

Disaster, Resilience, International Affairs, and Planning Committee (2023-2025) on 2024-08-21 1:30 PM

Meeting Time: 08-21-24 13:30

eComments Report

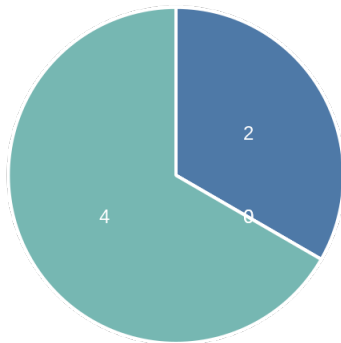
Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Disaster, Resilience, International Affairs, and Planning Committee (2023-2025) on 2024-08-21 1:30 PM	08-21-24 13:30	2	6	2	0	0

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment

Support (33%) Oppose (0%) Neutral (0%)
No Response (66%)



Disaster, Resilience, International Affairs, and Planning Committee (2023-2025) on 2024-08-21

1:30 PM

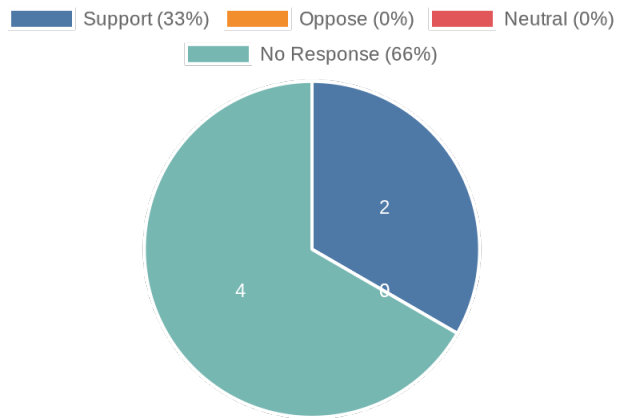
08-21-24 13:30

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
A G E N D A	2	1	0	0
DRIP-2(10) FIRE PREVENTION (DRIP-2(10))	4	1	0	0

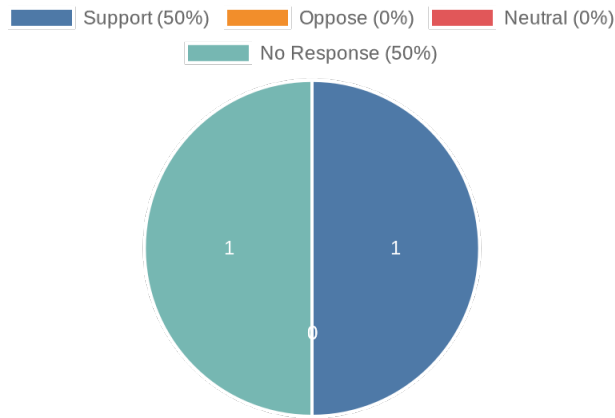
Sentiments for All Agenda Items

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Overall Sentiment



Saman Dias

Location:

Submitted At: 1:24pm 08-21-24

Testimony of Saman Dias

Maui County Council Meeting

Date: Aug 21st 2024

Aloha Chair Nohelani U'u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Tamara Paltin, and Council Members,

My name is Saman Dias, and I am here today to address the critical issues of fire prevention and enforcement in our community, particularly in light of the devastating Lahaina fire. I want to bring to your attention several key points that I believe are vital for the safety and well-being of our community.

- 1. Lack of Execution and Enforcement:** It is abundantly clear that there is a significant gap in the execution and enforcement of existing fire prevention plans and laws. While laws and regulations may be in place, their implementation is lacking, leading to dire consequences. This gap in enforcement has had tragic results, as evidenced by the Lahaina fire.
- 2. Understaffing and Resource Constraints:** Both the County and State have repeatedly cited a lack of staff as a reason for their inability to enforce existing plans and regulations. This is unacceptable. Enforcement is key to ensuring the safety of our community, and we cannot allow staffing shortages to be used as an excuse for inaction, especially when the stakes are so high.
- 3. Accountability of Landowners:** Recent developments, including the \$4.04 billion settlement of wildfire cases, underscore the responsibility of landowners in maintaining their properties to prevent fire hazards. The Kamehameha Schools, among others, have been held accountable for not maintaining overgrown, dead foliage, which contributed to the fire risks. This case highlights the critical importance of enforcing regulations that require landowners to manage their properties effectively.
- 4. My Efforts to Address These Concerns:** In May 2022, I initiated correspondence with various County and State departments, including the Fire Prevention Bureau, the Mayor's Office, and the Office of Climate Change, Resiliency, and Sustainability. Below is a summary of the key communications:
 - May 14, 2022: I contacted Deputy Fire Chief Gavin Fujioka to express concerns about fire prevention and suggested proactive measures.
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lack of resources and introducing the Code Case and Community Risk Reduction Programs.

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- May 18, 2022 (11:30 AM): I reached out to the Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization (HWMO) to suggest collaboration on wildfire education.

Despite my proactive efforts, these requests were largely ignored, and the failure to act has had devastating consequences. This lack of response is a failure of leadership and accountability that cannot be tolerated.

5. Recent Improvements and the Need for Continued Action: I have noticed that, in the aftermath of the Lahaina fire, there have been efforts to cut and maintain overgrown dead grass along Highway 30. While this is a positive step, I am concerned about whether these efforts will be sustained. Who will enforce these measures moving forward? Consistent enforcement is crucial to preventing future tragedies. Additionally, I have witnessed FEMA distributing the exact materials I previously recommended to Maui community members at locations such as Home Depot. While it is encouraging to see these efforts, it is disheartening to reflect on the fact that my earlier requests for such actions were ignored. It is vital that these types of preventive measures become standard practice, rather than reactive responses after a tragedy.

6. The Role of Trails in Fire Prevention and Evacuation: I want to emphasize the importance of building and maintaining trails, such as the West Maui Greenway (WVG), as fire barriers and evacuation routes. The WVG project should be given priority for its potential to save lives in emergency situations. I urge the Council to consider prioritizing WVG and similar projects as part of a comprehensive fire prevention strategy.

7. My Commitment to Action: I stand before you not as someone who simply points out problems, but as someone who has actively sought solutions. I made recommendations, offered my assistance, and provided resources to help our community. I urge you to take these concerns seriously and to take action to ensure that our community is better protected in the future.

Conclusion: The tragedy in Lahaina has shown us the devastating consequences of inaction. We cannot afford to repeat these mistakes. I ask you to ensure that the necessary resources are allocated for enforcement, that landowners are held accountable, and that projects like the West Maui Greenway are prioritized as part of our fire prevention and emergency response strategies.

Thank you for your time and attention to this critical issue.

Mahalo,

Saman Dias
Chair Maui Bicycling League
808-209-2542 / maui@hbl.org

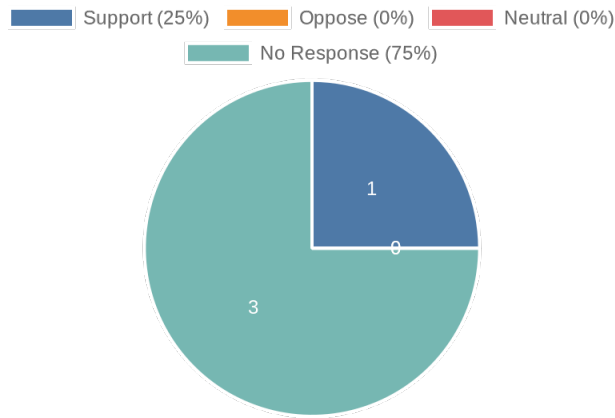
Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:38pm 08-19-24

This seems to be the only option to submit written testimony. I am in favor of the county exploring eminent domain of the 79-acre parcel that includes Pi'i'hana Farms, which has become a menace to public health and safety, due to the numerous fires, problems with dumped trash, and drug use. I believe the property is still encumbered by a 1990 requirement for 600 affordable housing homes. If this parcel is still tied to Kehalani Planned Development (separate owner) a bifurcation could be granted for enough funds to condemn the Lindsey property. Lindsey cannot use his property for any other use, and has tried to skirt the law by quit claiming 7 lots of the original 79 acres, helped by David Goode former Director of Public Works. If the County acquired the 79 acres, it could make good on a 30 year old promise to deliver those homes to the people of Maui.

Overall Sentiment



Saman Dias

Location:

Submitted At: 1:27pm 08-21-24

Testimony of Saman Dias
Maui County Council Meeting
Date: Aug 21st 2024

Aloha Chair Nohelani U'u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Tamara Paltin, and Council Members,

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- 3. Accountability of Landowners:** Recent developments, including the \$4.04 billion settlement of wildfire cases, underscore the responsibility of landowners in maintaining their properties to prevent fire hazards. The Kamehameha Schools, among others, have been held accountable for not maintaining overgrown, dead foliage, which contributed to the fire risks. This case highlights the critical importance of enforcing regulations that require landowners to manage their properties effectively.
- 4. My Efforts to Address These Concerns:** In May 2022, I initiated correspondence with various County and State departments, including the Fire Prevention Bureau, the Mayor's Office, and the Office of Climate Change, Resiliency, and Sustainability. Below is a summary of the key communications:
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Thank you for your time and attention to this critical issue.

Mahalo,

Saman Dias
Chair Maui Bicycling League
808-209-2542 / maui@hbl.org

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:39am 08-21-24

I hear and see firetrucks A LOT going through Wailuku town, and I subsequently read about them constantly putting out small, seemingly man-made fires on the property. This is concerning to me as a Wailuku community member because this may be a potential for disaster to neighboring Happy Valley. I received an email from Michele McLean stating that fines will be imposed if the owner doesn't address the concerns of fire prevention on his property. Although, this is a step in the right direction, seizing his property via eminent domain seems to be the ultimate solution to stop the illegal burning and dumping on his property because this has gone on far too often and far too long.

If seizing his property is too extreme, can officials approve the set up of surveillance to gather evidence of illegal activities on his property?

My point is fines and slaps on the wrist may not be enough to deter complete apathy of the landowner to illegal activities on his property. Something more drastic needs to be done.

Mahalo for your concern to address this nuisance.

Deron Furukawa
Deronfurukawa@yahoo.com

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:24am 08-21-24

From: deron <dernzoid@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 8:02:16 AM (UTC-10:00) Hawaii

To: DRIP Committee <DRIP.Committee@mauicounty.us>

Subject: (DRIP-2(10))

Dear DRIP Committee Chair Tamara Paltin,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the alarming frequency and dangers of fires occurring at Pi'ihana Farms in Wailuku. The ongoing fires pose a significant threat to our community's safety, as well as to our firefighters who are repeatedly dispatched to this area to put out small fires.

It has become increasingly evident that these incidents are not just isolated accidents, especially given the consistency and pattern of their occurrence. As a community member, I am troubled by the possibility that some of these fires may be deliberately set. The regularity with which our firefighters are sent to handle small brush fires and automobile fires begs the question: why is this happening so often, and what measures are being taken to prevent it?

The property in question seems quite large, and isn't it the owner's responsibility to implement adequate fire prevention measures? Given the recent uptick in fire incidents, it raises the issue of whether the owner is doing enough to ensure the safety of both the agricultural land and the neighboring communities.

As a community, we rely heavily on our firefighters and their resources. When they are stretched thin due to them always responding to fires in this area, it takes away from their ability to serve other parts of the community that may also be at risk.

I urge local authorities to consider imposing fines on the property owner for every instance that our firefighters are dispatched to the site. Such measures could serve as a strong incentive to enforce better fire prevention strategies from the owner and ultimately protect our community from potentially bigger fires to neighboring communities like Happy Valley.

Enough is enough. It is time for action to ensure the safety and well-being of our community and the brave individuals who serve to protect us.

Sincerely,
Deron Furukawa
Wailuku
August 21, 2024

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:14pm 08-19-24

From: Susan Halas <wailukusue@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 12:48:47 PM

To: dripcommitte@mauicounty.us <dripcommitte@mauicounty.us>

Cc: Alice L. Lee <Alice.Lee@mauicounty.us>; Tamara A. Paltin <Tamara.Paltin@mauicounty.us>; Yukilei Sugimura <Yukilei.Sugimura@mauicounty.us>; Tasha A. Kama <Tasha.Kama@mauicounty.us>; Thomas M. Cook <Thomas.Cook@mauicounty.us>; Shane M. Sinenci <Shane.Sinenci@mauicounty.us>; Nohe M. Uu-Hodgins <Nohe.Uu-Hodgins@mauicounty.us>; Gabe Johnson <Gabe.Johnson@mauicounty.us>; Keani N. Rawlins <Keani.Rawlins@mauicounty.us>; Mayors Office <mayors.office@mauicounty.gov>

Subject: DRIP TESTIMONY 8/21/24 Frequent fire Piihana, Wailuku FIRE PREVENTION (DRIP-2(10))

Dear Ch. Paltin and members of the DRIP Committee

I am writing to ask that your committee take urgent and immediate action related to _____
_____ (_____ & _____)

All during July and August the fire engines have roared out past Happy Valley to the area known as Piihana Farms owned mainly by Vernon Lindsey. There have been frequent fires in that area. On at least two occasions in the last two weeks my house in the heart of Wailuku has filled with smoke and the smell of burning rubber from fires originating from Piihana Farms.

Most of the homes in the old Wailuku town neighborhood are old, single frame wood construction built before WWII, and it is easy to imagine that they could all burn in a heartbeat.

Earlier this month I wrote to Ch. Lee's office to inquire how this situation was being addressed when action would be taken related to the almost daily suspicious fire in the Pi'ihana area.

I received this written response from Ch. Lee signed by her aide Michele Chouteau McLean, "Last week, the Fire Prevention Bureau issued three Notices of Warning for several of Mr. (Vernon) Lindsey's properties and for the large DHHL parcel. Each requires significant remedial action –specific vegetation management and debris removal, creation and maintenance of fire breaks, fire access roads, locked gates (with keys for the Fire Department), and the posting of "no trespassing" and "no parking" signs, along with access and parking enforcement.

"They have until early September to take these actions or they will start being fined \$1,000 per day."

Chair Lee has also asked that this matter be discussed in (DRIP) Committee

While I appreciate that steps are being taken, I fear that it may be too little and too late. Lindsey has a long and checkered history with the county and his property conforms to few of the standard health and safety requirements. He also seems expert at cutting corners, flying below the radar and engaging in practices that put the rest of the community at risk. We've already had one multi-billion dollar fire, do we need to drag out feet until we have another one?

I am asking that you take immediate action to correct the violations in that area, hold Lindsey and others in that area accountable and do it IMMEDIATELY before Wailuku joins Lahaina as a pile of ashes.

We have laws and we have law enforcement, waiting until Sept. for action and compliance may well be too late. Even as I write to you the sirens are once again headed out in that direction. This is an urgent serious fire risk, please treat it in an urgent serious manner and take action now.

Thank you.

Susan Halas
Resident Wailuku Town

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Susan Halas
1939A E. Vineyard St.
Wailuku, HI 96793
(808) 280-9205 cell
wailukusue@gmail.com

Testimony of Saman Dias
Maui County Council Meeting
Date: Aug 21st 2024

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Thank you for your time and attention to this critical issue.

Mahalo,



Saman Dias
 Chair Maui Bicycling League
 808-209-2542 / maui@hbl.org

From: Saman Dias

Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 10:49 AM

To: lance.k.desilva@hawaii.gov

Cc: Brian Perry <Brian.Perry@co.maui.hi.us>; Hannah Shipman <Hannah.Shipman@co.maui.hi.us>; Mayors.Office@co.maui.hi.us; Ryan Otsubo <Ryan.Otsubo@co.maui.hi.us>

Subject: RE: Maui Prevention plan

Importance: High

Aloha Lance,

I was asked to reach out to Community Risk Reduction Program. I googled and found your contact details but have no idea if you are the correct person. I am asking to be proactive as fire season begins. Something simple as a press release and PSA to ask community and landowners keep dead grass, tress trim and be vigilant and inform correct department if community notice areas that need improvement. if you can read my email tag below you will understand what I am asking, why and who I emailed and response. And the reason for reaching out to you. Mahalo in advance for taking action or getting this email to right person. I know as a responsible community member / leader I at least tried to address it before something bad happened to avoid getting fires escalated. Mahalo! Saman

Mahalo Ryan,

Like I mentioned in my email press release to provide some do and don'ts and who to call type will be awesome. After getting it published you can then use it for social media. Once you draft it you can just save it and publish every year with changes to tel#s etc.

If you need help with drafting, I am happy to help just provide content and I can get it cleaned up. We are 100% volunteer organization. But we never say we have limited resources when it comes to helping our community. Especially preventing our community from fire. Drafting something like this should not take more than 1 hour specially folks who are know the subject matter. I have included Brian Perry, Director of Communication, to Mayor's office that may lend a hand. This will be great way to get a "A feather in someone's cap" very inexpensive less time-consuming idea that can get the word out to the community.

I am praying we have no fires, and that you will be ready if the fire starts. That time will come. We should be well prepared for that if we are not prepared to do simple prevention.

Take care!

Saman



Mahalo!

Saman Dias

Chair Maui Bicycling League

From: Ryan Otsubo <Ryan.Otsubo@co.maui.hi.us>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 1:42 PM
To: Saman Dias <Saman@ridesmartmaui.com>
Cc: Brian Perry <Brian.Perry@co.maui.hi.us>; Hannah Shipman <Hannah.Shipman@co.maui.hi.us>; Mayors Office <Mayors.Office@co.maui.hi.us>
Subject: RE: Maui Prevention plan

Aloha Saman,

Thank you for bringing your concern to our attention. The Fire Prevention Bureau is constantly thinking of ways to educate the community. Community events are opening up and we do provide brochures and other materials to be proactive for the dry season. We are also looking at social media to provide information. **As stated in the below email we are doing what we can with the manpower we have.**

Mahalo,

Ryan Otsubo
Fire Captain - Fire Prevention Bureau
Department of Fire and Public Safety
(808)876-4693

>>> Saman Dias <Saman@ridesmartmaui.com> 5/17/2022 12:31 PM >>>

Aloha Ryan,

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To: Ryan Otsubo <Ryan.Otsubo@co.maui.hi.us>; Mayors.Office@co.maui.hi.us
Cc: Brian Perry <Brian.Perry@co.maui.hi.us>; Hannah Shipman <Hannah.Shipman@co.maui.hi.us>
Subject: RE: Maui Prevention plan
Importance: High

Aloha Ryan,

Mahalo for your email. I totally understand you folks and many other departments are under staff. That is why we need prevention. And we can get community involved to help. Before fire season begins, we should be proactive and remind community members, landowners etc to 1. Keep their property trimmed and grass cut etc. And provide a phone number to call if they see overgrown areas or any suspicious activity. We can have a press release and most media will pick up. There is no cost just for someone to draft it. Maui county communication department (I think Mayor's office) can help with this. If they say no (I would be very upset) if they do not pls. give us the points and I can have Maui Bicycling League communication person help clean it up create a press release. And after your approval we can send it out.

These are simple things we can do. Can you imagine if there was fire what can 5 firefighters do save our Island? This is to avoid situations escalating knowing that we are under staff.

Community is not aware of Code Case program or Community Risk Reduction Program. Perhaps Community Risk Reduction Program can help with the press release and a PSA so community can be vigilant. Most fires can be avoidable If we are proactive by keeping dead grass and trees trimmed. And watch out for people doing things that can create fires. It is sad to see what is happening in our country and on Maui.

We can even ask stores to be vigilant of people purchasing this kind of item. "Police had footage of Kaneakua and Hlis entering a store and purchasing a gas can, lighter fluid, charcoal and Lysol prior to start of brush fires."

<https://mauiNOW.com/2022/05/13/breaking-trio-with-criminal-history-arrested-in-connection-with-6-maui-brush-fires/>

If there is a way for you to forward my email to the recommended organizations, I would greatly appreciate it. I am not asking any favors for me or for my family, I am asking the Fire Department to be proactive so you can protect our community from fires before it starts. It will be less work for all you fire fighters given that you are under staff.

Following have been ccd

Mayors' office

Climate Resiliency department

And Brian Perry Mayor's office Communications Director Office of Mayor Michael Victorino. I sure hope he can help with a communication message. It will be kudos for Mayor for being proactive during fire season.



Mahalo!

Saman Dias

Chair Maui Bicycling League

808-633-8553 ext 100

maui@hbl.org

From: Ryan Otsubo <Ryan.Otsubo@co.maui.hi.us>

Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 9:39 AM **To:** Saman Dias <Saman@ridesmartmaui.com>

Subject: Re: Maui Prevention plan

Aloha Saman,

My name is Ryan Otsubo the Fire Prevention Captain here on Maui. To answer some of our questions we do have a Code Case program where anyone can report concerns and an inspector goes out to determine if there are any violations. We also have a Community Risk Reduction Program that just started this year where we go out to subdivisions and educate the community, enforce the code, and do pre-planning with fire companies. As far as enforcement for anything arson related, MPD is responsible. If you want to get involved and give your ideas the State has a team called Hawaii Wildfire Management Association. I would suggest contacting them. We meet with this team monthly. Know that we are doing what we can with only 5 inspectors in the bureau. They also do fire investigations, building inspections, fire suppression installations, fire education, along with code enforcement.

Mahalo,

Ryan Otsubo
Fire Captain - Fire Prevention Bureau
Department of Fire and Public Safety
(808)876-4693

>>> Saman Dias <Saman@ridesmartmaui.com> 5/14/2022 11:39 AM >>>

Aloha Mr, Gavin Fujioka

I am not sure who oversees being proactive on reducing Maui fires. I think Climate resilience department should take proactive approach on prevention. As we are approaching Summer and already had some fires on Maui County, I wonder what preventive action being taken.

Increase in fires are result of the climate change and as we adopt Climate resilience programs, we need to be proactive and think about fire prevention.

While researching ran in to this article and it discuss 5 E's I think great document to review to get ideas.

<https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/By-topic/Urban/Urban-Task-Force/UrbanPaper2016.ashx?la=en>

I was driving to Kahului yesterday and noticed all the mountain side from west to Kahului is very dry. Just need someone throw a cigarette bud that can easily start a fire. We have to be proactive and work on cutting and maintaining all of the dry grass, overgrown weed etc. I do not know who is in charge. Some of the areas own by county, and some are state and private. If private, we have to fine them if county and state we need to start keeping dry weed cut to reduce the risk.

This type of work is so important. We have had fires every year during summer, and it seems to be starting early. I read an article "Fire and police suspect someone is intentionally setting them," said Maui Mayor Michael Victorino.

<https://www.khon2.com/local-news/maui-brush-fire-prompts-road-closure-evacuations/>

If someone intentionally does this 1. We need to have enforcement to catch them and be proactive, so we keep all dead grass, vegetation and trees etc cut.

Can you please let me know what you folks are doing regarding prevention, and has anyone thought of working with community nonprofits to help? We just had a community volunteer day to clean up the greenway and had many participated. Similarly, we could get volunteers / community leaders to come together and come up with a plan to report areas that need cleaning up. Also, could be a community announcement asking community members to report and provide a tel#. After watching news and hearing what is going on in orange county, we need to be proactive. And we already started the season with fires.

Look forward to hearing from you!
Saman

p.s. This is also a test to see who will read my email and will anyone response.



Mahalo!
Saman Dias
Chair Maui Bicycling League
808-633-8553 ext 100
maui@hbl.org

From: maui@hbl.org <maui@hbl.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:30 AM
To: ADMIN@HAWAIIWILDFIRE.ORG
Subject: Are you prepared for wildfires?

Aloha,

I just saw this flyer on FB "Are you prepared for wildfires". Are you planning on recording this session?

It would so great get this out to more people and getting you organization out to the community. You are doing some great work. Can we get a press release done and hold another webinar or share the recording?

We need to be proactive during fire season. I called and emailed fire department asking them to do exactly what you are doing. Answer was we only have 5 people working do not have enough resources.

That came from Asst. Fire Chief. But this was posted on Fire department website. Unbelievable how higherups can be so disconnected from reality. 😞 I had to do the research to find this and you.

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR WILDFIRES?

JOIN & LEARN WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PROTECT
YOUR HOME, YARD, AND FAMILY FROM WILDFIRE.

READY, SET, GO! *Virtual* WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS WEBINAR FOR RESIDENTS



wednesday

MAY 18TH

12:00 - 1:00 pm HST

REGISTER NOW:

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZwtfuitrz0sGdT_ivJb76YL4mRqaHLOUig8

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Mahalo!
Saman Dias
Chair Maui Bicycling League
808-633-8553 ext 100
maui@hbl.org

From: Saman Dias
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:39 PM
To: Hannah Shipman <Hannah.Shipman@co.maui.hi.us>
Subject: RE: Climate resilience

Mahalo Hanna!

I have addressed it to many stake holders, and it is up to them to take action now. Including Mayors' office.

The message for a press release must come from i.e Mayor or Head of fire department.

Now the ball is in their court.

I appreciate you sending the link. I received a response from Fire Prevention Bureau saying they do not have staff to write a press release. Wow! 😞 I offered to write one will see if they take up on my offer.

I also introduced them to the Communication director hope he helps. Best would be Mayor reads it do something about it.

I am moving on; I have hit a dead end on this subject hope and pray no fires 😞

Take care Hanna!

Mahalo!

Saman

From: Hannah Shipman <Hannah.Shipman@co.maui.hi.us>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 1:58 PM
To: Saman Dias <Saman@ridesmartmaui.com>
Subject: RE: Climate resilience

<https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/forestry/fire/contact/>

Here is another resource fore wildfire management. Maybe you could reach out to the Maui DLNR contact.

Hannah Shipman, *LEED Green Associate*
Green Building and Resilient Housing Specialist
Office of Climate Change, Resiliency, and Sustainability (CCRS)
County of Maui

>>> Saman Dias <Saman@ridesmartmaui.com> 5/17/2022 1:23 PM >>>

I just wanted to bring all parties' attention. Something everyone should be concerned about. This is something we need to address from the high level.

I sent it to Mayor so hope will get addressed. If not, I know I tried to do my part. Up to county to protect its community.

No worries, you have been removed from any other emails regards to this topic. Mahalo for your recommendation.

Take care! Praying and hoping no fires. 🙏🙏🙏🙏

Mahalo!

Saman

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

----- Original message -----

From: Hannah Shipman <Hannah.Shipman@co.maui.hi.us>

Date: 5/17/22 1:12 PM (GMT-10:00)

To: Saman Dias <Saman@ridesmartmaui.com>

Subject: RE: Climate resilience

I would recommend you reach out to your council member for your district. They can advocate for additional staffing or recruiting of a nonprofit to help with this work. Good luck! This is not my specialty and I have little knowledge of fire prevention. So hopefully you can find someone to better assist but please do reach out to your council member for Lahaina.

Hannah Shipman, *LEED Green Associate*

Green Building and Resilient Housing Specialist

Office of Climate Change, Resiliency, and Sustainability (CCRS)

County of Maui

808.867.0352

>>> Saman Dias <Saman@ridesmartmaui.com> 5/17/2022 10:56 AM >>>

Aloha Hanna,

I received a response to my email from the Fire department. Pretty much under staff was the answer. Just not acceptable. I have ccd you in my email just so you can use these as simple examples. Just please get the word out to anyone you know.

Just sharing so it can be learning for you as you navigate county bureaucratic process. What happens to people innovative simple thinking process once they join county, state or federal

department? Their innovative side of their brain comes to a stop. 😊 You are young have so much potential and I hope it won't happen to you. So frustrating. 😞



Mahalo!

Saman Dias

Chair Maui Bicycling League

808-633-8553 ext 100

maui@hbl.org

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From: Hannah Shipman <Hannah.Shipman@co.maui.hi.us>

Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 8:35 AM

To: Saman Dias <Saman@ridesmartmaui.com>

Subject: Re: Climate resilience

Aloha Saman,

Yes, fires are very much a cause from climate change but at this time our office does not focus heavily on fire prevention. But I would recommend reaching out to the fire commission with your resources and concerns.

Thank you,

Hannah Shipman, *LEED Green Associate*

Green Building and Resilient Housing Specialist

Office of Climate Change, Resiliency, and Sustainability (CCRS)

County of Maui

808.867.0352

>>> Saman Dias <Saman@ridesmartmaui.com> 5/14/2022 11:31 AM >>>

Aloha Hannah,

I am not sure who oversees being proactive on reducing Maui fires. I think Climate resilience department should take proactive approach on prevention. As we are approaching Summer and already had some fires on Maui County, I wonder what preventive action being taken.

Increase in fires are result of the climate change and as we adopt Climate resilience programs, we need to be proactive and think about fire prevention.

While researching ran in to this article and it discuss 5 E's I think great document to review to get ideas.

<https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/By-topic/Urban/Urban-Task-Force/UrbanPaper2016.ashx?la=en>

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This type of work is so important. We have had fires every year during summer, and it seems to be starting early. I read an article "Fire and police suspect someone is intentionally setting them," said Maui Mayor Michael Victorino.

<https://www.khon2.com/local-news/maui-brush-fire-prompts-road-closure-evacuations/>

If someone intentionally does this 1. We need to have enforcement to catch them and also be proactive, so we keep all dead grass, vegetation and trees etc cut. I thought this is a great project under Climate resilience and if you do not think it falls under you folks can you pls. help get this to Mayor's office as well as to Fire department Chief.?



Mahalo!

Saman Dias

Chair Maui Bicycling League

808-633-8553 ext 100

maui@hbl.org