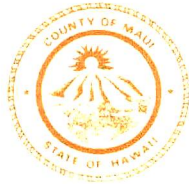


**RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.**  
Mayor

**JOSIAH NISHITA**  
Managing Director



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.mauicounty.gov](http://www.mauicounty.gov)

RECEIVED  
2024 MAR 15 AM 10:39

OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY CLERK

REFERENCE NO. BD-BA 24-71

March 15, 2024

Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr.  
Mayor, County of Maui  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Alice L. Lee, Chair  
and Members of the Maui County Council  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

 3-15-24  
Mayor Date

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

**SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET  
(APPENDIX A, PART I, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND  
HUMAN CONCERNS, AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT,  
HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND)**

On behalf of the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, I am transmitting a proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI, APPENDIX A, PART I, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS, AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT, HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND."

The purpose of the proposed bill is to amend the Fiscal Year ("FY") 2024 Budget Appendix A, Part I, Department of Housing and Human Concerns, to add a new appropriation for American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Homeowner Assistance Fund in the amount of \$16,425,000.

These funds are a supplemental award from the State of Hawai'i to assist homeowners impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The State elected to

Alice L. Lee, Chair  
March 15, 2024  
Page 2

reprogram the remaining funds of the Oahu allocation to the County of Maui. The State Budget and Finance Department has worked to amend the State Plan to allow for homeowners in Lāhainā to be presumptively eligible because, as a tourist destination, it was economically impacted by COVID. The federal government has also relaxed the eligibility to allow for more people to be able to receive the funding.

A contract with Catholic Charities for the original funding of \$8,060,550, which was added to the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget by Ordinance 5332, is now in final review. The vendor's attorney has approved their signing as soon as the pending changes have been made, and they expect to open the program to applicants in April. The contract will be amended to add additional funds once the program is up and running.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. Should you have any questions, please contact me at ext. 8239.

Sincerely,



LESLEY MILNER  
Interim Budget Director

Attachments

cc: Lori Tshako, Director of Housing and Human Concerns