

WATER AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

October 6, 2025

Online Only via Teams

CONVENE: 1:34 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Tom Cook, Chair
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Member
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Member
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member
Councilmember Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins, Member

EXCUSED: Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member

STAFF: Keone Hurdle, Legislative Analyst
Jarret Pascual, Legislative Analyst
Carla Nakata, Legislative Attorney
Lori Ann Tengan, Committee Secretary
Lenora Dinneen, Council Services Assistant Clerk
Ryan Martins, Council Ambassador

Residency Area Office:

Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, East Maui Residency Area Office
Roxanne Morita, Council Aide, Lāna‘i Residency Area Office
Buddy Almeida, Council Aide, Makawao-Ha‘ikū-Pā‘ia Residency Area Office
Bill Snipes, Council Aide, South Maui Residency Area Office

ADMIN.: Caleb Rowe, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation
Counsel
Nancy Zhao, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation
Counsel
Marcy Martin, Director, Department of Finance
Guy Hironaka, Real Property Management Specialist, Department of Finance

OTHERS: (18) additional attendees

PRESS: *Akakū: Maui Community Television, Inc.*

CHAIR COOK: . . .(gavel). . . Will the Water and Infrastructure Committee of October 6, 2025, please come to order. The time is now 1:34 p.m. May I ask all participants, please silence all noisemaking devices. I’m your Chair, Tom Cook. Members, per the Sunshine

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Law, please identify by name who, if anyone, is in the room, vehicle, or workspace with you today, exclusive of minors. I would also like to ask the department representatives who have joined online to please turn on your cameras when it's your turn to speak. Now, I'd like to introduce the Committee Members. Committee Vice-Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura, good afternoon.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good afternoon, Chair. Looking forward to a productive meeting. Thank you.

CHAIR COOK: Councilmember Gabe Johnson, good afternoon.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Good afternoon, Chair. Good afternoon, Chair, Councilmembers, community members. There's no testifiers at the Lānaʻi District Office, and I'm alone at my side of the office, and I'm here and ready to work. Mahalo.

CHAIR COOK: Council Chair Alice Lee, good afternoon.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Good afternoon, Chair, and talofa.

CHAIR COOK: Talofa. Councilmember Tamara Paltin is excused, Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez is excused, and Councilmember Shane Sinenci is excused. Councilmember Nohelani Uʻu-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER UʻU-HODGINS: Talofa, Chair. Talofa, everyone.

CHAIR COOK: From the Department of Finance, we have Director Marcy Martin. We have Guy Hironaka from Real Property, Manager V.

MR. HIRONAKA: Good afternoon, Chair.

CHAIR COOK: From Corporation Counsel, we have Deputy Corporation Counsel Caleb Rowe, and also Deputy Corporation Counsel Nancy Zhao.

MR. ROWE: Good afternoon, Chair.

MS. ZHAO: Good afternoon, Chair.

CHAIR COOK: From OCS, our Committee Staff, Keone Hurdle, Jarret Pascual, Lori Ann Tengan, Carla Nakata, and Lei Dinneen. Please see the last page of your agenda for information on meeting connectivity.

COUNCILMEMBER UʻU-HODGINS: Chair, Member Kama is on the . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

CHAIR COOK: Oh. And good afternoon, Member Kama. My apologies.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha ‘auinalā, Chair. And talofa to everyone there in *Akakū* land. I’m in my workspace, I am alone, and I have two adults in the next room. So, good afternoon, everyone. Aloha.

ITEM 15: RESOLUTION 25-177, AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF STATE’S INTEREST IN ALULIKE-KAONOULU STREET REMNANT LOT AND ABANDONMENT OF THE LOT AS A COUNTY PUBLIC HIGHWAY (KĪHEI)

CHAIR COOK: Good afternoon, everyone. We have one item on today’s agenda, WAI-15 on Resolution 25-177, Authorizing Acceptance of the State’s Interest in Alulike-Kaonoulu Street Remnant Lot and Abandonment of the Lot as a County Public Highway, in Kīhei. Members, if there are no objections, I would like to take testimony after receiving opening comments on WAI-15?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR COOK: Thank you, Members. Let’s begin. Resolution 25-177 authorizes acceptance of the state’s interest in Alulike-Kaonoulu Street remnant lot and abandonment of the lot as a County public highway. Resolution 25 [sic] authorizes the County to accept any interest the State of Hawai’i may have in the Alulike-Kaonoulu Street remnant lot in Kīhei via quitclaim deed. This resolution also authorizes the abandonment of the lot as a County public highway, as it is no longer needed for roadway purposes. Accepting the State’s interest ensures clear title to the property, allowing the County to manage, maintain, or repurpose the parcel. Members, this roadway remnant has been a longstanding issue in South Maui. The roadway remnant was formerly part of a public road, and abuts the properties of the Jewish Congregation of Maui Inc. and Maui Bay Villas. During the construction of Kaonoulu Estate subdivision in 1989, the roadway remnant was created. In 2020 and 2021, this road remnant was a particular point of discussion when the Maui Planning Commission and the Council considered a change in zoning and a community plan amendment for the Jewish Congregation of Maui. Members, as you may recall, the Council adopted Resolution 24-106, urging the Mayor to acquire this roadway remnant for potential use by the Jewish Congregation of Maui Inc. A copy of the resolution can be found under Granicus number 3. As with that prior resolution, this ensures the property can be put to its best use, such as for off-street parking, access improvements, or other community-oriented purposes. At this time, Director Martin or Mr. Hironaka, would you like to provide any opening comments? *(pause)* You’re on mute, Marcy.

MS. MARTIN: Thank you, Chair. We’re here to assist you where we can.

CHAIR COOK: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Hironaka, any opening comments?

MR. HIRONAKA: No comment.

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CHAIR COOK: Okay. Thank you, Director Martin and Mr. Hironaka. Before we begin our discussion, let's see if anyone would like to provide testimony on WAI-15. Staff, are there any testifiers?

. . . OPEN PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR WAI-15 . . .

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, there's no individual signed up to testify. Would you like me to do a last call?

CHAIR COOK: Please.

MR. PASCUAL: If anyone would like to testify, please come up to the podium or raise your hand on Teams. This is final call. The countdown is three...two...one. Seeing none. Chair, no one has indicated that they wish to testify.

CHAIR COOK: Members, seeing there are no individuals wishing to testify, without objections, I will now close oral testimony.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

. . . CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR WAI-15 . . .

CHAIR COOK: As a reminder, written testimony will continue to be accepted into the record. Members, I'm proposing two rounds of three-minute questions per Member. Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR COOK: Thank you, Members. Let's begin with Councilmember Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you for doing this, and it is something that we asked the Mayor to do, so action is being taken. Just a question for Corp. Counsel. Are you going to sign the reso? It's unsigned.

MR. ROWE: Thank you. I...I did transmit a signed copy to the Committee, I believe it was last week Friday. So, I have signed off on it.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

MR. ROWE: I just think it didn't make it onto Granicus.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That's important. And I guess the Jewish church is aware, and is it Mr. Hironaka...has been in communication with them?

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MR. HIRONAKA: Councilmember...Councilmember Sugimura, yes. Yeah, we've been in contact with them for the last 15 years working on this, so...

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: That is a good answer. And I've been there, I can...I can just see that they need to use this for parking, so I approve. Wait for your recommendation, Chair.

CHAIR COOK: Thank you, Member Sugimura. Councilmember Johnson, would you have any questions for our resource people?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sure. Thank you. Just...so the intention is to keep it or turn it into parking, right? Is that the intention?

CHAIR COOK: My under...okay. Corp. Counsel?

MR. ROWE: So, this...this resolution itself is just acceptance of the lot and to abandon its use as a public highway. I believe that there is an intention to transfer it eventually, but that...that's not what we're doing today. But that...that will come up later.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Chair Cook, it looked...it looked like you wanted to add to that. Did you? Otherwise, I'll move on.

CHAIR COOK: I could add to it, just that my office has been working for the last three years also with them to be able to use this for on-street parking, so they're not doing off-street parking. And the neighbors are in agreement. A number of things need to be done for the County to transfer it to the Jewish Congregation Church. This is the very substantive first step. Hopefully, the other steps won't take too long.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thanks for that clarification, and I don't have any further questions.

CHAIR COOK: Councilmember Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair, for bringing this to our attention. I remember attending the Jewish Congregation Church about 15 years ago, and they were talking to me about that, and I thought...well, when I went to visit them, it was on a different occupation I was in. And I thought, well, thank you for sharing that with me. And at the time, I didn't think about anything. I just thought, okay, so that's what they need, but I'm not sure I can do anything. But here we are, 15 years later, and I think it's just amazing that, you know, I can now be here, and do something, and give them what they had need of 15 years ago. So, thank you, Chair. And I'm ready to accept whatever recommendation you have. Thank you.

CHAIR COOK: Councilmember...Chair Lee, any questions?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No questions. Thanks.

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CHAIR COOK: Councilmember U‘u-Hodgins, any questions?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: No questions, Chair. Happy to support.

CHAIR COOK: Thank you. The Chair’s kind of comment, I would like to acknowledge all the work that Mr. Hironaka has done over the years. This is kind of a milestone, in that getting the State to do the quitclaim deed and the County...hopefully this will become a mechanism to some extent. Every one of these remnant roads has its own nuance, but there are many of them in all of our different districts, and here’s hoping that we can resolve these issues with other roads in the future. But all the people that worked on this, I’m very grateful for their getting it to the finish line for this point, where now it’s the County’s opportunity to address it with the neighboring landowners. Did I say anything out of school, Mr. Hironaka? Okay. . . .*(laughing)*. . . He’s shaking his head. Seeing no further discussion. Okay. Now the Chair would like to entertain a motion to recommend adoption of Resolution 25-177.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: So move.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Second.

CHAIR COOK: Motion made by Councilmember Sugimura, seconded by Councilmember U‘u-Hodgins to recommend adoption of Resolution 25-177. Members, any discussion before I move on to my amendment summary form?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: No discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: No discussion.

CHAIR COOK: Members, your Chair would like to entertain a motion to substitute Resolution 25-177 with the attached proposed CD1 version, incorporating the amendments referred to in the ASF’s description.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: So move.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Second.

CHAIR COOK: Motion made by Member Sugimura and seconded by Member U‘u-Hodgins to substitute Resolution 25-177 with a proposed attached CD1 version. Members, this ASF amends the resolution’s title, corrects a Maui County Code reference, incorporates nonsubstantive and technical revisions for clarity, consistency, and style. Members, any discussion? Seeing none. Seeing no further discussion, all in favor, raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, that’s six “ayes,” zero “noes,” and Members, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, and Sinenci excused. The motion passes.

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VOTE: AYES: Chair Cook, Vice-Chair Sugimura, and Councilmembers Johnson, Kama, Lee, and U‘u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmembers Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez and Sinenci.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: SUBSTITUTE Resolution 25-177

CHAIR COOK: Thank you, Members. We are now back to the main motion as amended. Any further discussion? Seeing none. All in favor, raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, that’s six “ayes,” zero “noes,” Members Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, and Sinenci excused. The motion passes.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Cook, Vice-Chair Sugimura, and Councilmembers Johnson, Kama, Lee, and U‘u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmembers Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez and Sinenci.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending ADOPTION of Resolution 25-177, CD1.

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CHAIR COOK: Thank you, Members. This item will move on to full Council's consideration. Members, this concludes today's Water and Infrastructure Committee meeting. Thank you, everyone, for being here and for a great meeting. The time is now 1:47 p.m. This meeting is now adjourned. . . .(*gavel*). . .

ADJOURN: 1:47 p.m.

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Transcribed by: Daniel Schoenbeck

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CERTIFICATION

I, Daniel Schoenbeck, hereby certify that pages 1 through 8 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 31st day of October 2025, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Daniel Schoenbeck