

DISASTER RECOVERY, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

September 24, 2025

Online Only via Teams

CONVENE: 1:35 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Chair
Councilmember Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Tom Cook, Member
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Member
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Member
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Member (left at 1:49 p.m.)

EXCUSED: Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member

STAFF: Jarret Pascual, Legislative Analyst
Keone Hurdle, Legislative Analyst (backup)
Carla Nakata, Legislative Attorney
Criselda Paranada, Substitute Committee Secretary
Jean Pokipala, Assistant Clerk
Ryan Martins, Council Ambassador

Residency Area Office (RAO):

Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, East Maui Residency Area Office
Roxanne Morita, Council Aide, Lanai Residency Area Office
Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Moloka‘i Residency Area Office
Christian Balagso, Council Aide, West Maui Residency Area Office
Bill Snipes, Council Aide, South Maui Residency Area Office
Clyde “Buddy” Almeida, Council Aide, Makawao-Ha‘ikū-Pā‘ia Residency Area Office

ADMIN.: Wilton Leauanae, Planner V, Department of Planning (DRIP-16)
Wade Maeda, Deputy Chief, Department of Police (DRIP-15)
Nahulu Nunokawa, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: Jacee Law
Others (25)

Resource Personnel:

Alexa Caskey, Applicant, Moku Roots (DRIP-16)

CHAIR PALTIN: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Disaster Recovery, International Affairs, and Planning

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

September 24, 2025

Committee meeting of September 24th come to order. The time is now 1:35. If everyone could please silence their cell phones or any other noise-making devices, that will help our cause. Members, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, if you are not in the Council Chamber, please identify by name who, if anyone, is in the room, vehicle, or workspace with you today. Minors do not need to be identified. Also, please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity. My name is Tamara Paltin. I will be your Chair for today's DRIP Committee meeting. And with us...oh, and I believe the greeting of the day is hei. So, hei, ho, aloha 'auinalā kākou, Committee Vice-Chair Nohelani U'u-Hodgins.

VICE-CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Hei, Chair. Hei, everyone. I'm still at home, except now I have two minor children with me and my adult son, Makua U'u-Hodgins, is still around, but he's not near me. We still probably don't have any testifiers in the Pā'ia District Office as the roads are still closed in Pā'ia, but hei everyone. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Next up, hei, Member Cook, Aloha 'auinalā.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aloha 'auinalā, Chair. Sorry for my delay, and there's currently no testifiers in Kihei. Ready for your meeting.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Next up we have Councilmember Gabe Johnson. Hei, aloha 'auinalā.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Hei. Aloha, Chair, Councilmembers, community members. There's no testifiers at the Lāna'i District Office. I'm here and ready to work, but I may have to leave early today, Chair, just letting you know and looking forward to a great meeting. Mahalo.

CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. We'll keep it snappy. Next up, Councilmember Tasha Kama. Hei, aloha 'auinalā.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha 'auinalā, Chair. And hei to everyone else. I'm in my workspace alone, and I have two adults in the adjoining room.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PALTIN: Next up, we've got Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Hei, aloha 'auinalā.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha 'auinalā, Chair. Hear me, okay?

CHAIR PALTIN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

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

September 24, 2025

CHAIR PALTIN: Can you hear us, okay?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm at the Molokai District...loud and clear. I'm at the Molokai District Office. Alone on my side of the office, and we currently have no testifiers here. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Next up, we have Councilmember Shane Sinenci. Hei, aloha 'auinalā.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Hei there and aloha 'auinalā kākou. Here at my home office. I'm here by myself, and there's no testifiers, Chair, in Hāna.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. And last but not least we have Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura. Hei, ho aloha 'auinalā kākou.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Hei and hi. I'm here at my Kula Office, and there's no one on this floor with me. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. This meeting of the Disaster Recovery, International Affairs, and Planning Committee of the Maui County Council is located on the traditional 'āina of the Kānaka 'Ōiwi, who never ceded their sovereignty to the United States. We recognize that Her Majesty Queen Lili'uokalani yielded the Hawaiian Kingdom to the U.S. in duress under threat of violence to avoid the bloodshed of her people. We further recognize that Hawai'i remains an illegally occupied nation-state by the U.S., a documented...as documented in a 2021 scholarly article for the National Lawyers Guild Review by Andrew Reid, Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. Generations of Kānaka Maoli and their knowledge systems have sustainably cared for Hawai'i and continue to do so. We are grateful to occupy this space and learn the ways in which we can contribute. As a committee, we seek to support the varied strategies that the Indigenous peoples of Hawai'i are using to protect their land and their communities and commit to dedicating time and resources to working in solidarity. From the administration today we have Deputy Police Chief Wade Maeda; Planner V, Department of Planning, Wilton Leauanae; and Deputy Corporation Counsel Nahulu Nunokawa. Some other resources, possibly, would be Bingham Tuisamatatele Jr., Lieutenant Colonel, Hawai'i Army National Guard for DRIP-15; Alexa Caskey, Applicant, Moku Roots, DRIP-16. Members, without objection, I will designate these individuals as resource persons under Rule 18(A) of the Rules of the Council due to their knowledge and expertise on today's items. Lieutenant Colonel Tuisamatatele serves as Hawai'i Army National Guard's point of contact for the Intergovernmental Agreement proposed under Bill 121, and Ms. Caskey is the applicant requesting the change in zoning under Bill 131. Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No objections, Chair.

CHAIR PALTIN: Awesome. And our Committee Staff, today we have Criselda Paranada filling in as Committee Secretary, coming in clutch. We also have Legislative Analysts, Jarret

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

September 24, 2025

Pascual and Keone Hurdle; Legislative Attorney, Carla Nakata; and it says Jean Pokipala, Assistant Clerk, but I'm not sure that's correct. Uhm...next up...yeah, looks like Lei Dineen. My bad. For the agenda today, we have DRIP-15, Intergovernmental Agreement with the Hawai'i Army National Guard for the Intrusion Detection System Alarm Response Procedures. And DRIP-16, 131...Bill 131 (2025) Change in Zoning from R-1 Residential to B-2 Community Business District (Conditional Zoning) for Property Situated at 1448 Front Street, Lahaina, Hawai'i. We will take testimony after opening remarks or presentations.

**BILL 121 (2025), INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE HAWAI'I
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD FOR INTRUSION DETECTION SYSTEM ALARM
RESPONSE PROCEDURES (DRIP-15)**

CHAIR PALTIN: So moving along to DRIP-15, Bill 121. The Committee is in receipt of Bill 121 (2025) entitled, a Bill for an Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Enter Into an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the Maui Police Department and the Hawai'i Army National Guard for the Intrusion Detection System Alarm Response Procedures. Bill 121's purpose is to authorize the Mayor to enter into an intergovernmental agreement between the County's Department of Police and the Hawai'i Army National Guard to establish response procedures to intrusion detection system alarms at Hawai'i Army National Guard facilities. The Committee may consider whether to recommend passage of Bill 121 on first reading with or without revisions. The Committee may also consider the filing of Bill 121 (2025) and other related actions. My recommendation, actually, is to file Bill 121. The reason that I am recommending that is if Members have read Granicus item number five, we're not really required to approve intergovernmental agreements that have no financial burden and are within the scope of the entities' normal work. You know, when we sent the police to Mauna Kea, to me, that wasn't normal work and...and I think we should've had that before Committee, but we didn't. But this, to me, falls in line with that no financial obligation, scope of normal work. It could have been transmitted as a County Communication, and we don't need to really take time doing it. So that's going to be my opening remarks. If Deputy Police Maeda wanted to make any opening remarks this would be your opportunity. You guy's enabled him, yeah? Okay.

MR. MAEDA: Hi, Chair. Can you hear me?

CHAIR PALTIN: Yes. We can.

MR. MAEDA: Sorry. I don't know why my...the camera isn't working. But anyway, good afternoon, Chair, and good afternoon esteemed Councilmembers. Yeah. Like the Chair said Bill 121 is...is to enter into a memorandum...memorandum of understanding between us and the Army National Guard. All they're asking is for us in...in the the event of an alarm goes off that we check it within 15 minutes. And the reason for the...the fast response time is because they do...every National Guard does have an...have an armory within it and of course we don't want that getting out. So,

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

September 24, 2025

they...they require a little bit quicker response which we're...which we're obliged to do. Again, like the Chair said, there's no financial obligation on the County and it's just within a normal scope of our MPD patrolling duties. And that's it, Chair.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Corp. Counsel, did you have any opening remarks on this?

MR. NUNOKAWA: No, Chair. I did not.

CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. So, proceeding with public testimony. Staff, is there anyone waiting to provide public testimony?

MR. HURDLE: Chair, we currently have no individuals signed up, but I see the gentleman from Kula Uka is approaching the testifier podium.

CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. He's an old pro, so the same public testimony instructions that are always entertained will be entertained today.

. . . OPEN PUBLIC TESTIMONY (DRIP-15). . .

MR. LAW: Okay. Aloha. Aloha Luna Ho'omalua Paltin and Ka 'Aha o Ke Kalana. Thank you for being here. I was kind of like a little bit hesitant to put out scenarios that might, like, cause panic amongst people. But when I think about Queen Lili'uokalani and what she had to go through, then I get courage. So I went down...see I went to the wrong building I went to the Army National Guard building because I wanted to see if, like, what was going to happen if there's an intruder there, but I'll try it later. I don't know what this intrusion detective system is on Bill 121. And then so to put this in perspective, say that the President of the United States ordered...well he don't order them there's no proof that he told those...they're called insurrectionist with all the...the ones that want to overthrow the Government on January 6th. What would happen if they...they came over to here and tried to tell Mr. Cook he's not allowed to...try to arrest him and to harass him and threaten him. And I'm wondering if the National Guard would come and help us. As I'll...I would certainly help Mr. Cook myself if...if it come down to it. I know he loves his Queen Lili'uokalani too. That's about it. Thank you and the rest of my time I give to the Hawaiians.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. You want to do a last call if there's nobody else signed up?

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

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Members, without objection I will now close public testimony.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

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

September 24, 2025

come to Council. Is...is that why you wanted to file it and...

CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. Even actually the joint terrorism task force is within their scope and no financial equip...no financial obligation. So just, you know, freeing up our time. I know we like to talk story with each other ,but if we don't have to, we don't have to. Just making a record of all these future IGA's.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

CHAIR PALTIN: With no financial, within the scope.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay...okay. Because then filing it creates a Committee Report and that's what you want.

CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. I just want to, you know, get it out there. If...if you just wanted to let us know what you're doing, County Communications don't tie up everybody as much as like a IGA that doesn't need to be resolved through resolution. But thank you for letting us --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And . . .(inaudible). . .

CHAIR PALTIN: --know, and I love to know if you guys leave the County and desecrate sacred sites. I mean, that kind of thing I'll vote on. Thank you.

**BILL 131 (2025), CHANGE IN ZONING FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO
B-2 COMMUNITY BUSINESS DISTRICT (CONDITIONAL ZONING) FOR
PROPERTY SITUATED AT 1448 FRONT STREET, LAHAINA, HAWAII (DRIP-16)**

CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. Moving on to our next item. This is the big one. Bill 131 Change in Zoning from R-1 Residential District to B-2 Community Business District (Conditional Zoning) for Property Situated at 1448 Front Street, Lahaina, Hawai'i. The change...the Committee is in receipt of Bill 131 (2025) entitled A Bill for an Ordinance to Change Zoning from R-1 Residential District to B-2 Business-- Community Business District (Conditional Zoning) for 14,467 Square Feet at 1448 Front Street, Lahaina, Hawai'i Tax Map Key (2) 4-5-013:012. Bill 131's purpose is to grant a change in zoning from R-1 Residential District to B-2 Community Business District for 14,467 square feet located at 1448 Lahaina Front Street, Lahaina, Hawai'i, to establish parking, structure or lot uses on the property. The Committee may consider whether to provide passage of Bill 131 on first reading with or without revisions. The Committee may also consider the filing of Bill 131 (2025) and other related actions. So the reason why I scheduled this item is that I'm not exactly sure when I'm going to get the South Maui Community Plan, so I'm trying to make room for it, partially. And I initiated this change in zoning, I believe, in July of 2023. And so, it's been over two years to get to this point. I realize that we haven't gotten the staff report...I mean the official transmittal from the Planning Commission although the Planning Commission was able to hear it. The deadline that

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

September 24, 2025

they told me that they would transmit it to us is, like, January. So, I thought two and a half years was bit much, and I just, am able to force it because initially they had, like, 120 days to hear it. This one was put it before the Grace Baptist Church which I initiated and that one they were in a hurry because they had architects on island, and funding, and stuff. And I said that, you know, Moku Roots was before but it wasn't such a rush, but I didn't expect that would mean over two years. So that's part of the reason why I scheduled it. The parcel, this is at the northernmost end of Front Street where Front Street meets the highway. It was at one time the Chart House Restaurant, and then it was a Canoe's Café, and then it was, like, a Mexican Church for a little while. And it's two TMK parcels with the second parcel more on the south side. In all my memory of how long I've lived here it has always been used as a parking lot. Previously, they had a conditional permit. Not this specific applicant, but the previous owners had conditional permits, and the conditional permit expired. And so, when I met with the applicant, they were asking advice, and I...I said would initiate a Council change in zoning because the community has always known it as a parking lot, in my memory. And it is right across the street from the ocean, so if it were to be used as R-3 Residential, potentially a house would be in the sea level rise exposure area. And so, it made more sense to me that it continued to be used as a parking lot. So back to the notes. Moku Roots faced a two-year delay. Resolution 23-192 as adopted by the Council on August 4th, 2023, to refer to the proposed change in zoning bill to the Maui County Planning Commission. At that time, the structure was still standing. The Department of Planning received it on August 25th, 2023. The Maui Planning Commission scheduled it for a public hearing on July 8th, 2025. While the Maui Planning Commission did make a recommendation, this was outside of the 120-day timeframe under Charter Section 8-8.6(2). The Maui Planning Commission supported the change in zoning without conditions and requested to forward six comments to the Council. The historical use of this property as a parking lot for the restaurant across from the ocean was accepted by the community. Members may find the Maui Planning Commission meeting minutes, Planning's report to the Planning Commission, a presentation on the property, and the application under Granicus number two. Note, the Planning Commission recommended a full change in zoning without conditions, and I had previously met with Ms. Caskey and pulled out all the uses that she envisioned she would need. And so, I'm kind of sticking with that recommendation, the original, rather than the Planning Commission's recommendation because when I do a Council-initiated change in zoning, kind of my threshold is I...I'm not trying to do a giving. You know, when you change a zoning a lot of people say, oh, are you doing a taking. So I don't want to do a taking, but I also don't want to give all the uses that a future owner might take and do something radically different than what the person who came to me with a changing...change in zoning request wanted. So I'm...I'm just trying to continue on the use that the community has known rather than do a full on giving, if that makes sense. So, at this time, I'd like to invite either Ms. Caskey or the Department of Planning representative, Mr. Leauanae, whoever pops up first, to give me any opening comments. Oh. I see Ms. Caskey. Do you have any opening comments that you wanted to give to the Committee?

MS. CASKEY: Uhm, just confirming you guys can hear me?

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

September 24, 2025

CHAIR PALTIN: Yes. We can hear you.

MS. CASKEY: Yeah. Okay. I feel like you sum...summed it up really well. I can't think of anything else I would want to add. Yeah. We just want to continue using it as what it's always been known to be.

CHAIR PALTIN: Awesome. Thank you. And Mr. Leauanae. Any opening comments?

MR. LEAUANAЕ: Thank you, Chair. Yeah. You did do a great job summing up the background. I just wanted to point out some of the six comments that were made at the Planning Commission so the Council...Committee's aware of it. As you mentioned, the Maui Planning Commission recommended approval without conditions and four of the six comments which are, first the Commission supports the local business serving the community, local communities. So they supported this...this restaurant and the...the adjacent of the parking lot. Number two was it enabled the parking lot and solar canopy use. Recognized projected sea level rise and impacts of coastal processes on the property. The Commissioner also acknowledged that there are several other permitted uses under B-2 zoning that would give the applicant flexibility in modifying this property over time as sea level rise and coastal processes play out. And then number five, that future developments should not impede natural beach processes and the County Council may impose conditions to address these concerns. Basically, they reflected the balance, you know, support the recovery, recognition that parking and solar are already allowed, reliance on SMA process to address the sea level rise and coastal hazards. For this...for that reason, they recommended approval with...without conditions while acknowledging the Council's authority to add them. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Mr. Leauanae. And so, I did want to add in that because they're going to have to reconstruct their restaurant if they want to have a restaurant there because it burnt down, that they will need to get an SMA permit. So the Planning Commission gets another crack at it at that time. That's part of the reason why I was in a rush. As to my not giving, just changing comments, in order to just change the zoning in alignment with what she specifically asked because the Planning Commission's recommendation was to not put conditions on it. If we want to do it specifically to what was asked at the Council level, we'll need two-thirds votes. But to move out of Committee, we only need five. So just wanted to make that clear. And I think that concludes all the opening comments unless, Mr. Nunokawa, did you have any opening comments, no. Okay. All right we're ready for public testimony and if there's someone not familiar with the rules, I can read them, yeah.

. . . OPEN PUBLIC TESTIMONY (DRIP-16) . . .

MR. HURDLE: Chair, we don't have anybody signed up but we do have Mr. Jacee Law approaching the podium.

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

September 24, 2025

CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. Same rules apply.

MR. LAW: Roger. Thank you, Keone. I...I got a chance to view the black binder there from the Council Services Office, and that was actually one of the more complete files that I've seen on...on any of these bills. So, ho'omaika'i to you Luna Ho'omalua Paltin.

CHAIR PALTIN: We do our best.

MR. LAW: And I especially appreciate Exhibit "A" where it says about the royal patent number and all that kind stuff because I know the Royal House of Hawai'i would appreciate that.

CHAIR PALTIN: Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Anyone else wishing to testify?

MR. HURDLE: Chair, that's all the individuals signed up. We can do a last call for oral testimony. If anyone would like to testify, please come up to the podium or raise your hand on Teams. The count is three...two...one. Seeing none. Chair, no one has indicated that they wish to testify.

CHAIR PALTIN: Members, without objection, I will now close public testimony.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

. . .CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY (DRIP-16). . .

CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. I would like to open the floor for discussion. I propose, however, many rounds of questions we need. Each Member can start off with five minutes. You don't have...up to five minutes, you don't have to use all five if you don't want to. But we'll begin with Committee Vice-Chair U'u-Hodgins.

VICE-CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. I'm familiar with this parcel and this project and I remember it going to Planning Commission a long time ago. I understand what they're trying to do, and I have no questions and I'm happy to support. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Moving on down the line. Member Cook?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. I too support this. One of my jobs a long time ago was reroofing the Chart House and that was the scariest job I ever had in my life, worked on it for three days and was really glad to not go back. So now this I remember the parking lot issue was very...this is fun and good when the community and land use, landowners get our cooperation, and we're all working together. Thank you for doing this.

CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. Our cooperation over the last two years is great. Does that conclude your...

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

September 24, 2025

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I'm in support.

CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez, your opportunity.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No questions. Echo
Committee Vice-Chair U'u-Hodgins' comments, and I'm ready to vote.

CHAIR PALTIN: Next up we have Councilmember Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Yeah. I'm...I'm familiar with this parcel and our actions a few days before the fire this came up. And I'm sorry it took so long but the fact that we're moving forward on it is really...you know, brings hope, and I appreciate Ms. Caskey's hard work on this. So, thank you. And looking forward to going to the restaurant when it's open, and full support. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Next up, let's see we have Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I'm just waiting for those steaks to get a grillin'. So I'm very much in support, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Oh. Uhm. I think Moku Roots is vegan restaurant.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh. Really? Oh my gosh. Well, let's get a cow in there. If not, I'll bring my own.

CHAIR PALTIN: They have --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: -- some good, like, mushroom --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR PALTIN: --things.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: She meant cauliflower steaks.

CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, cauliflower steaks. Yeah. And...and they're zero waste a lot of times I use to get the not burger in the ti leaf wrapper. So, good...good stuff.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Kama shook her head, she...she did not mean cauliflower steaks. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR PALTIN: We'll...we'll have to invite you out for the grand opening. It'll be a whole new world. Next up, we have Member Sinenci.

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

September 24, 2025

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Just for clarification, you did say it would come back at...to the Planning Commission when they have their plans ready?

CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. They'll need an SMA permit, probably, to rebuild in the SMA because it burnt down, unless they're going to do like for like. Maybe they won't. But, I mean, if you're starting from scratch, you might as well build the restaurant of...the vegan restaurant of your dreams also.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And...and just...just a question for you, Chair, I know you're...we've put a lot of the recovery into your Committee so future lots in the SMA will also kind of take the same process.

CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. Uhm. I don't think we, the Council, get involved in that process of SMA permit review, it'll solely be in the hands of the Planning Commission. So this is kind of our opportunity. But they will be held to the standards that their zoning allows and the...if any conditions on the SMA permit that the Planning Commission imposes on them. If that answers your question.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. Chair, I jumped online just to remind me where the...the property was, and all these images are popping up. And so, it does seem like this could set the precedence for future along the Front Street area. So, happy to support. Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. It's uhm I think it's Fleming Road, Front Street going up...is it Fleming...the one where the streetlight. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR PALTIN: Uhm. Does anyone need a second round? No. Okay.

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, I apologize. This is Staff. Before we go into decision-making can Staff request a five-minute recess?

CHAIR PALTIN: Sure thing. Anyone have any objection with a five-minute recess to return at about 2:15? Okay. We'll return from recess at 2:15. Recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 2:09 p.m.

RECONVENE: 2:16 p.m.

CHAIR PALTIN: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the DRIP Committee meeting return to order. The time is now 2:16. The Chair will entertain a motion to recommend passage of Bill 131 (2025) on first reading incorporating any nonsubstantive revisions for clarity and consistency.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So moved.

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

September 24, 2025

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR PALTIN: Moved by Member Johnson. Second by Member Kama. We did discuss a slight amendment to Exhibit "C" Condition of Zoning, so I'll enter...I'll receive...entertain a motion to amend Exhibit "C" Condition of Zoning to read, "The only uses permitted on the property are; parking structures or lots which may include solar energy facilities that are installed on overhead canopies or structures and may provide power to other lots and related accessories uses".

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So moved. I move the amendment.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Second.

CHAIR PALTIN: Move by Member Johnson. Second by Member Cook. Any discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I just look forward to making it easier, so we have solar, more solar on the island.

CHAIR PALTIN: More solar, less bird emissions. All those in favor of the amendment raise your hand and say, "aye." Seven "ayes", two excused. Amendment passes.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmembers Lee and Sugimura.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment to exhibit "C".

CHAIR PALTIN: Moving on to the main motion as amended. Any discussion before we take the vote? No discussion. I'll just, uhm, let the applicant know before we go to second and final reading we will need a signed unilateral agreement. So at that...yes.

MS. NAKATA: Sorry, Chair, we'll need the signed UA before first reading.

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

September 24, 2025

CHAIR PALTIN: Before first reading.

MS. NAKATA: And it'll need to be recorded prior to second.

CHAIR PALTIN: And it needs to be recorded prior to second reading. Sorry, I misspoke. So the next steps are on the applicant's side, signed unilateral agreement prior to first reading and recorded at the Bureau of Conveyances before second reading, and then you're off to a running start. So, if there's no further discussion. All those in favor, raise your hand and say "aye." Okay. This item advances out of Committee with seven "ayes", zero noes, two excused.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmembers Lee and Sugimura.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending **FIRST READING** of Bill 131, CD1 (2025), and **RECORDATION** of unilateral agreement by committee report.

CHAIR PALTIN: And wow. Good job guys. And the time...this concludes today's Disaster Recovery, International Affairs, and Planning Committee meeting. Thank you very much, everyone. The time is 2:19. And if anybody in West Maui is watching, tonight is the Mayor's budget hearing at the Lahaina Civic Social Hall from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. See you all there. Be there or be square. Aloha. This meeting is adjourned, 2:19. . . .(gavel). . .

ADJOURN: 2:19 p.m.

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

September 24, 2025

CERTIFICATION

I, Cheryl von Kugler, hereby certify that pages 1 through 14 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 29th day of September 2025, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Cheryl von Kugler