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David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

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

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

March 22, 2026

Mr. Kaponu'ai Molitau, Director  
Department of 'Ōiwi Resources  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mr. Molitau:

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE  
COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1) (OWR-01)**

May I please request you submit your response to the following questions by **April 6, 2026**. This will enable the Committee to comprehensively review the FY 2027 Budget.

Please restate each question followed by the corresponding response. Please also ensure the response is clear and legible using a minimum 12-point font, including any attachments or exhibits. This formatting allows Members and the community to clearly read the document once posted.

1. Please outline the major changes in your Department's budget from FYs 2026 to 2027. If your budget will decrease, how will this impact your Department's operations and ability to serve the public?
2. How many vacant positions currently exist within your Department?
  - a. For each vacancy, please include the position ID, job title, the date the position became vacant, and the anticipated hire date.
  - b. What are the consequences, if any, for removing funding for these vacant positions from the FY 2027 Budget?
  - c. Please use the following format to respond:

<b>Position ID</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Job Title</b>	<b>Date of Vacancy</b>	<b>Anticipated Hire Date</b>	<b>Impact of Removing or Reducing Funding</b>
[insert]	[insert]	[insert]	[insert]	[insert]	[insert]	[insert]

3. If your Department's FY 2026 Budget contained expansion positions, please provide the following:
  - a. A list of the expansion positions.
  - b. For each expansion position that has not been filled, please indicate whether the position is included in the FY 2027 Budget.
  - c. For each unfilled expansion position included in the FY 2027 Budget:
    - i. Please state how many months of funding are being requested.
    - ii. Please identify where the position is in the hiring process — position creation; Administration, Department of Personnel Services, or union review; recruitment; interview; or other stage.
  - d. Please use the following format to respond:

<b>Position ID</b>	<b>Job Title</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Filled?</b>	<b>Date Filled</b>	<b>Included in Fiscal Year 2027 Budget?</b>	<b>Months of Funding Requested in Fiscal Year 2027</b>	<b>Current Stage in Hiring Process</b>
[insert]	[insert]	[insert]	[insert]	[Yes/No]	[insert or N/A]	[Yes/No]	[insert or N/A]	[insert]

4. If your Department is proposing expansion positions in the FY 2027 Budget, how do you plan to fill those positions? Please also identify whether there are any similar positions within the same division, section, or Department that are currently vacant. If so, please state how long each similar position has been vacant.
5. How many positions were filled in FY 2026 that were not expansion positions?
6. How did your Department recruit to fill vacancies and what were the most effective methods for attracting candidates?

7. The following questions are related to overtime payments:
  - a. How much OT has been paid in FY 2026, to date, and what was the reason for the overtime?
  - b. What is the Department's process for authorizing, approving, and reviewing OT worked and OT paid to employees?
  - c. Were any of these OT costs attributed to the number of vacant positions in your Department?
  - d. Do you anticipate that OT costs in FY 2027 will increase or decrease and what are the reasons for your assumption?
8. The following questions are related to your Department's program and activities for FY 2027:
  - a. Identify the programs and activities conducted by your Department because of a Federal or State mandate. Indicate the amount of Federal or State funding your Department anticipates receiving and the amount of County funding your Department is requesting.
  - b. Identify the programs and activities conducted solely because of a Maui County Code mandate and indicate the amount your Department is requesting.
9. If your Department had Capital Improvement Projects in FY 2026:
  - a. Provide the status of each CIP if it is different from the information provided in the FY 2026 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter CIP Report.
  - b. Provide information on how much funding has been encumbered or expended to date for each project.
10. If your Department has proposed Capital Improvement Projects for FY 2027:
  - a. Rank your proposed CIPs, by priority.

- b. Will CIP funding included in the FY 2027 Budget be encumbered by June 30, 2027? If not, how much do you anticipate will be encumbered by that date?
11. How many contracts did your Department execute in FY 2026? Please provide the total number and total dollar value of contracts awarded through each of the following procurement methods:
  - a. Request for Proposals.
  - b. Invitation for Bids.
  - c. Sole-Source Procurement.
12. If your Department manages a revolving fund:
  - a. Explain whether the revolving fund is still needed and why.
  - b. Provide the current balance.
13. If your Department manages grants:
  - a. Please provide a master list of all executed grants and all grants held up in review, including the reason each is being held.
  - b. For each grant line item not designated for a specific recipient (e.g., Small Business Promotion; Youth Programs), provide a breakdown of the grants that will be funded by the line item.
  - c. Provide a breakdown of all grants that will be funded by your Department under Sub-object Code 6317, County grant subsidy.
14. What are your top three Department priorities for FY 2027? How does your Department's budget reflect those priorities?
15. Did your Department apply for any grant funding in FY 2026? If yes, how much was received?
16. How much has your Department spent on Professional Services in FY 2026? What projects and consultants were funded under this line item?

17. How much of your Department's expenditures in FY 2026 will be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the August 2023 Maui Wildfires? What amount of FY 2027 expenditures are expected to be reimbursed?
18. If your Department is receiving Federal grants, including pass-through grants:
  - a. Provide the amount your Department is receiving for routine operations.
  - b. Provide the amount your Department is receiving for August 2023 Maui Wildfires disaster recovery.
  - c. Explain any factors that could jeopardize the receipt of Federal grants, including changes in Federal policies, compliance requirements, or expiration dates.
  - d. Explain whether any Federal grants your Department has received or anticipates receiving have been reduced, suspended, terminated, or otherwise cut by the awarding agency.
    - i. For each affected grant, provide the amount affected, the effective date, the stated reason, and the impact on your Department.
  - e. Explain how your Department will adjust if it does not receive the anticipated Federal grant funding.
19. If your Department received funding to repair or replace equipment, locations, and structures destroyed in the wildfires, provide the current status for each. If there are items still pending repair or replacement, provide the estimated cost and timeline for the repair or replacement.
20. If your Department is managing a Council-initiated condition or appropriation in FY 2026, explain any challenges your Department faced in implementing the condition or appropriation and what information would have assisted you.

Mr. Kapono'ai Molitau  
March 22, 2026  
Page 6

The Department is not currently scheduled to present in person to the Committee. The schedule is subject to change and Committee staff will reach out if there are any changes to the schedule.

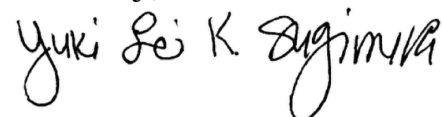
Please be prepared to give a presentation of up to 10 minutes on changes to your Department's budget from Fiscal Year 2026 to Fiscal Year 2027, addressing the following:

- Operations
- CIPs, if any
- Grants awarded by the Department, if any
- Grants received by the Department, if any
- Revolving funds, if any
- Rates and fees, including any estimated increase or decrease in revenue as a result of the changes

Please transmit your response to [bfed.committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:bfed.committee@mauicounty.us) by **April 6, 2026**. To ensure efficient processing, please include the Committee item number in the subject line.

Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Kirsten Szabo at ext. 7662, James Krueger at ext. 7661, or Pauline Martins at ext. 8039).

Sincerely,



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

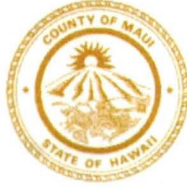
bfed:2027bgt:260319aowr01:kes

cc: Mayor Richard T. Bissen, Jr.  
Budget Director

## BFED Committee

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**From:** BFED Committee  
**Sent:** Monday, March 23, 2026 10:01 PM  
**To:** John.K.Molitu@co.maui.hi.us  
**Cc:** 'Michelle Santos'; 'Zeke Kalua'; 'Lesley Milner'; 'Kristina Cabbat'; 'Tiare P. Horner'; 'Janina Agapay'; Kekai.Robinson@co.maui.hi.us; Deanna Thyssen  
**Subject:** PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1) (OWR-01)  
**Attachments:** 260319aowr01 (OWR-01).pdf



**RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.**  
Meia o Ke Kalana o Maui

**J. KAPONO‘AI MOLITAU**  
Po‘o o Ka ‘Oihana Kumuwaiwai ‘Öiwi

**KEKAI ROBINSON**  
Hope Po‘o o Ka ‘Oihana Kumuwaiwai ‘Öiwi

**KA ‘OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI ‘ÖIWI**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ‘ÖIWI RESOURCES**  
KE KALANA O MAUI, COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAI‘I 96793  
pūnaewele: [www.mauicounty.gov](http://www.mauicounty.gov) leka uila: [oiwi@co.maui.hi.us](mailto:oiwi@co.maui.hi.us)

6 ‘Apelila 2026

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

**APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL**

*Richard T. Bissen, Jr.*  
**Mayor** **4-6-26**  
**Date**

FOR TRANSMITTAL TO:

Honorable Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair  
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee  
and Honorable Members of the Maui County Council  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawai‘i 96793

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI, DEPARTMENT OF ‘ÖIWI RESOURCES (BFED-1) (OWR-01)**

Welina me ke aloha iā kākou e nā luna hanohano o Ke Kalana o Maui:

The Department of ‘Öiwi Resources is in receipt of the questions from the Committee regarding our Department’s budget for Fiscal Year 2027. We are grateful for this opportunity to provide our responses below.

1. Please outline the major changes in your Department’s budget from FY 2026 to FY 2027. If your budget will decrease, how will this impact your Department’s operations and ability to serve the public?

**Our Department’s budget from FY 2026 to FY 2027 include the following major changes:**

- i. An increase of \$124,712 in Wages & Salaries due to Collective Bargaining Agreement increase, position reallocation, SR correction, and FY 2026 expansion position increase to full-year salaries.
  - ii. A decrease of \$1.2 million in Professional Services for two one-time appropriations. The first one-time appropriation was for Phase II of our Department's Strategic Plan, which was reallocated to support the Lahaina Royal Complex Master Planning. The second one-time appropriation was for an archaeological study, master planning, and assessment of Keahuaiwi, also known as the Von Tempsky parcel, which remains unencumbered as of the date of this letter.
  - iii. A decrease of \$200,000 for a one-time appropriation to Mālama Kakanilua, Hui o 'Āina Kūko'a o Waiohuli Kai, for wetland education and restoration.
  - iv. A decrease of \$74,000 for two one-time appropriations for Machinery & Equipment for LiDAR and drone equipment, which remains unencumbered as of the date of this letter.
  - v. An increase of \$512,668 in Wages & Salaries for two continuing e/p for twelve-months funding and seven new e/p at eight-months funding. We are requesting six new expansion positions with e/p only.
  - vi. An increase of \$200,000 for County Grant Subsidy to add funding for competitive grants, microgrants, and to host our second annual grants symposium.
  - vii. A deletion of \$250,000 of a one-time appropriation for the purchase of a Moku'ula/Mokuhinia Storyboard from the Hawaiian Cultural Restoration Revolving Fund, which remains unencumbered as of the date of this letter.
  - viii. An expansion request of \$200,000 for a one-time appropriation to the Hui o Wa'a Kaulua from the Hawaiian Cultural Restoration Revolving Fund to support their restoration work at Pākalā in the area of the Lahaina Royal Complex.
2. How many vacant positions currently exist within your Department?

There are currently three vacant positions within our Department. We are currently interviewing for two positions and working through the reorganization process with the Department of Management and Department of Personnel Services for the third position.

- a. For each vacancy, please include the position ID, job title, the date the position became vacant, and the anticipated hire date.
- b. What are the consequences, if any, for removing funding for these vacant positions from the FY 2027 Budget?
- c. Please use the following format to respond:

Position ID	Department	Program	Job Title	Date of Vacancy	Anticipated Hire Date	Impact of Removing or Reducing Funding
P-00682	OIWI		Archaeologist	7/1/2025	5/1/2026	We are currently interviewing for this position. This position creates a succession plan and ensures continuity of the County's license with SHPD.
P-00715	OIWI		Program Specialist II, 'Āina Advocate (Moloka'i)	7/1/2025	5/1/2026	We are currently interviewing for this position. The Department of 'Ōiwi Resources supports an increased county presence to uplift the needs of our more remote communities.
P-00679	OIWI		Chief Hawaiian Cultural Specialist	7/1/2026	Unknown (Reorg)	This position will help to develop and implement our strategic goals for Hawaiian culture and language for the County and for the larger community.

3. If your Department's FY 2026 Budget contained expansion positions, please provide the following:
  - a. A list of the expansion positions.
  - b. For each expansion position that has not been filled, please indicate whether the position is included in the FY 2027 Budget.
  - c. For each unfilled expansion position included in the FY 2027 Budget:
    - i. Please state how many months of funding are being requested.
    - ii. Please identify where the position is in the hiring process – position creation; Administration, Department of Personnel Services, or union review; recruitment; interview, or other stage.
  - d. Please use the following format to respond:

Position ID	Job Title	Department	Program	Filled?	Date Filled	Included in Fiscal Year 2027 Budget?	Months of Funding Requesting in Fiscal Year 2027	Current Stage in Hiring Process
P-00678	Hawaiian Language Specialist	OIWI		Yes	1/2026	Yes	12 months	Hired
P-00679	Chief Hawaiian Cultural Specialist	OIWI		No	N/A	Yes	12 months	Admin/DPS (Reorg)
P-00681	Info & Education Specialist	OIWI		No	N/A	No	N/A	N/A (Reallocated to Hawaiian Language Specialist)
P-00682	Archaeologist	OIWI		No	N/A	Yes	12 months	Interview (Tentative Hire Date 5/2026)

Position ID	Job Title	Department	Program	Filled?	Date Filled	Included in Fiscal Year 2027 Budget?	Months of Funding Requesting in Fiscal Year 2027	Current Stage in Hiring Process
P-00706	Archaeologist-Cultural Monitor Intern	OIWI		Yes	10/2025	Yes	12 months	Hired
P-00707	Program Specialist II, 'Āina Advocate	OIWI		Yes	8/2025	Yes	12 months	Hired
P-00715	Program Specialist II, 'Āina Advocate (Moloka'i)	OIWI		No	N/A	Yes	12 months	Interview (Tentative Hire Date 5/2026)
P-33634	Grant Coordinator	OIWI		Yes	01/2025	Yes	12 months	Hired
P-33940	GIS Analyst IV	OIWI		Yes		Yes	12 months	Hired

4. If your Department is proposing expansion positions in the FY 2027 Budget, how do you plan to fill those positions? Please also identify whether there are any similar positions within the same division, section, or Department that are currently vacant. If so, please state how long each similar position has been vacant.

**We propose to expand our grants team to enhance our capacity to efficiently disburse grant funds, to provide supportive post-award management, and to strengthen our efforts to secure additional funding. There is one similar position in our Department, Grant Coordinator, and it is not vacant. Our request is to expand our grants program one position to three positions, to include a grant manager and a grant writer.**

**We propose expanding our land stewardship expertise by adding an additional GIS Analyst (V) and an additional Program Specialist II, 'Āina Advocate. We are**

**requesting a Research Analyst e/p only. We currently employ a GIS Analyst (IV) and Program Specialist II, 'Āina Advocates and these positions are not vacant.**

**We propose to expand our administrative program by adding an Administrative Officer, a Contracts Coordinator, and an Information & Education Specialist. There are no similar existing positions in our Department.**

**We are requesting e/p only for five positions as groundcrew 'Āina Ambassadors to care for the Lahaina Royal Complex, specifically Moku'ula, Mokuhinia, Pākalā, and all additional lands recently transferred to the County of Maui from the State of Hawai'i through Executive Order in the area of the Lahaina Royal Complex.**

5. How many positions were filled in FY 2026 that were not expansion positions?

**None; however, there were no vacant positions from FY 2025 to fill in FY 2026.**

6. How did your Department recruit to fill vacancies and what were the most effective methods for attracting candidates?

**The Department of 'Ōiwi Resources participated in recruitment opportunities provided by the Department of Personnel Services – this included a job fair at Queen Kaahumanu Center and an opportunity to temporarily fill two vacancies with State Workforce interns. Otherwise, the Department attracts candidates by posting online and word-of-mouth. Word-of-mouth referrals and recommendations have been the most effective.**

7. The following questions are related to overtime payments:

- a. How much OT has been paid in FY 2026, to date, and what was the reason for the overtime?

**As of the date of this letter, our Department has paid \$372.00 in FY 2026 for OT. This was for work performed outside of regular work hours to mitigate iwi kūpuna on Maui County lands.**

- b. What is the Department's process for authorizing, approving, and reviewing OT worked and OT paid to employees?

**Our Department does not typically authorize OT unless there is an emergency that requires immediate attention. OT, if needed, may only be authorized by Director or Deputy Director and it must be for legitimate work that is**

**immediate and emergent outside of regular work hours. The process is that all OT work must be approved by Director or Deputy Director. Director reviews OT via payroll monthly and Deputy Director reviews OT quarterly during budget review. Once our Department grows, we will hire an Administrative Officer to assist directors with approving, processing, and monitoring OT.**

- c. Were any of these OT costs attributed to the number of vacant positions in your Department?

**No.**

- d. Do you anticipate that OT costs in FY 2027 will increase or decrease and what are the reasons for your assumption?

**We anticipate that OT will remain the same. Increase in staff size and growth of projects that implement the Department's strategic goals may possibly increase OT, but emergencies that require our Department's immediate or our staff OT hours attention have been few and rare.**

8. The following questions are related to your Department's program and activities for FY 2027:

- a. Identify the programs and activities conducted by your Department because of Federal or State mandate. Indicate the amount of Federal or State funding your Department anticipates receiving and the amount of County funding your Department is requesting.

**None. However, we received a \$2 million grant award from the National Parks Service for investment into restorative projects at the Lahaina Royal Complex.**

- b. Identify the programs and activities conducted solely because of a Maui County Code mandate and indicate the amount your Department is requesting.

**Bilingual Government mandates that all Maui County public meeting agendas be published in English and 'Ōlelo Hawai'i.**

9. If your Department had Capital Improvement Projects in FY 2026:

- a. Provide the status of each CIP if it is different from the information provided in the FY 2026 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter CIP Report.

**N/A**

- b. Provide information on how much funding has been encumbered or extended to date for each project.

N/A

10. If your Department has proposed Capital Improvement Projects for FY 2027:

- a. Rank your proposed CIPs, by priority.

N/A

- b. Will CIP funding included in the FY 2027 Budget be encumbered by June 30, 2027? If not, how much do you anticipate will be encumbered by that date?

N/A

11. How many contracts did your Department execute in FY 2026? Please provide the total number and total dollar value of contracts awarded through each of the following procurement methods:

- a. Request for Proposals.

None

- b. Invitation for Bids.

None

- c. Sole-Source Procurement.

None

12. If your Department manages a revolving fund:

- a. Explain whether the revolving fund is still needed and why.

**The Department of 'Ōiwi Resources continues to need the Hawaiian Culture Restoration Revolving Fund. This fund will help continue restoration efforts in Moku'ula, Mokuhinia, Pākalā, and the surrounding Lahaina Royal Complex.**

- b. Provide the current balance.

**The Budget Office will provide updated balances for all revolving funds.**

13. If your Department manages grants:

- a. Please provide a master list of all executed grants and all grants held up in review, including the reason each is being held.
- b. For each grant line item not designated for a specific recipient (e.g., Small Business Promotion; Youth Programs), provide a breakdown of the grants that will be funded by the line item.
- c. Provide a breakdown of all grants that will be funded by your Department under Sub-object Code 6317, County grant subsidy.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Award Type</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>Type of Funding</b>
Kauahea, Inc.	Line-Item Grant	\$75,000	Proviso FY 2026 (Finalizing Contract)
Mālama Kakanilua, 'Āina Kūko'a o Waiohuli Kai	Line-Item Grant	\$200,000	Proviso FY 2026 (Executed)
Aloha Pu'u Kukui	Competitive Grant Award	\$50,000	County Grant Subsidy Sub-object Code 6317 (Executed)
Archive for Health, Arts, and Spirit	Competitive Grant Award	\$25,000	County Grant Subsidy Sub-object Code 6317 (Executed)
Boys & Girls Club of Maui, Inc.	Competitive Grant Award	\$50,000	County Grant Subsidy Sub-object Code 6317 (Executed)
Ke Ao Hāli'i	Competitive Grant Award	\$50,000	County Grant Subsidy Sub-object Code 6317 (Executed)

Organization	Award Type	Award Amount	Type of Funding
Ke Kula ‘o Pi‘ilani	Competitive Grant Award	\$50,000	County Grant Subsidy Sub-object Code 6317 (Executed)
Keōkea Homestead Farmlots Association	Competitive Grant Award	\$25,000	County Grant Subsidy Sub-object Code 6317 (Executed)
Kīpahulu ‘Ohana, Inc.	Competitive Grant Award	\$50,000	County Grant Subsidy Sub-object Code 6317 (Executed)
Ma Ka Hana Ka ‘Ike Building Program	Competitive Grant Award	\$41,095	County Grant Subsidy Sub-object Code 6317 (Executed)
Maui Huliau Foundation	Competitive Grant Award	\$28,000	County Grant Subsidy Sub-object Code 6317 (Executed)
Nā Kai ‘Ewalu Canoe Club	Competitive Grant Award	\$50,000	County Grant Subsidy Sub-object Code 6317 (Executed)
Paukūkalo Hawaiian Homes Community Association	Competitive Grant Award	\$25,000	County Grant Subsidy Sub-object Code 6317 (Executed)

14. What are your top three Department priorities for FY 2027? How does your Department’s budget reflect those priorities?

Priority 1: Safeguard and steward lands of natural and cultural significance across Maui County. This includes our continued cultural/historical work restoration work in the area of the Lahaina Royal Complex, designating wahi kapu or cultural preserve lands in ancestral burial areas (e.g. Waiānu‘ukole, Mapulehu, Kapukaulua, Kaulahao, Hāmākua Poko Kai, Ho‘okipa, and East Maui), and continuing to serve in an advisory capacity to the Planning Commissions

as they make decisions and recommendations to the Council that impact culturally significant lands and traditional lifestyles.

Priority 2: Increase community education and outreach. We are planning to increase access to community education in Hawaiian language, culture, and traditions for county employees and the larger community. We are expanding our outreach education – our archaeologists have been doing educational outreach to various grade schools on Maui and our Hawaiian specialists are going to be providing outreach education and online workshops this coming year. We also support broadening Makahiki Celebrations across Maui Nui to encourage cultural revitalization, economic opportunities, and community engagement.

Priority 3: Grow and strengthen our grants program to support non-profit organizations across Maui County with goals that align with our Department's strategic objectives. This includes guidance, assistance, and collaboration with our community non-profit grantees as a means of cultivating a powerful network of interconnected cultural stewards. Our grants symposium was a great success, and we hope to continue to expand this opportunity.

15. Did your Department apply for any grant funding in FY 2026? If yes, how much was received?

- **National Park Service, FY25 Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund, Preservation – Award \$2,000,000**
  - Grant Performance Period: 3/31/2026 to 3/31/2029
  - Semi-annual status reports
- **National Trust for Historic Preservation – Award \$10,000.00**
  - Grant Performance Period: 8/25/2025 to 8/25/2026
  - Final Report Due: 11/13/2026
- **C&S Wholesale Grocers – Award \$250.00**
  - No grant performance period, no final report due
- **Walmart Foundation, Spark Good Local Grant – Award \$1,000.00**
  - No grant performance period, no final report due
- **Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation, National Trust for Historic Preservation – Pending Decision**
  - Application Submitted March 2026 for \$15,000
  - Engaging school youth in discovering, documenting, and preserving wahi pana through interactive learning and STEAM
- **EPA Wetlands Grant Program – Pending Decision**
  - Application Submitted April 2026 for \$500,000
  - Federal Pass-Through Grant to support community wetland stewardship in South Maui, Central Maui, and Ukumehame-Olowalu.

- **Council on Library and Information Services – No Award**
  - Application denied in February 2026 for \$300,000
  - Funds would have been used towards a wahi pana digital storytelling project
- **ANA SEDS (Administration for Native Americans for Social and Economic Strategies) – No Award**
  - Application denied in December 2025 for \$300,000
  - Funds would have been applied to community resilience and healing in the Lahaina Royal Complex

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANTS RECEIVED TO DATE: \$2,011,250.00**

16. How much has your Department spent on Professional Services in FY 2026? What projects and consultants were funded under this line item?

**Under Professional Services, Sub-object Code 6132, our Department spent \$366,500 towards a contract amendment for the Lahaina Royal Complex Master Plan to G70. As of the date of this letter, the contract is in review and is anticipated to be executed by the end of April 2026.**

17. How much of your Department's expenditures in FY 2026 will be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the August 2023 Maui Wildfires? What amount of FY 2027 expenditures are expected to be reimbursed?

**N/A**

18. If your Department is receiving Federal grants, including pass-through grants:

- a. Provide the amount your Department is receiving for routine operations.

**N/A**

- b. Provide the amount your Department is receiving for August 2023 Maui Wildfires disaster recovery.

**National Park Service, FY25 Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund, \$2 million for grant performance period of March 2026 to March 2029.**

- c. Explain any factors that could jeopardize the receipt of Federal grants, including changes in Federal policies, compliance requirements, or expiration dates.

**Change in Federal policies could possibly jeopardize the receipt of these Federal funds.**

- d. Explain whether any Federal grants your Department has received or anticipates receiving have been reduced, suspended, terminated, or otherwise cut by the awarding agency.

**No reductions, suspensions, terminations, or cuts are anticipated.**

- i. For each affected grant, provide the amount affected, the effective date, the stated reason, and the impact on your Department.

N/A

- e. Explain how your Department will adjust if it does not receive the anticipated Federal grant funding.

**If anticipated Federal grant funding is not received, the project will be deferred. Since this Federal funding supports construction projects for restoration at the Lahaina Royal Complex, any funding not received may be requested at a later date of the Administration and Council.**

19. If your Department received funding to repair or replace equipment, locations, and structures destroyed in the wildfires, provide the current status for each. If there are items still pending repair or replacement, provide the estimated cost and timeline for the repair or replacement.

N/A

20. If your Department is managing a Council-initiated condition or appropriation in FY 2026, explain any challenges your Department faced in implementing the condition or appropriation and what information would have assisted you.

**The Council-initiated appropriation for Mālama Kakanilua, ‘Āina Kūko‘a o Waiohuli Kai for \$200,000 has been successfully executed for a one-year grant period of January 2026 to December 2026. The Department receives regular updates via e-mail from this non-profit organization and mandatory quarterly reports. The representatives of this organization have been attending all grant meetings for our department’s grantees and they remain in good standing in regards to their paperwork. Our Department is planning a site visit this summer. We are watchful for additional outside funding that may be available to continue to support this excellent program beyond their line-item**

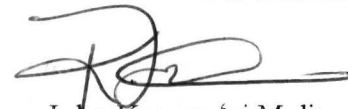
**grant this year and have actively applied for federal pass-through grants to support their project.**

**For ground penetrating radar and drone LiDAR, the budget appropriation of \$74,000 was not enough to cover the overall expense. The estimates we received for these pieces of equipment with the capabilities required by our archaeologists' specifications, the software to run this equipment, physical maintenance, and training was approximately \$180,000.**

**The assessment for TMK (2)2-3-001:023, Keahuaiwi, also known as the Von Tempsky Parcel, the Department of 'Ōiwi Resources was invited to a Kula Community meeting on August 27, 2025, to present to Councilmember Sugimura and the Upcountry community about the cultural and historic significance of this area. On August 27, 2025, Deputy Director, County Principal Archaeologist, Dr. Janet Six, and GIS/Field Archaeologist, Layne Krause, attended this meeting to discuss the significance of Keahuaiwi. At that meeting, our department provided findings from their initial archaeological field report, including historical research, contemporary photographs, and findings of their preliminary field inspection. Our understanding is that any further archaeological or environmental studies should be tied to a potential project. The preliminary report from our department did not require \$800,000 and that funding remains unspent. If there are any future plans by the County of Maui for possible development or other projects (e.g. water source needs) at Keahuaiwi, these funds could be redirected at that time.**

Thank you for this opportunity to provide answers to the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget questions from the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee. Should you have additional questions or require further clarification, please contact me, Director Molitau, at ext. 9117, or Deputy Director Robinson at ext. 6179. The Department of 'Ōiwi Resources main line is (808) 270-1719.

Na'u nō me ke aloha,



John Kaponō'ai Molitau, Director  
Department of 'Ōiwi Resources

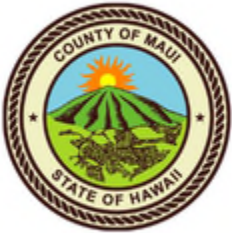
cc: Josiah Nishita, Managing Director  
Lesley Milner, Budget Director

## BFED Committee

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**From:** Lesley J. Milner <lesley.j.milner@co.maui.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 6, 2026 6:28 PM  
**To:** BFED Committee; John K. Molitau  
**Cc:** Michelle L. Santos; Ezekiel I. Kalua; Kristina Angeline C. Cabbat; Tiare P. Horner; Janina E. Agapay; Kekai Robinson; Deanna L. Thyssen  
**Subject:** RE: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1) (OWR-01)  
**Attachments:** (BFED-1)(OWR-01).pdf

Aloha,  
Please see attached correspondence. Thank you.  
-Lesley



Lesley J.C. Milner

Budget Director

Office of the Mayor

808-270-8239

Lesley.j.milner@co.maui.hi.us

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**From:** BFED Committee <BFED.Committee@mauicounty.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 23, 2026 10:01 PM  
**To:** John K. Molitau <john.k.molitau@co.maui.hi.us>  
**Cc:** Michelle L. Santos <michelle.santos@co.maui.hi.us>; Ezekiel I. Kalua <zeke.kalua@co.maui.hi.us>; Lesley J. Milner <lesley.j.milner@co.maui.hi.us>; Kristina Angeline C. Cabbat <kristina.cabbat@co.maui.hi.us>; Tiare P. Horner <tiare.p.horner@co.maui.hi.us>; Janina E. Agapay <janina.e.agapay@co.maui.hi.us>; Kekai Robinson <kekai.robinson@co.maui.hi.us>; Deanna L. Thyssen <Deanna.Thyssen@co.maui.hi.us>  
**Subject:** PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1) (OWR-01)