**

**ABSTAIN:       None.**

**ABSENT:        None.**

**EXC.:           Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:        APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next, Member Kama is at Hawai'i Animal Rescue Foundation. (silence) I know, we have so many papers, yeah. (silence)

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, this is a grant to the Maui Humane Society for Animal Sheltering Program to reduce by 150,000 and create new line item entitled "Grant to Hawai'i Animal Rescue Foundation for Animal Sheltering" in the amount of \$150,000.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Second.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Is there a second? Second, Member Cook. Discussion.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Well, they came to us and shared some information with us, and I realized that I think that they needed some money. So, that's what they had asked for, and that's what I'd like to be able to...them to have. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, this is 150,000 to Hawai'i Animal Rescue Foundation for animal sheltering. Member Paltin?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair? Oh. I...can we just clarify that it would be reducing the Maui Humane Society by 150,000 and moving that money to Hawai'i Animal Rescue Foundation, or has that --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: -- changed? Okay. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Has that changed?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That is correct.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Did we change that earlier this week?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I don't remember that. Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: For my discussion, I won't be able to support it as I told Miss...Dr. Labrecque. When they came to testify, they said that there was no mix up, that HARF missed their application deadline. That Maui Humane Society actually asked for an additional 200,000 in their sheltering program, an additional 81,000 in their enforcement program, to meet their contractual obligations that they have with the County of Maui. She broke down that for this amount of money, that . . .(timer sounds). . . it's not equitable. And so, I don't think that we should jeopardize our contracts for an entity that missed the deadline because that's not fair to the other entity that has contractual obligations. And we hear from Lāna'i what it's like to not have a Maui Humane Society. So, if we don't fund the contracts, I don't know why they would continue to have contracts with us.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I don't mind funding this organization, but I'd rather not take

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it from the Humane Society.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member U'u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. I will say, HARF did a really good job advocating for themselves in front of us because Member Kama reduced the Maui Humane Society to give money to HARF. I gave the same amount of money to HARF, and so did Member Sinenci. I don't think my priority nor Member Sinenci's reduces anybody's money. And I agree with Member Paltin that we should live up to our contractual obligations, as that's what we had originally decided on until...to go back on our word and then take further money away from them, not allowing them to do what we asked them to do is unfair. I do support HARF, that...you know, all dogs go to heaven, all dogs need love. We have them today. So, I'm going to vote no on this one, and either vote for the one I did or the one Member Sinenci did. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I see Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member U'u-Hodgins and Member Sinenci. So, based on that, because we all three want to give money to HARF, I could withdraw this and then vote yes on probably the next one up, which is Member U'u-Hodgins.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You want to withdraw?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah, thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You withdraw your second? All right. Withdraw. Got it? Okay. Next we have Member U'u-Hodgins, and then...that . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Tasha Kama. Okay. Go ahead, Member.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you, Chair. I move to add \$150,000 in Department of Human Concerns Animal Management Program for the Hawai'i Animal Rescue Foundation.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Brand-new money.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.



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Member Sinenci? It says Tasha Kama. Huh?

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, it's the audit. It's the audit. Okay. Wait. What about yours?  
Yours is audit.

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you did it? Okay. Okay. Member Sinenci --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- page 14.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Move to add 250,000 in additional grant funding for houseless programs for arising needs as determined by the Department. And if I get a second, I can explain.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Sinenci, and second by Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. I did...we did speak with Director Tshako after hearing -- . . .*(alert sounds)*. . . --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ooh.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- a lot of...or is this...oh, this is the truck.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We have a problem? So, are we okay?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I think we need to put a condition in the budget that if the Pali is shut, they send an officer to Waihe'e School and do not let anyone but residents through. Because this is at least the third or fourth time in this Administration, and it's getting ridiculous. I mean all we need is a fire to break out and have everyone caught on the traffic in Kahekili. It's ridiculous.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Wow.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, both directions.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah. . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, this is not affecting any one of you, right, except you can't go

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home?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's affecting me, and the police need to start developing a protocol to shut down the back side if the front side has an accident. How is the ambulance supposed to get to the residents of Kahakuloa Village? It's not the first time in this Administration, and they need to start coordinating stuff.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. So, do any of you want to leave with this alert? Okay. So long as you're fine. Okay. So, we can continue. Yeah...well, we'll continue working.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, it's Member Sinenci --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- second by Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So, we...we spoke with Director Tsuhako about how we could help with some of the...the houseless concerns that we heard, both at Cut Mountain and Holomua Road. She didn't feel that it was prudent for us to add an additional position in the Houseless Program. Those positions are just administrative positions. So, she did ask if we wanted...this money would go directly to the nonprofits that actually go out into the community and deal with the houseless communities of these areas. So, this is where she directed us to put additional funding for the...for the houseless services, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Any other discussion? Seeing none. All...raise your hand if you approve.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, we do not have Member Rawlins-Fernandez, so, it's eight "ayes," one excused.

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**VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES: None.**

**ABSTAIN: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**EXC.: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION: APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next, Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: My...the...this was a duplicate with Member Paltin for Women Helping Women, so I can --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Withdraw.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- withdraw --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- the 108,000.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Next.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: CW number 3 was also a duplication with Member Paltin, Maui AIDS Foundation.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So, I can withdraw another 200,000 --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- ask.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Then Member Sinenci again.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: CW-4 was also a duplication with Member Nohe U'u-Hodgins, so I can withdraw the additional 150,000 for HARF.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. And this is you again on page 60.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. So, Countywide number 5 was for the Malama Family Recover...Recovery Center for Mom's Newly...Mom's in Recovery. And we did hear, Chair, from Ms. Tobigalumpus (*phonetic*) on our Thursday evening, and as well as Ms. Feiteira. And so, we spoke with Director Tshako...oh, this is to add 100,800 for Malama Family Recovery Center, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, motion made by Member Sinenci. Is there a second? Thank you, Member Cook. So...okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And I think you discussed it, or you want to say more?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, Director --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- Tshako suggested keeping the funding under one contract to make it easier for the Department and the Malama Recovery Center. We confirmed with Malama, and they also agreed. So, my request this afternoon is to change the index code to Malama's existing grant program under Index Code 925031B, Food, Shelter, and Safety Grant Category, and then proviso Food, Shelter, and Safety Grant Category for Malama Na Makua A Keiki's Early Learning Childcare Center.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair? I'm sorry. We see this one under Human Concerns Early Childhood Programs.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: The index code is the Early Childhood?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: That's...that's what the proposal says. Would you like to put it under a different...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes. This was the correspondence we received from the Director.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Read the index code again.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: It's Index Code 925031B. Oh, so...yeah, we would like to change it out of the Early Childhood Programs.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: So, would you like to make a corresponding cut, or are you leaving the funding there and adding funding here?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I think we're adding the...adding the funding.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I have a question. So, on...on my page, I have 925041B. Is that what you have, Mr. Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: 5031B.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: 5031B, and I have 41.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: How...does everybody have 31 or 41? And does it matter?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, to...with the...for the request from the Department that it be under the Food, Shelter, Safety Grant Category --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- and...and proviso it for the Malama Na Makua A Keiki.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So, instead of Early Childhood, then you would put it under Food, Shelter?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Food, Shelter, and --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Got it.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- Safety Grant.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

MR. KRUEGER: So, Chair? Apologies to belabor to the point, but Staff just wants to be clear. So, the motion on the floor would be to add \$100,800 for Malama Family Recovery Center under Grants and Disbursements for Food, Shelter, and Safety?

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Correct.

MR. KRUEGER: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, I have a question. And so...so, is there money under the...under Maui Family Recovery under the Early Childhood Program? Yeah, I don't have my book out.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So...okay. So, this is a new program under Food and Shelter?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All in favor --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Members...okay. All in favor say "aye."

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes. Aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, it's eight "ayes," one excused.

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**VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES: None.**

**ABSTAIN: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**EXC.: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION: APPROVE**

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next, Member Rawlins-Fernandez...we'll come back to her. And then the next one is Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, we'll come back to her. Chair Lee? You...Ke Kula O Pi'ilani on page 17.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. Are we going over our district priorities, is that what we're doing? Because that's a district...that's a district...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All of the initiative...conditions.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. That is my district priority, and that is...you probably know that it's located in 'Iao Valley, Kepaniwai, Hawaiian Immersion Program, and I'm using...of my 140,000, I'm using 100,000.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh.

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. This is a mistake, it needs to be updated. It's \$100,000 for this school, Capital Improvement Program.

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, 100 of my 140 --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- goes to this one.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Then we need to amend it because I think what we did the other day is pass something different for your...right?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. KRUEGER: We do have in...in the Wailuku Economic Development Programs, we do see that one of the conditions is 100,000 for Ke Kula O Pi'ilani.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. So, you just delete this one then.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, delete.

MR. KRUEGER: So, Chair, to be clear, does that mean you no longer need this priority in the Human Concerns under...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes.

MR. KRUGER: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Delete this. Next, Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. All right. So, I move to add a new line item entitled "Immigrant and Migrant Services" in the amount of \$400,000. That's half of what I originally started, \$400,000.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is there a second? Okay. Second for discussion, with Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. All right. So, right now, presently the County does not offer any immigrant or migrant services, we only do referrals. So, this would be some funds for those folks who we refer them to, such as Roots Reborn and Pacific Gateway. We have a lot of folks here who need services, and the County...all we're doing is referring them to these guys. And this is...after

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speaking with Roots Reborn and Pacific Gateway, this would help them along the way to help the folks that are asking for help that the County's not giving them, we're only referring to them. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion, Members? Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Just clarification, and defending the Department. The Department doesn't have the authority. This is a Federal program, immigration. So, for years, what we do is just to assist the Federal office on O'ahu, and that's why we don't do anything directly because we...we don't have the authority. But I'm just making a clarification. This...it's nothing against the proposal.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Anybody else have any comments? Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I just...so I just wanted to ask Member Johnson, so this line item is to help immigrants and migrants. Do we have...and...and so, we don't...do we have...so, you're talking about Roots Reborn, you mentioned them as one, and I'm sure there's other migrant organizations out there.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Pacific Gateway being the other way...the other one.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Okay. But what would...exactly would...would either Roots or Pacific Gateway, what would they be doing for the migrant community?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: A lot of these...this funding is for immigration attorney costs, operation costs, outreach and education. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . One of the very important ones is the Director of Healing, to have a licensed therapist program, development and oversight. The stress and trauma that our immigrant and migrant families are suffering, especially after the fires, and not having English as your first language to...to navigate the process, to...that they have to walk through...they...they need help. And it's very stressful, so that would be one more cost is the licensed therapist. Training. Included is some rents. So, it's...it's a big...there's a couple white papers, but that's a lot...a pot of money that I would like the Administration, of course, administer. But really, we want to have a pot of money to...instead of just referring them to them, we want them to succeed, to help the folks who need it.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. That's very good.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I can support that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Sinenci?

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you...thank you, Member Johnson. You mentioned the...those migrant communities. After the fires, were they able to receive like FEMA help?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well, I'm sure Councilmember Paltin has a lot to say as far as like the COFA funding that they receive.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: COFA.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: And I think...were you in my ADEPT Committee hearing when we had so many testifiers? I kinda ran over on time because they were really appreciative of what these groups were doing them after the fire. Imagine losing everything and your documents, that's really important when it comes to immigration papers, that that's one more layer. So, these folks, the Pacific Gateway and Roots Reborn, have...have been helping them retrieve those documents, all the immigration papers, the Federal papers. So, that's one thing that they're really appreciative of and they want to get...ask for funding for that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I was in your...oh, if I could, Members. I was in your Committee meeting, and basically I hear what Chair Lee is saying, that this...these services are being covered by the State Human--well, is it HDS with the State--and they have funding, you know, provided for them. And I think that there are...they are helping, and have funding, and this would be in addition to. So, in light of everything that's going on with...with the wildfires, I'm...I'm not going to be supporting this because I think there are services that are . . .(timer sounds). . . available. Thank you. Roll call.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye with reservations.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Keani Rawlins Fernandez.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Excused.

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MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tom Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Nohelani U‘u Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Vice-Chair Tasha Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, that is seven “ayes,” one “no,” one...sorry, one excused. The motion passes.

**VOTE:           AYES:           Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers  
Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Sinenci, and  
U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES:           Chair Sugimura.**

**ABSTAIN:       None.**

**ABSENT:        None.**

**EXC.:           Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:        APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Mahalo, Members.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Next we have...you have one more item, huh, Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: This number may have changed, but basically what I'm trying to do is fill the gaps that the Administration did not fund these numerous nonprofits. I think I mentioned it earlier and then we deferred this, or we tabled it for a moment, but I don't...I know I only have a limited amount of time, but basically Maui Farm asked for 279,000, they only got 313,000, they came in this morning and testified. The Aloha House asked for 306 and they...or they asked for 323 and only got 306,000. These are all nonprofits that are in human services, that are helping people in times of need, and if ever there was a time of need, it's post-fire. So, this was a number that might change. Of course, Staff can help us with what the number is, but basically trying to bring them up to what they asked for. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Is there a second?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Motion made by Member Johnson, and second by Member Sinenci.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, can we clarify what that amount is?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Amount is.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Or...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. I do have the...the amount as...as it stands right now. \$2,406,200 would bring all of those human services up to what they asked for. 2 million --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: 2.4.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- 406 thousand and 200 dollars.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Does that take into account the changes that we already need for Maui AIDS Foundation, Malama Family Recover [sic], HARF, and all of those? Does it take into account those changes?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Maui AIDS Foundation...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Maui AIDS Foundation, Women Helping Women, HARF...

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, but the only one that's not included is . . .(inaudible) . . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And Malama Family Recovery Center.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right. That's the only one . . .(inaudible) . . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, your mic. Your mic.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sorry. Sorry about that. It does take all those in consideration except for HARF because that's in Animals Management, not in Human Concerns. Oh, Women Helping Women, Malama, the...the AIDS...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you submit that so we can all see what you're looking at?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. You want to take a recess and I can print it up?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sure.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I'll take a recess until...you need time to make...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Or I don't know if Member Rawlins-Fernandez just came back on --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, good.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- if she wanted --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: She has items.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- to do hers, and maybe some Staff can...we can table this for now, and...and Staff could make copies for us, and we can take up Member Rawlins-Fernandez's ones?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Member...Member Johnson, you're going to ask your Staff to help you?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Certainly.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, can you withdraw the motion?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I withdraw my motion.

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MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You withdraw second? Okay. Let's see. Member Rawlins-Fernandez, you had two conditions --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- or priorities.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I move to add 320,000 from Molokai Community...oh, I'm sorry. It says 320, but I was corrected that it's 330, so I'll...I'll make that motion, and then we can discuss. I move to add 330,000 for Molokai Community Health Center.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Second? Second, Member U'u-Hodgins. Discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. So, we heard from the Interim Executive Director from Molokai Community Health Center about their need for this support. It's a...as...oops...sorry, Joyce (*phonetic*). So, it's to...it's about 7 percent of their total request...or total expense, and I think she said 40...40-ish percent from State and Federal support, and then 52 or 53 percent of patients or insurance. And so, with the dental program, what's happening...on March 8th, *Civil Beat* covered the situation that's happening on Molokai, where it says one of our dentists, Chris Chow, said that they are trying to force us in-network doctors to do treatment according to their rules rather than according to your needs or even how you want to be treated. Many insurance companies are adding more and more restrictions on what they're allowed from their subscribers. And so, it's causing out-of-pocket costs for routine cleaning...teeth cleaning, a preventative treatment recommended biannually to remove plaque and tartar. It typically costs over \$200. Some people on Molokai and...dut, dut, dut, dut, dut...so, they...they would have to pay out of pocket for...you know, pay the 200 for the cleaning and then individually, would have to work with their insurance company to get reimbursed. And so, that's the cash up front that . . . (*timer sounds*). . . that the Interim Executive Director was talking about. And so, they're getting an influx of these patients because of the...having to upfront that cost.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Is...do I have a second? You? Okay, Member U'u-Hodgins. That's the motion, which is to add 320,000 for the Molokai Community Health Center, Grants and Disbursements for Health, Human Services, and Education. Any more discussion? Seeing none. All in favor raise your hand and say "aye." Aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin? Okay. Motion carries. Nine...nine “ayes.”

**VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins.**

**NOES: None.**

**ABSTAIN: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**EXC.: None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION: APPROVE**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And you have one more.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Members. Yup. The other one’s easier, it’s to...basically we’ve been working with the Police Department and the Maui Humane Society to move the position that is under the Police Department, so it’s the Dog Warden position, and the...so, to take that...that fund--so, salary and fringe--and put that funds into the Maui Humane Society for the Dog Warden to be under the Maui Humane Society for Molokai. What’s not in this budget, but I just wanted to add for the record, that the animal control vehicle for...that’s, you know, currently under the Police Department, would also be granted for this position to be able to operate on Molokai. Oh, I’m sorry, and then so I...I make that motion. But I guess I wanted to check with Acting Budget Director Milner if...I...I had proposed to completely defund the position. I don’t know how quickly everything can go. So, I was thinking that maybe I not...maybe I should leave like three months in the--you know, so June, July, August, September, October--and then that way they have time...the time necessary to move the position or, you know, execute the grant to the Maui Humane Society for the position. So, Ms. Milner?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez. So, this move would require union consultation and possibly more money. So, I don’t believe now would be the time to make this move. But once they have those discussions with the union, we’d be happy to work with Councilmember

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Rawlins-Fernandez to make an amendment during the fiscal year if they're ready at that time.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I didn't make the motion, so there's nothing to withdraw. I will work with Acting Budget Director Milner, Maui Humane Society, and the Maui Police Department on this later at the appropriate time.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. All right. Is there anybody else who has any conditions or priorities? Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Sorry, Chair. I'd like us, if we could, to go back to...oh, here, page 13, Grant number 1. And I...I thought that we had done this yesterday, or we did similar to this. We did it for MISC, but this is for the Maui Humane Society to do an operational audit. So, I'm asking for this to be done for...to the Maui Humane Society prior to October 1st, 2024, this year, and the results reported to us...to the Council by April 1st, 2025. And really, the purpose of this audit is to identify operational improvements that would improve the efficacy of the County's grants for animal sheltering and animal enforcement. So, that's the proposal, and that's my motion, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member Kama. Is there a second? Okay. Member U'u-Hodgins, second.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, and I just gave my --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You gave your discussion --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- reason. Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Sorry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other questions/discussion? Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Who are we saying is going to pay for this?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: It's an...it's an operational audit, so it's...technically it doesn't have to be paid for. The...the organization itself could actually do it, and internally, and just report to us how they've been doing things, what they've been doing, and how they're responding to the needs of our community. It's just an operational audit, not a financial audit.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I see Ms. Toshikiyo.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I see Ms. Milner too.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Oh, there you are. Okay.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yeah, Chair, thank you. But Ms. Milner also popped up as well, so I'm not sure if she wanted to go first.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I think my clarifying question is similar to what was asked about who would be paying for it. I know for the MISC audit we put those funds under the Department because the expectation was the Department would conduct the audit. If the expectation is that they will do their own operational audit, then yes, this condition, I think would be appropriate to place under their grant funds. So, that was my question. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Ms. Toshikiyo?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: And yeah, similar to what Ms. Milner said. And also, just to clarify that the requirements under the grant agreements and our terms and conditions are for financial audits. So, I think in...as related to MISC, you know, the discussion was that it was, you know, as Member Kama has stated it's an operational audit, but as it relates to the...the County grants and their finances. So, just wanted to clarify what the purpose of the audit would be because, you know, currently under our terms, it's for financial audits. And then similar to what Ms. Milner says is how it would be paid for because it's going to be covered under the...the grant to the Maui Humane Society, or it would be a contract that's separate from the grant.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, Ms. Toshikiyo...so, we're asking for an operational audit, not necessarily a financial audit that would cost, right?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Correct. That's what it sounds like your intentions are.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Yeah. Yes. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee, you want a break?

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

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. We're going to be almost done. Okay. Anybody else want to add to this discussion? Anybody have questions about how it's going to be paid, or is that...is that get...did that get cleared up?

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Internally? Okay. So, that would get paid by...all right. Audit...all right. All in favor say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Milner has her hand up.

MS. MILNER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. Go ahead, Ms. Milner.

MS. MILNER: Sorry to interrupt. I did just hear from the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, and Dr. Labrecque has said that Maui Humane Society can provide reports of their self-funded operational audit that they consult for, and they'd be happy to provide to the County. So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

MS. MILNER: -- I just wanted to provide that additional information before you take the vote. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Great.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, you can withdraw. They do it already, yeah? They're...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. So...oh, Ms. Milner, can they get it to us when? Did she say?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Kama. I will check on the timing.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Okay. Are we missing any? Are we done?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: So, can we just clarify that was a withdraw?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

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MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Members, so, we are actually done for today. We're taking off...yeah. And...oh...oh, Member Johnson. Oh, I'm sorry. You have to distribute your list.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right. If...let me...I...I don't think this...let me see if they're done, otherwise maybe we can take a quick recess.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Take a quick recess. So, it's now 4:15. Is it like...like 4:00...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Five minutes. Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 4:25.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah, sure.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ten minutes. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 4:15 p.m.  
RECONVENE: 4:27 p.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(gavel). . . Welcome back to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. It is now 4:27. We are speaking with Member Johnson, and he has provided a list. Take it away. You can explain it.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. So, as you can see, I can clear up a few things. First things first, it is on Granicus. Number 87 in Granicus has a bit more details. So, for example, if you look at Family Life Center, it's listed three times because they have three different programs. So, that's just letting you know. But it seems that Family Life Center got everything they asked for, but that's just an example. So, there are...there are programs on here that have exactly what they asked for. But the left column is what they requested, what they asked for, and the right column is what they received from the Administration. You know, if I just look at one, just for example. Partners in Development has Tutu and Me, how could you cut Tutu and Me, you know? That just is something that just helps. So, that's the proposal, is that we...we want to kind of bring them up to what they asked. There is something that I'll add, at the very bottom on the other page, Maui Family Support Services, 300 grand for Maui Family Support Services. It was in the CDBG budget, but it got removed with no communication or no reallocation. And they...if ever there was a time post-fire with all the depression and the mental health conditions our...our brothers and sisters are suffering with, that 300 grand, I think, could go for a good use of funds. That's...that's my talk, Chair.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I put my things away. Was there a second? Okay. Member Sinenci, second. Motion made by Member Johnson. Any discussions? I think Member Johnson explained it. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm...I'm...I'm still trying to analyze the data --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- so I won't be ready to vote. I'm just looking it over --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Looking at it.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- and comparing it, and wanted to try do the math. But it'll probably take me at least another 10 to 15 minutes. So, I'll excuse myself if you want to vote now.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I'm just wondering, while Member Paltin and others are looking at your list, where did you get the numbers from? This...where did you get this list from? Was it in the correspondence from the Department to...like an official transmittal to us?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. So, if you look again on . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Thank you, Chair, for the question. If you look on number 87 in Granicus, it has...I'll just go across the column. Grants for Disbursements is, you know, the Early Childhood, Early Childhood Programs, organization name would be Family Hui Hawaii, for example. And then they asked for 219...\$219,500 and they received 85,500. So, you can see where the...the organization was asking and what they received, and that's number 87 in Granicus, Members.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, what was your answer, you got the information from where?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: This is from the correspondence from DHHC.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. What number?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Number 87 in Granicus. All their Human Services grants.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: It's HC-2.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Oh, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I asked them in my questions when...when we had questions for departments.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, Mr. Johnson, this list that you had passed out to us helps us to understand your...your proposal under the new line item entitled Immigrant and Migrant Services. Is that what this...that...that is, it helps us to understand that?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I think...well, in part, yes. Because it shows that there's been a lot...we've underfunded our human services. Let's just put it like that. If you look at all the things that these folks are providing, and what they asked for and what they got, there's a disparity, and yet we see raises on the 8th and 9th Floor. And I think that is a point that we should...these are the folks who do some of the government work that we should be doing, but we contract it out, just like many other municipalities. And if we're going to contract it out, we want to make them, you know, a contract of success. If Feed My Sheep says they need 150,000...\$150,000, and they only received \$125,000, where do they make that up? And, you know, are they going to do the best job that they can with a...with a cut budget? That's just an example.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So...so...so a lot of these...what you're...what you're doing on this page that you handed out, is it all salaries or just operations or --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It's what...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- combination?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It's what the...the nonprofits asked, and its operations and equipment in categories B and C.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. B and C.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member...Member...yeah, you can ask the question. Can I ask Member Johnson this question? Member Johnson --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Hey.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- would we be able to meet...continue this tomorrow so everybody can look at this --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sure.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- list...because it's so detailed, and look at HC-2?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I...I --

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's your reference.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- I would totally recommend to please look this over, Members.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: This is a serious proposal for people who are doing serious work.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It's not fluff. So, I would encourage you to please think deeply on it, and let's try to help these folks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. And...and you can get the...the...you have the number of what the amendment is?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, Chair. You would like --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You know the exact number?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- the...the actual number here at this time--and Staff can correct me if I'm wrong--at this point, it's \$2,406,200.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member U'u-Hodgins? Member Cook next.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Member Johnson, maybe we can talk stories about this later since you've been going back and forth with the Department. But let's take the first one at least, Maui Hui Family...or Family Hui Hawai'i. Sorry, brain fried. So, they were funded in '24, 85,440, then they requested this year 219,500, and they...our recommended funding is 85,500. Do you know why that was increased? What are they changing? Like that's a huge increase. Do you know why that they're asking for 100-something thousand dollars more than they got --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well...

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- in '24? Do you know what they're going to use that for?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: They...they do parent groups, and I don't know any parent group right now that is not working super hard because of the fires. Everyone's been affected. Everyone who's come before us who works with the

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parents and children and mental health areas, all of our nonprofits, are all telling us the same thing...that costs are going up and services demand are going up.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, you have a question also, Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: No, I just wanted to correct Member Johnson. He said that people on the 8th and 9th Floor are getting raises and, you know, you...the...we're the only guys on the 8th Floor. Are you getting a raise that I don't know?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I think you meant the 7th Floor, yeah?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah, that's what I mean.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah. Thank you. Thank you for that correction.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. We just don't want people to think that we're getting raises now.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Yeah, we're not.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: We want them to feel free to give us one though.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's funny. Oh, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, and then Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay. So, I think for us--oh, okay, I'll just speak for me--but there's some of the reductions that looks like it was like a 5 or 10 percent reduction. And that's what happened to, you know, like some of the reductions for our Molokai orgs. And then there's some that looks like they were asking for specific things, like what Member U'u-Hodgins was alluding to. So, the Department had the opportunity to look through what the proposal was, and I know that you gave us the numbers, but if we don't have that additional information to understand what it is that they were proposing to do, if it was an expansion of, you know, like a facility, or if they're proposing to be able to service more people. If it's something that can wait a year, or if it's something that, you know, would definitely, you know, benefit our community if we funded it now. So, like the Imua Family Services, for example--and I only know this because we discussed the E Malama I Na Keiki O Lāna'i--and the Imua Family Service Center is the organization that's receiving the grant from Department...DH...human services...Human Concerns, Human Concerns, and is then granting the amount to the different preschools or, you know,

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children...early childcare. And so, if...if they're...you know, I imagine there was some kind of formula that was used for like that one specifically. Like if there is like a number of applications, you know, for like the preschool students, and so, the request is based on the amount of applications that they received and how much the families qualified for. So, I...I...yeah, that...that's kind of where I'm at. I don't know...if...if I don't have that additional information or someone to be able to discuss like why these cuts were made, then it's hard for me to just, you know, just . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . put all that funding in there --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- without that information.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: If I may respond really quick to that because I understand. This number represents the need. By putting total number of Human Concerns program generally with no specific additions, it allows for our new Human Concerns Director to revisit the needs with additional funding. Remember, we're going to have a whole new Director, and...and that's...that's kind of would help them, especially in this crazy time of need. The Director was told to cut while...while...you know, to cut the budget. So, the new Director, new visions, that's what I'm hoping, to have them...have them look at this with a new set of eyes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, the organizations were, I guess, told, or know how to look up how much money they received versus how much money they requested, and only...I mean not everybody that got that difference showed up to say that we really need this money. And the people that really needed the money, the...the way I see it, they reached out and testified to us. We...we...we're trying to hear from the community, and...and that's the reason we do the roadshow. I mean it's...for those of us with young children, it's not an easy thing. Our spouses have to cook dinner. Sometimes we have to make arrangements for our children to get to school, to get home from school, all the things. We come out, and we...we advertise heavily, these things are not...and there's online testimony. Do you have any indication...I mean even MEO has come before us and said they're grateful for what they got. They...they didn't really mention that they need the difference. And so, I'm just wondering if you've reached out personally to each of these ones that have a difference and talk story with them?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I...not...not each of them, but I will say that unfortunately, in the past, some of our nonprofits . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . have felt retaliated against, right. And you can see that in...you know, in the past, we've heard it in these Chambers. And it's almost the attitude of we got a crumb and we'll take it, you know. They get the cake, we get the crumbs, and we'll take it,

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you know. There's almost afraid at some point to ask for more because it's almost like a criticism of the Administration.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: But you...yeah, I hear what you're saying.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Cook?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. I just want to...a couple of these, like Kihei Youth Center, they were about \$110,000 short. I talked to them, that was one of my district adds, 50,000. And she...she recognized the financial situation. And pretty much the different nonprofits that I spoke with recognized it. I understand what Member Johnson is attempting to do, and I'm supportive, and hope we can come to a...you know, digest this and come to resolution tomorrow. Another one I wanted to point out was the Boys and Girls Club of Maui, which has two different . . .(timer sounds). . . grants. One is for like 1...1.4,500, and...they almost got all of that. The 288, they got 140...288,000, they got 140,000. They also had a fundraiser at the hotel with like 500 people that was phenomenally successful. So, I'm not drawing big parallels with these, but I'm saying that similar to what Member Rawlins-Fernandez said and others, that there's...there's a background story that we need to have an understanding rather than just give them what they asked for.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: But I just wanted to share that I know that those two that wouldn't need to be "made whole." And that if by other means making...getting the funds to provide the services that I agree are needed. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Okay. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. I did go through the list, and it looks like...like 16 of the grantees got actually what they asked for. So, I don't know if that was just a...you know, maybe it shows the value system of the Administration or otherwise, as maybe Member Johnson said. But...and, Chair, we also received, you know, the numbers back from the Leg today, and we know that this list of community grantees and community boards, which...which are volunteers, this is something that not...they wanted to put on the chopping block for us. You know, they didn't use them sort of as a...just a hostage . . .(timer sounds). . . but this is for us, this is our value system as our County. And I understand that the State wants to, you know, kind of project their...their way, or their ideas on how our budget should be, but I think this shows our values, it shows our families, it shows our resiliency as...as a family unit. We value our...you know, from keiki to kūpuna. And this is...this is where we...we

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malama each and every one of our...our residents is through these grants, so...so that we don't have to...so the County doesn't have to go out and do these. The grants are actually within our communities, and they work, you know, directly with our...our keiki and our kūpuna, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you. Okay. Members, I'm going to defer this until tomorrow. Member Paltin, you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. Do we know if any of these are for like CIPs for the grantees? There is like a \$600,000 increase for Ka Hale A Ke Ola --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- but they don't even...I mean their West Maui --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Burnt down.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- thing burnt down. And so, I was wondering, are...is...is some of it like CIPs, they're trying to build things or whatever, that could be held off until next year? We...we don't know much.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right. I can...I can make a phone call for that specific one, Councilmember. If there's a . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . I understand you want to...or hold off on this until to tomorrow, and maybe we can come back with a number that we would all agree on. But we all...I want everybody to understand, there is a need, right...there is a need for these. And if there's a different...if there's a number we can agree on after we sleep on it, I'm totally malleable to it. But these are not...you know, these are important...these are important work that these folks are doing. So, I'll...I'll get that answer for you tomorrow, Councilmember. I withdraw the motion, Chair.

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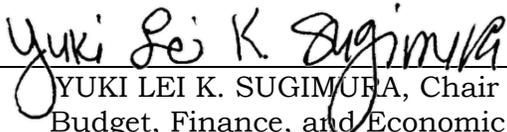
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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Withdraw your motion, we can bring it up tomorrow. And the second was Member Sinenci. Okay. Thank you for giving us homework. . . .(laughing). . . Okay, Members, so we are done for the day, and we will come back tomorrow, and hopefully we'll hear some direction from the Administration. And we will adjourn and see you tomorrow at 9:00. . . .(gavel). . .

**ACTION:**     **DEFER** pending further discussion.

ADJOURN:   4:46 p.m.

APPROVED:

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

bfed:min:240425:ds

Transcribed by: Daniel Schoenbeck

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CERTIFICATION

I, Daniel Schoenbeck, hereby certify that pages 1 through 143 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 19th day of June 2024, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



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Daniel Schoenbeck