

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
Mayor

DAVID C. GOODE
Director

ROWENA M. DAGDAG-ANDAYA
Deputy Director

Telephone: (808) 270-7845
Fax: (808) 270-7955



GLEN A. UENO, P.E., P.L.S.
Development Services Administration

CARY YAMASHITA, P.E.
Engineering Division

JOHN R. SMITH, P.E.
Highways Division

COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET, ROOM NO. 434
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

January 22, 2018

Mr. Sananda K. Baz *SB*
Budget Director
County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793

Honorable Alan M. Arakawa
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Riki Hokama, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee
Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Hokama:

**SUBJECT: AMENDING FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET: DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS (REMOVAL OF TREES ON PI'HOLO ROAD)
(BF112)**

This is in response to your letter dated January 18, 2018, in which you request information related to the proposed budget amendment for the emergency removal of dead trees along Pi'iholo Road. In response to your requests, the Department of Public Works (Department) offer the following:

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COUNTY COUNCIL

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL
[Signature]
ACTING MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
1/23/18
Date

Mr. Sananda K. Baz
Honorable Alan M. Arakawa
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1. *Explain why the removal of the trees on Pi'iholo Road is being declared an emergency. How long has the Department known about the condition of the trees and the hazards they create?*

It should be noted that all matters relating to the maintenance of trees along County roadways and property are managed by the County Arborist under the Department of Parks and Recreation.

A tree removal project managed by and budgeted by the Department of Parks and Recreation was completed in August, 2017 to remove approximately 20 eucalyptus trees along Pi'iholo Road. Any additional tree removal work in the area would require additional funding.

The Department's Highways Division responds to callouts as they relate to trees that have fallen, creating obstructions within the County Right-of-Way. Since the completion of the tree removal project in August, 2017, the Department's Highways Division has responded to at least ten (10) other callouts for felled trees falling along Pi'iholo Road.

Factors considered in the emergency declaration included the following:

- National Weather Service outlook of above average rainfall during the months of October, 2017 to April, 2018;
- Age of the trees and their shallow/weak root systems;
- Saturated soils combined with windy weather allow for roots to move in the soil when wind pushes a tree; and
- Number and frequency of callouts to Pi'iholo Road in response to fallen trees blocking the right-of way.

2. *Has the Department or the County issued any warnings to Pi'iholo Ranch providing notice that the dead trees on its property may pose an imminent threat to life and property of passing motorists or pedestrians? Explain.*

Pursuant to Maui County Code, Section 12.24A.090 relating to Hazardous Trees and Shrubs, the Department of Parks and Recreation is charged with providing notification to landowners of any hazardous conditions made by trees or shrubs planted on private property.

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We defer to the Department of Parks and Recreation for additional response to this question.

3. *Explain the procurement process for obtaining the bids.*

Eight (8) contractors were contacted to submit proposals for the emergency tree removal work. These contractors have previously bid on tree removal projects with the County, or were site work contractors who expressed an interested in submitting a bid.

Contract documents included bidding requirements, contract specifications, special provisions, a sample traffic-control plan, location maps, a proposal form, and general terms and conditions. Contractors were asked to bid on two (2) bid alternatives as described in your letter to the Department dated January 18, 2018. The documents were emailed to all contractors on December 7, 2017.

Bidders were invited to attend a pre-bid meeting on Piiholo Road on December 12, 2017. Five (5) contractors attended the meeting and representatives from Piiholo Ranch were present. Responses to questions arising from the pre-bid meeting were sent to bidders in an addendum on December 12, 2017.

The bid opening was on December 13, 2017. Two (2) contractors declined to submit a bid, two (2) did not respond to emails or calls, and four (4) bids were received.

4. *Provide a copy of the agreement between the County and Piiholo Ranch for cutting the trees and allowing the green waste and cut or fallen trees to remain on the Ranch's property.*

The County has been working with Piiholo Ranch and their attorney on developing a Right-of-Entry (ROE) agreement. We anticipate a signed agreement within days of the Council approval of either Option A or B, which will necessitate language in the ROE to reflect the option chosen.

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If you have any questions, please contact me at Ext. 7845.

Sincerely,



DAVID C. GOODE
Director of Public Works

DCG:RMDA:jso

Attachment

cc: Engineering Division
Kaala Buenconsejo, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation
Keith Regan, Managing Director
Corporation Counsel

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