

**BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 23, 2025

Online Only via Teams

CONVENE: 10:08 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Tom Cook, Member
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Member
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member (Out 8:50 p.m.)
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member (Out 5:45 p.m.)
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member
Councilmember Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins, Member

STAFF: Kirsten Szabo, Legislative Analyst
Pauline Martins, Senior Committee Secretary
James Krueger, Senior Legislative Analyst
Peter Hanano, Legislative Attorney
Richelle Kawasaki, Deputy Director, Office of Council Services
Yvette Bouthillier, Senior Committee Secretary
Jarret Pascual, Legislative Analyst
Clarissa MacDonald, Legislative Analyst
Lenora Dinneen, Council Services Assistant Clerk
Jean Pokipala, Council Services Assistant Clerk
Ryan Martins, Council Ambassador

Residency Area Office (RAO):

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

ADMIN.: Lesley Milner, Budget Director, Office of the Mayor
Tiare Horner, Budget Specialist, Office of the Mayor
Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel
Kristie Wrigglesworth, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

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OTHERS: Cecile Powell, Recycling Specialist, Department of Environmental Management
Hallie Hunt
Katie Whitarcar
Nettie Aquino
Eva Tanuntilo
Lesley Milner
Leilani Pulmano
Shayne Agawa, Director, Department of Environmental Management
Rhonda Alexander-Monkres
Carolyn Auwelo
The Royal House of Hawai'i
Tiare Lawrence
Eric Nakagawa, Wastewater Reclamation Division Chief, Department of
Environmental Management
Steven Van Bueren
Kristell Corpuz
Douglas Bigley
Grant Bigley
Jasee Law
Others (11)

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Good morning, everybody. Welcome to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. It is now 10:08. Good morning, everybody. Welcome. My name is...Chair of this Committee, Yuki Lei Sugimura, and I wanted to welcome you. And we conduct this meeting in accordance to the Sunshine Law. And as a reminder, if your name is called and if you're not in the Chamber--it looks like it might be only Member Rawlins-Fernandez--please notify us who is in the room with you, workspace, and minors do not need to be identified. I'm going to call on Chair Lee to give us our morning greeting.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, actually, Chair --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- the...the better expert on this one is Pro Tem Kama.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Pro Tem Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes. So, the greeting for this morning is guten morgen, and Chair Lee will tell you all about it.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Guten morgen. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Member Keani Rawlins-Fernandez is online, just in case you didn't see.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Guten morgen is a German greeting, and the reason why I mentioned Pro Tem Kama is she spent four years in Germany. Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, she did.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. So, good morning, and looking forward to your meeting.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's why she likes black licorice. She's the only person I know who likes black licorice.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, really? Is that German?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .(*inaudible*). . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is it? It is? Okay. Well, how do you even say it now?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, I say guten morgen, but she says it better.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Guten morgen is...is...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Already you changing it. Okay. But that's okay. Hey, by the time it gets to Tom Cook, it's...you know, it'll be different again.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Or Member Sinenci, he'll put a Hawaiian...Hawaiian slang to it. All right. Next we have Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha kakahiaka, and guten morgen kākou.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Good morning, Chair, Councilmembers, community Members. There's no testifiers at the Lāna'i District Office. Guten morgen, and I'm here and ready to work.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka kākou, mai Moloka'i Nui a Hina. I'm at the Moloka'i District Office, alone on my side of the office, and there are currently no testifiers here. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aloha kakahiaka, guku [*sic*] morgen. There's no testifiers in the Kihei District office --

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, Chair Lee was right.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- at the moment. That was not even a guess.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Guten morgen, everyone. *(echoing)*

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Hey, aloha kakahiaka, and guten morgen. I just wanted to say that Uncle Don's German daughter, she's flying in from Germany tonight. So, guten morgen.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, so can you practice on her --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: To her, yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- and let us know tomorrow how to say it?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you, Uncle Don. You can enlighten us tomorrow. From the Office of the Mayor, we want to thank Director Milner. I guess she's not with us. She's upstairs. Department of Corporation Counsel, Kristina Toshikiyo, as well as Kristie Wrigglesworth. Committee Secretary is Pauline Martins; Kirsten Szabo, Legislative Analyst; James Krueger, Senior Legislative Analyst; Jarret Pascual and Clarissa MacDonald, both Legislative Analysts; and Peter Hanano, Legislative Attorney; Richelle Kawasaki, our Deputy Director of Council Services and an attorney; Lei Dinneen, Council Services Assistant Clerk. Please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity.

**ITEM 1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET FOR THE
 COUNTY OF MAUI**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And Members...for Members attending today's BFED Committee meeting, we have one item on the agenda today, which is BFED-1, Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for the County of Maui. And we are in...we'll continue our deliberations on the Fiscal Year '26 Budget. And we'll start on discussions with...we'll start with presentations from department...or no, departments. We'll start with Department of Human Concerns, followed by Liquor Control, Housing, Management, Office of the Mayor, Department of 'Oiwī Resources, Police, Planning, and Prosecuting Attorney. So, that's a lot of departments that I hope we can get through with Members. And so, at this time, I would like to first ask James and...or OCS, if you could present Exhibit 1 from day two of what we discussed up to yesterday.

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MR. KRUEGER: Thank you, Chair. We're starting the screen share now. So, just like yesterday, we've prepared Exhibit 1, just the pages for the departments that the Committee discussed and...and was impacted yesterday by the Committee's decisions. So...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Just...just one second. Did you pass it out?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, they're printing it in larger print.

MR. KRUEGER: And...and we'll...we'll make sure to upload it on Granicus for the Members' information as well. So, just a brief overview. So, it starts with the Department of Environmental Management. You can see the...the cuts and the increases that the Committee went through for...for this Department and for the other departments we discussed. Sorry, I'm just scrolling through real quickly. I...I got some things to note, that...that we did do some fringe calculations as it relates for the...for the special funds in this Department. So, you'll see some of those changes as well, but...but we'll update them as needed. Here's Finance. So, the Department...so the...the Committee also went over the Department of Finance, which...and including Countywide costs. So, you'll see it in the Countywide costs portion, more fringe adjustments based on the Committee's...the Committee's motions and...and just actions. I think one thing to note at the Countywide costs portion is that we're also already making adjustments to the supplemental transfers to account for some of the changes the Committee made to EP&S, as well as to Solid Waste. And then the sheet also goes over Fire and Public Safety. So, you can see the changes that the Committee made there. So...so, just those three departments for today's Exhibit 1 distributable. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Members. And Ms. Martins is passing out Exhibit 1 for your information, and you can look at it. If you have questions, let us know. Thank you very much. Did...Member Rawlins-Fernandez, did you get Exhibit 1 emailed to you? Yeah...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Not yet.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Are you...are you going to email it to them? Yeah? Okay. They're going to email it to you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, at this time, I'm going to continue on with today. I just want you to know that I...I believe--or I would like to complete as many departments as possible. I've already asked if we can consider a dinner for you if we're not able to complete that whole array of departments because I think we need to finish by Friday so we don't have to work on Saturday. So, that's my...my goal. So, today--we have testifiers, right? So, I'm going to go into...okay. So, testifiers wanting to provide

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testimony should sign up with Staff, join the online meeting via Teams link, or call in to the phone number noted on today's agenda. Testimony on the budget is not limited to the department scheduled for today. Written testimony is encouraged and can be submitted via eComment link at maucounty.us/agendas as well. For individuals wishing to testify via Teams, please raise your hand by clicking on the raise-your-hand button. If calling in, please follow the prompts via phone, star-5 to raise and lower your hand, and star-6 to mute and unmute. Staff will add your name to the testifier's list in the order testifiers sign up or raise their hands. For those on Teams, Staff will have your hand...Staff will lower your hand once your name is added. Staff will then call for...call you by name, what you're logged in, or the last four digits of your phone number when it is your time to testify. At...at that time, Staff will also enable your phone number...and...and...microphone and video. Please ensure your name appears in Microsoft Teams as the name you prefer to be referred to, or as anonymous if you wish to testify anonymously. If you're in-person, please notify Staff that you would like to testify anonymously. Otherwise, please state your name for the record at the beginning of your testimony. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes per person...per...per person, and if you're not done testifying, you will get 30 seconds to complete. And if you're still testifying beyond that point, I will kindly ask you to complete your testimony. Once you're done testifying and if you do not wish to testify, you can also view this meeting on *Akakū* Channel 53, Facebook Live, or maucounty.us/agendas. We will do our best to take each person up in an orderly fashion. Staff, please call the first testifier.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the first testifier is Cecile Powell, to be followed by Hallie Hunt.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning, Ms. Powell.

. . . OPEN PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

MS. POWELL: Good morning. Testing the mic. Aloha, Chair. Thank you. Aloha, Councilmembers. My name is Cecile Powell. I am the Recycling Section Manager. I am testifying as a County employee, and I work for the Department of Environmental Management in the EP&S Division, Recycling Section. I'm testifying to provide clarification on an expansion request of \$400,000 for the Recycling Grants Program that is in position of being cut as of yesterday. So, the EP&S Division actually has three sections. We have our own Staff. We have our own budget. We have our own programs, including our own grants programs. So, the Environmental Programming Section is the one that had all of the OED grants transferred to. The Recycling Section is not *(echoing)*--wow. Yeah, that happened to yours one too, huh? Anyways, the Recycling Section, we have our grants program. The Recycling Grants Program, I don't know if you recall the testifiers. There were several testifiers on April 15th in support of the Recycling Grants Program. We are not involved with the OED grants that were transferred. We are fully staffed and capable of handling the additional bandwidth. And the effect on our programs is actually directly related to our diversion opportunities that we've been working with the community in development. The expansion request is specific to increase grants opportunity...each grant amount, not necessarily increasing the amount of grants. We did identify that a lot of the development of on-island recycling

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processes does require new or modifications to existing infrastructure that is required to develop these pilots so that we can move in the direction of not being reliant on the global commodity market for our recyclables materials, but more so we have it on-island, and it's more of a resource that folks can utilize on-island. I hope that helps clarify. I'm here with questions if you have, and thank you so much for your time.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Anybody have questions for Ms. Powell? Did you? Yeah. Okay. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: How much...what was the number again? Was it 400,000 that was cut from you, from that division?

MS. POWELL: Yes. It is for 919730B-6317.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: You got that memorized, nice. Okay. So, you're saying that please don't cut it, you can use it, is what you're saying. You have the bandwidth, you have...fully staffed, you guys are ready to go? Okay.

MS. POWELL: Affirmative, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thanks for that response. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other questions? Seeing none. Okay. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I'm sorry. Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Just a quick question. So, are you guys the guys that tows all the cars away?

MS. POWELL: That's the Abandoned Vehicles and Metals Section, that's not the Recycling Section.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

MS. POWELL: It's one of the three sections under EP&S.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, it does...does...does fall under EP&S, but in the abandoned car section?

MS. POWELL: Yes. EP&S has three sections. The first is AVM, Abandoned Vehicles and Metals. The second is Environmental Programming, which received the OED grants transfers. And then the Recycling Section, which is why I'm here.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Thank you. Next testifier, please.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next testifier is Hallie Hunt, to be followed by Katie Whiticar.

MS. HUNT: Good morning, Chair Sugimura and Members of the Committee. My name is Hallie Hunt, and I'm the Artistic Director for Adaptations Dance Theater, Maui's only professional contemporary dance company. This year marks ADT's 12th Anniversary as a nonprofit arts organization. For over a decade, we've been committed to making Maui a place where professional dance cannot only exist, but thrive. Through residencies, performances, educational programs, and community engagement, we've created over 120 performances, offered 100 artist contracts, and built a homegrown ecosystem that nurtures Maui dancers from student to professional. Today, I'm here to express my strong support for the proposed \$90,000 line item for Adaptations Dance Theater. With this funding, ADT will be able to continue offering employment for professional Maui dancers, allowing them to pursue their professional careers on island, providing world-class contemporary dance performances to our community, and expanding our signature Bring It Home, BIH concert at the historic Īao Theater to include a second season each year, doubling the opportunities we can offer both artists and audiences. BIH is more than a performance series, it's a long-term investment in Maui's creative economy and cultural life. In 2026, this expansion will allow us to offer two four-week residencies for dance artists, present six original performances at the historic Īao Theater, issue over 43 paid contracts to local and returning artists, engage 1,800 audience members, many of whom are kūpuna and students attending free or discounted thanks to our partnership with Wave of Harmony, and channel nearly \$93,000 in direct economic impact to local businesses through tourism, studio rentals, printing, and professional services. We develop local talent and build programs that reflect the values, diversity, and voices of Maui. Our dancers perform stories rooted in this place, created by the people who live here, who grew up dancing here, were taught here, and now teach dance here, and give back to this community in a multitude of ways. This expansion is not just possible, it's ready. We've spent 12 years laying the groundwork, and with this line item, we can offer year-round employment to our artists, reach new audiences, and further establish Maui as a destination for world-class, community-driven contemporary dance. On behalf of our board, our artists, and our community partners, I ask for your full support of ADT's \$90,000 line item in the Fiscal Year 2026 Mayor's Budget. With it, we'll continue honoring Maui's creative legacy and build an even stronger future for contemporary dance right here at home. Mahalo for your time and consideration. Any questions?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Any questions, Members? Seeing none.

MS. HUNT: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Next testifier.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next...Chair, the next testifier is Katie Whiticar, to be followed by Nettie Aquirio [sic].

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MS. WHITICAR: Good morning, Chair Sugimura and Members of the Budget Committee. My name is Katie Whitar, and I am here to voice my strong support of including Adaptations Dance Theater's \$90,000 line item in the Fiscal Year '26 Mayor's Budget. This critical funding would allow ADT to expand its Bring It Home Program, providing consistent professional work for Maui-based dance artists. I have been a dancer with ADT since 2016. I've taught in their youth programs, and am now an emerging choreographer with the company. I grew up in Wailuku, dancing at Maui Academy of Performing Arts alongside fellow ADT Members Ali McKeon-Pineo, Emily McKeon, and Maddie McGain. After graduating high school, I left Maui to pursue a professional dance career, earning my BA in dance from California State University, Long Beach. And then I worked professionally in Los Angeles after that. While working professionally in Los Angeles, in 2016, I was offered a contract that flew me back to Maui to perform in ADT's first Bring It Home dance concert. The opportunity was life-changing. Not only did it reconnect me to my home community and family and friends, but it showed me that professional dance work on Maui was possible. By 2018, I actually moved back home, thanks in large part to the consistency, the community, and the paid opportunities that ADT had offered. Paid opportunities for contemporary dancers and choreographers on Maui are rare. ADT's Bring It Home Program has been a vital platform for local artists like me to grow, not just as a professional performer, but as a leader, an educator, and a creator. Through Bring It Home, I recently choreographed my first professional piece, an experience that helped me shape my artistic voice and open new...new doors I never thought possible without leaving the island. My story is just one of many. This funding doesn't only impact my career. It supports a pipeline for dancers who grew up here, are growing up here now, and want to contribute meaningfully to our island's cultural life. ADT has invested in developing dancers into teaching artists and professional dancers, and professional teaching artists into professional choreographers. That kind of growth matters, both personally and professionally. Please support ADT's \$90,000 line item in the Fiscal Year '26 Budget, and help ensure that Maui dancers can continue to live and work in the community that raised them. Mahalo for your time and for your consideration.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MS. WHITICAR: Oh, sorry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Just a second.

MS. WHITICAR: Question?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Anybody have questions? Thank you.

MS. WHITICAR: Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next testifier.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next testifier is Nettie Aquirio [sic], to be followed by Eva Tanuntilo. Apologies if I mispronounce your name.

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MS. AQUINO: Aloha, everybody. Thank you for having me here today. I'm a newbie at this. If someone told me two years ago, I would be in front of you requesting for support for a cause for...that we didn't know was going to happen. So, first of all, I am Nettie Aquino. I am from Lāhainā, and I come in support of Nā Kia'i O Maui. I'm nervous. I wrote the whole speech. I forgot it. So, I'm just going to come from the heart, okay?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. AQUINO: First of all, from the devastation of the fire, we all know. We're out of the emergency, and we're now in the resilience and recovery stages right now. We have formed...or I have formed a nonprofit, boots on ground, no-nonsense organization that provides for the displaced families in Lāhainā and in Kula, and just recently, the flooding in Kīhei. Our mission is to provide service and assistance to any natural disasters and/or fires on Maui. So, the whole purpose of me being here is on the day of the fire, I also was affected. I could decide to be a victim, a survivor, or a fighter, and I chose to become a fighter. I showed up at the shelter, and then la-la, I became the leader. And then from there, my timeline, if you guys want more information, you guys can go on my website. But we have grown, and we are expanding. We are here, and my heart is pounding because I'm being transparent. I'm asking for support. From almost two years, we're almost two years, everybody, we make one year at Lāhainā Resource Recovery Center. We call it the LRRC, and that is for the displaced families. We provide household goods, we provide food, we provide daily essentials, we provide furnitures [sic]. We do exactly the same thing that CNHA do, without funding and support from any government. We have gone out to the community, and with the community and the people's trust, they have joined our journey to support, and Lāhainā will rise. And so, I am here asking for support in any line. I have sent you guys an email, and I did not know about this until last night because I'm such a new nonprofit. I didn't even know what a nonprofit was. All I knew was my heart was big, and I had to step in. I am faith-driven, and there have been many times I felt like I wanted to step away, and my akua just said, no, not yet. . . .(timer sounds). . . So, I am here just to say I will be here, and I will not quit until Lāhainā rises. We get to walk through Front Street once again. We're expanding to Lāhainā. I am asking for the rental lease of our current place right now because our grant ends this month, and we make one year in June. This June, Lāhainā Resource Recovery Center will celebrate serving 4,500 families. And so, some of you don't know me, but I am Auntie Nettie. . . .(timer sounds). . . And so I thank you guys all so much for allowing me to come. And I don't know what I was supposed to say, but they sound so professional.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Auntie Nettie.

MS. AQUINO: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, what amount are you asking for in the budget?

MS. AQUINO: So, I am asking...I have several lines, whatever you guys can do. The way I...I'm not a grant writer, everybody, I learned everything in the experience. And so, the way I

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did was I put down what I need, and if you can support, you support. If can, can. If you cannot, you cannot. I'm asking for right now, emergency today is our current rental lease at our current place at 150 Hāna Highway, and that's 120,000 for a year. We're here for one more year, and then we're going to move to Lāhainā, and be there for the next 10, 15 years. We're going to be there to serve Lāhainā.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you very much.

MS. AQUINO: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Anybody else? Member Paltin, then Chair Lee, then Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha, Aunty Nettie. Mahalo for everything that you do. I just...if...I...I wanted to clarify, if the lease is up this month, this money wouldn't be available until July. Is there a way to keep the space --

MS. AQUINO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- between now and July?

MS. AQUINO: So, I do have some extra funds to hold me for a month or two, but after that, I would have to find another way to support.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And...and you can find somebody to assistance [sic] you with the grant writing? Because even if it is line item, you still got to submit that.

MS. AQUINO: Correct. I do.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. All right. Thank you.

MS. AQUINO: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And you said you had several things. Was...what...what else was there?

MS. AQUINO: So, another thing is the relocation to Lāhainā. So, we are prepping in January 2026 to move to Lāhainā. We will be in Lāhainā in April 2026. I have my space only for two years.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: You have a space in Lāhainā because Harry and Jeanette Weinberg have plenty properties in Lāhainā.

MS. AQUINO: Correct. So, I have Weinberg. I have real estates. I have philanthropist people. I'm dipping in every solution. I do not have a land. I'm asking for Maui County if you had land, or any suggestions or connections to get me to Lāhainā.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. We're...we're hoping to open our Lāhainā residency area office soon, and we're going to share with Maui Adult Day Care Center. But once we open it, come by. It's where the old UH extension was on . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

MS. AQUINO: Oh, okay. Okay. Will do. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member...Chair Lee, then Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aloha. Thank you --

MS. AQUINO: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- thank you for coming. I think you're going to find that this Council is very supportive of what you're doing, and of you. As Member Paltin said, it'll be best that you find someone like another nonprofit that can handle the grant application and the grant reporting. And we call that an umbrella agency. And if you call our office, any one of us, we can give you, you know, suggestions on various nonprofits that do this service.

MS. AQUINO: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. And then, as far as other funding sources, have you tried Hawai'i Community Foundation?

MS. AQUINO: No, I have not.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You haven't. Okay. I suggest you do that because they have been very helpful with many, many, many organizations on Maui, especially Lāhainā. And they have been very generous. But again, it's helpful to have someone who has experience in writing for funding. Yeah. And so, good luck to you. And we certainly look forward to helping you in one way or another. Thank you.

MS. AQUINO: Thank you. I'll see you on the journey.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. And it is going to be a journey. Thank you for being here today. So, my question is, your grant writer --

MS. AQUINO: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- that you're going to be looking for.

MS. AQUINO: That would be me. I'm the grant writer. I'm everything.

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So, you're going to write your grant.

MS. AQUINO: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Have you gone through grant-writing training workshops?

MS. AQUINO: No, I have not.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Do you know of any other grant writers besides yourself that have written grants?

MS. AQUINO: Yes, I do.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Then you can get help from them.

MS. AQUINO: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. I know at one time the Office of Economic Development was doing workshop training, but maybe you should call them too. Because what they do is they go through the grant applications that...that the County has so that it's easy for you to follow. And then if you have questions, they're right there to answer the questions about anything you might have on that application. So, I would suggest you do that first so that you don't feel like you're...you become overwhelmed. A lot of people have become overwhelmed because of that process, but other people have told me once you go through it, then it's easier after that. So, we want it to be easy after that and not hard for you as you start to begin. And the other thing you mentioned was that you don't have any land yet --

MS. AQUINO: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- but you're...you're certainly looking towards Lāhainā and --

MS. AQUINO: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- and Member Paltin has told you, look her up when...at the time that they get their residency office established out there. It'd be a great thing to do. But also, the other thing is, are you on salary?

MS. AQUINO: I am on salary.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Or is this all...okay. Okay. Just wanted to make sure.

MS. AQUINO: That's what's keeping me afloat right now.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. I think aloha is great, but at some point in time it's like kakalina, yeah?

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MS. AQUINO: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: You run out. So, thank you. Thank you, Chair.

MS. AQUINO: Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good morning --

MS. AQUINO: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- Auntie Nettie. Good to see you again.

MS. AQUINO: Nice to meet you again.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes. Just for the Members' information, we...I went to her blessing, and we...we checked out the resource center that you have there. It's excellent. The shower/laundry bus that came.

MS. AQUINO: The trailer, hygiene trailer.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah. It has...it has laundry. It has showers. It has...it's ADA-compliant. I think that shows that she's a doer, right? And that's...that's kind of...you are the kind of folks that we want to kind of fund and help you because you know how to get things done. So, I really appreciate you coming down here and introducing yourself to us because where there's a will, there's a way. So, thank you so much for all the work you do.

MS. AQUINO: Thank you very much.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any other questions?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Last question, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I just thought about it as Member Johnson was speaking. Is your laundry facility ADA-compliant?

MS. AQUINO: Yes. Everything.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Perfect.

MS. AQUINO: I am certified at my site.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Perfect. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MS. AQUINO: Thank you very much.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much.

MS. AQUINO: Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Next testifier.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next testifier is Eva Tanuntilo, to be followed by Lesley Milner.

MS. TANUNTILO: Guten morgen, everyone. I want to thank you all for allowing me to testify. I...I'm a horrible testifier, so I wrote it out. So, I will read this the best I can. I'm a bed and breakfast owner. We have had our...our bed and breakfast has been licensed since 1998. We're actually the first license. It's our only property. It's our only income. And we're owner-occupied. My husband's 74, and I'm 62. As a bed and breakfast owner, we generally work from 5:30 to 7:30 every day, seven days a week. I sleep with the phone by my head just in case a guest needs anything. This is basically a 24-hour profession. It's not a complaint at all, it's simply a statement. Although running the bed and...along with running the bed and breakfast, which includes all of the cleaning, maintenance, administration, shopping, guest services, making lots of reservations, we also help out with our grandchildren, which includes often watching them after school, and any financial support we can give. All of this is within our owner-occupied home. I can't imagine that many people actually occupy their home as much as we do. With all this being said, we love that we can help our grandchildren, and we love our profession, and always have. Our occupancy is down the last couple years. If everything holds steady, it's going to continue to go down. Our occupancy in April was 60. I don't have anything in the summer that's over 20 percent. We're losing most of our international travelers daily. If they've made reservations, they're canceling or they're just not making them, especially the Canadians and the Germans. Our domestic travelers are tightening the belt. We have additional expenses associated with the property as B&B owners. Our insurance is much higher than a traditional owner-occupied home due to the increased liability. I just received a new estimate for my hurricane insurance, which is only one of the four I have to carry. It's increased from 1,200 a year to 5,000. As a bed and breakfast owner, our property taxes are already higher than the Owner-Occupied, coupled with losing the homeowners exemption. I believe that we actually pay the highest rate of any homeowner...home-occupied home in Maui County. In the big scheme of things, the County's budget is impacted very little by the taxes from the B&B. There's only 145 permitted or licensed B&Bs in Maui County. The permitting process has been available since 1997. So, in 28 years, there are only 145 permitted bed and breakfasts. Many of the 145 on the County website no longer exist. Between the fires, natural attrition, and new regulations, particularly pertaining to the requirement to live on the property for five years, becoming a licensed B&B is cumbersome and discouraging. I believe there will be much fewer in the additional years. As a licensed B&B, we already don't benefit

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from the homeowners exemption. We now contribute 3.56 percent of our room rates directly to Maui County through TAT and GET taxes. To continue to raise our property taxes will have very little effect on the Maui County budget, but it could have devastating effects on licensed B&Bs. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . In 1993, we purchased our property for 425. The same property was assessed at 1.9 this year. This may sound like a windfall, but it's only a windfall if one sells, and we have no intention of selling. To sell would also be losing our profession. Many of us have been doing this for a very long time. Selling would be retirement without the traditional retirement financial benefits. So, our retirement is to continue to run the bed and breakfast. I am sure some, including ourselves, were hoping to do so on a smaller scale. As everything, including property taxes, include to raise, even that, the scale we're running . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . at now is not sustainable. The increased property taxes --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MS. TANUNTILO: -- are not reflective of the decreased...thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. Are you done? Are you almost done?

MS. TANUNTILO: Oh, I thought that bell was telling me I was done.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, actually, that was the 30 additional seconds, so you have one --

MS. TANUNTILO: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- line to finish?

MS. TANUNTILO: I have just a few more. Okay. In my opinion, the more fair assessment would be to grant us Owner-Occupied rates for only the first tier to acknowledge our owner-occupied portion of our home, and Commercialized Residential rates for the assessed amount above Tier 1, values greater than 1.5 million. And this is off...but I just really want to thank Councilmember Alice Lee for all of her support 30 years ago with the bed and breakfast law. It truly brings tears to my eyes to see you continue your dedication to Maui County for so long. I know what a selfless act this is.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. We love her too.

MS. TANUNTILO: Thank you. We do too.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, I have a question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Good morning, Ms. Tanuntilo.

MS. TANUNTILO: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Just a clarifying question. Do you stay in your home, or did you convert an 'ohana?

MS. TANUNTILO: Oh, no, we live in our home.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. And the guests stay...

MS. TANUNTILO: And the rooms are within our home.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MS. TANUNTILO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thanks for that clarification. Thank you, Chair. Any other questions --

MS. TANUNTILO: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Members? Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here again, Ms. Tanuntilo. So --

MS. TANUNTILO: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- so, you mentioned in your testimony that you pay hurricane insurance, which is one out of four --

MS. TANUNTILO: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- insurances you pay.

MS. TANUNTILO: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: What are the other three?

MS. TANUNTILO: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Besides...

MS. TANUNTILO: We pay...we pay liability, personal liability, bed and breakfast liability. We pay the normal homeowner's insurance, and we pay a separate insurance to cover the County for the million dollars.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay. Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Chair Lee?

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MS. TANUNTILO: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Ms. Tanuntilo. I appreciate your kind words. I'm trying to recall. I remember voting for the creation of the bed and breakfast category.

MS. TANUNTILO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I wasn't here when we...when the vacation rental category was created, but just the bed and breakfast. And at that time, I recall that it was a permit for "X" number of years. Is it still the same?

MS. TANUNTILO: It is. It's changed over the years. It was a permit that was renewable every year --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Right.

MS. TANUNTILO: -- or extendable every year. Now it's a permit that's extended every five years.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MS. TANUNTILO: And that's why the County website isn't right. Because if somebody had a permit, and they're now gone within those five years, it doesn't reflect that.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Well, what I was going to say, because it's a permit that needs to be reapproved every so many years, I do remember that one of the stipulations was that you had to have a good relationship in your neighborhood. So, if there were complaints, then your permit would be at risk. So, it appears that you've...you've had your permit since the '90s. So, that's a testament to how good a neighbor you've been, and I congratulate you. Thank you.

MS. TANUNTILO: Thank you. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any other questions? Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Just a follow-up. So, you mentioned your house is assessed at \$1.9 million; is that correct?

MS. TANUNTILO: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Is it one house?

MS. TANUNTILO: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Is it two houses on the property?

MS. TANUNTILO: It's one house.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, okay. Thanks.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oceanfront?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah, just...why is it so high?

MS. TANUNTILO: Thank you. It's crazy.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. All right. Thanks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. No other questions?

MS. TANUNTILO: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Thank you for being here. Next testifier, please.

MS. TANUNTILO: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next testifier is Lesley Milner, to be followed by Leilani Pulmano.

MS. MILNER: Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Councilmembers. I'm calling to testify this morning on three items. First, I just wanted to point out to the Members, Human Concerns does their grant process a little bit different than the other departments, so I just wanted to make a note of that for you. They do a two-year grant process. Next year will be the second year of those grants from the competitive pots. So, if any changes are made to the competitive pots, reductions or conditions, that may impact the grantees from this year. So, I just wanted to flag that for you all. And then for the Housing...Experimental and Demonstration Housing Fund, we were doing another review, and in Appendix A, Part II, the estimated balance as of 6/30 should be \$1 million. So, the Housing Department would like to reduce their request from 4.75 to 3.75 for the transfer. And then, I also wanted to mention for the Department of Environmental Management, Wastewater, they reported in Fiscal Year 2024 a \$4.2 million shortfall in revenue due to the wildfires. And so, knowing that they were looking at a shortfall, they did purposely reduce their spending. So, that is the reason for the 6 million in lapsed appropriations. So, if you take the 6.29 in lapsed appropriations and subtract the 4.2 million in revenue shortfall, it's only 2.09. So, I just wanted the Committee to have that information. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any questions for Budget Director? Seeing none. Okay. Thank you very much. Oh, I'm sorry. Here's Member Cook. Sorry about that, Ms. Milner.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Director Miller [sic]. So, the Environmental Management, the shortfall, and basically the cuts that are made to them, is that impacting at a greater extent than we're aware of? Is that what you're saying?

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MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Cook. Yes, I think it would have significant impacts. I know Director Agawa is signed up to testify and can give you some specifics, and they've also run the rates, and I don't believe that the cuts are going to have the intended reduction for homeowners' impact because of how the algorithms work, but I will let him speak to that. But yes, there's concern that the cuts that were made yesterday will significantly impact the Department because they were based on appropriations that didn't take into account those lapsed revenues. Or...yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you for the information. I look forward to his testimony. Mahalo. Thank you, Chair.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No other questions. All right. Thank you. I am sure we'll be seeing you again. Next testifier.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next testifier is Leilani Pulmano, to be followed by Shayne Agawa.

MS. PULMANO: Good morning, Chair Sugimura and Councilmembers. My name is Leilani Pulmano with Pacific Rim Land. Before I start on my real testimony, I wanted to throw my support for Ka Ipu Kukui, the leadership program that I was a past fellow, and looking in the room that there are several other past fellows. And also support for the Cut Mountain funding. Kai Nishiki and I have been in discussions about effectuating the Pali to Puamana plan, and Cut Mountain is hopefully the first piece of that Pali to Puamana plan. So, Pacific Rim Land, we're building Lipoa, a master-planned community in Kihei. And thank you, I appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of Councilmember Kama's priority for the Affordable Housing Fund to be increased by 25 million for the Lipoa Apartments, which is a shovel-ready workforce housing project that directly addresses one of the most critical and underserved segments of our housing market. Maui, as you know, is in need of housing, and nowhere is that more apparent than in the shortage of homes for working families earning between 80 to 120 percent of area medium [sic] income. This missing middle has been historically overlooked in affordable housing production, despite their essential roles in our economy. Lipoa Apartments will provide for 175 multifamily units, and this community was envisioned to support a live, work, play, innovate lifestyle, and already has infrastructure allocated and entitlements in place. With subdivision construction plans approved, water meters secured and paid for, and mass grading permits issued, site work is actively underway, positioning us to deliver housing without delay. The 25 million we're requesting will equate to approximately \$143,000 per unit, and we understand that this is a large request. We didn't phase our project because it will take a significant amount of funds to get to finished lots where the 175 units can be built. The affordable rents will be consistent with the County affordable guidelines, which does include utilities, and as a local developer with more than 37 years of experience, Pacific Rim Land and our team at Lipoa are deeply committed to our community. The apartments represent a unique and immediate opportunity to make a meaningful

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impact in South Maui, adding housing where it's needed for those who are too often priced out of the market. We respectfully urge your full support of Councilmember Kama's requests, and thank you for your leadership and your dedication to housing solutions for our local families.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Question from Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Good morning, Leilani.

MS. PULMANO: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You said that the project is shovel-ready.

MS. PULMANO: It is.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Knowing what's happening in...on the mainland and so forth, the rising costs, this budget won't take effect until July, and then, of course, there's the paperwork, and God knows how long that's going to take. So, right now, are you banking on like \$500 a square foot? What level of cost are you looking at right now?

MS. PULMANO: Right now, what we actually submitted for the Affordable Housing Fund, looking at our budgets, we estimated that per...vertical cost to be \$419 a square foot.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And then how many square feet on average?

MS. PULMANO: Oh, shucks.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: 1,000, 1,200?

MS. PULMANO: Oh, the...the...the --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: The units, yeah.

MS. PULMANO: -- apartments?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

MS. PULMANO: So, the one-bedrooms would be about 560 square feet. The two-bedrooms, I think a little over 800. And...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, this is a rental project.

MS. PULMANO: It is.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I see. I see.

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MS. PULMANO: And then the three-bedrooms would be, I think, just over 1,200 square feet.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, if it's shovel-ready now, I'm curious, what happened to the financing that you were banking on?

MS. PULMANO: So, our total project cost is \$85 million, and we're starting the project work in earnest, so I guess in risk, and hoping that we would get some Affordable Housing Funding. The project can stop if we don't get funding. Not that that's a threat or anything, but just...just the reality of it. We would just shutter it for a little while until we can figure out the funding.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you. It sounds like you have a very good project. Thank you.

MS. PULMANO: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Pulmano. Can you clarify what the affordability period was?

MS. PULMANO: So, we would follow 2.96, which is 30 years for the affordability period, even though the 75 percent is not required to be. But of course, if we're asking for funding, we would be certainly open to having a restriction on...on that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you clarify the 75 percent? It's not required to be 100 percent affordable, you mean?

MS. PULMANO: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then, what happens after the 30 years?

MS. PULMANO: I think in 2.96, the County has the first right of refusal for purchase.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then, what are the consequences of phasing? Like say you get half now and half next fiscal year?

MS. PULMANO: Yeah. I...we've been thinking about that, to be honest, a lot, right? You never want to bite the hand that feeds you. If I see...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Are we the hand? Just clarifying.

MS. PULMANO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

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MS. PULMANO: You would be the hand. And I would still pick up 50 cents, even though I would also pick up a dollar. But I think honestly, for us, is that we are conservative as a...as a company. We're very systematic in...in the work that we do. We know that we need \$25 million to make this project work. And if we don't get it, we would still need to find a different way. It's just the risk. We're very risk-averse. So, I think for us, we would really appreciate it if we could get all of it.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess, you know, in...in seeing the Kuikahi's, and the Kilohana Makai's, and like that, and like, you know, maybe in excess of 6, 7 million for 28 individual homes, this...this does seem like a much better deal. And I'm not saying copy Carnicelli, but let us know what's going on as...as you go. Because I...I do feel like this came a little bit out of left field. Like I saw the Change in Zoning stuff. But then with the title of Lipoa, it's like, oh, there's this, you know, and...and there's other developers that are with us all the time. And their plans are changing so much. And it's like that. And I like this kind of thing. And I'm not saying I want to see you every week or anything...not professionally. And...but it's just, you know, let us know on the radar a little sooner and like, you know, check-in kind of thing. Because this is much more pleasant to deal with than...than the guys that come back every time asking for more money for...for offering less or whatever.

MS. PULMANO: Thank you. We like to keep our head down, but we understand that there needs to be more transparency in our part. So, we'll definitely make that effort.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Kama, then Member Johnson.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thanks for being here this morning, Leilani. So, you know, one of the things we always are concerned about on this Council is that...when projects come up, is that our local people actually are going to be living there, and they're going to be applying for them. And the best way for that to happen is?

MS. PULMANO: Well, we're going to follow the 2.96. There's a list, I believe, and it's supposed to be prioritizing local residents. But there are ways, right, that you can actually prioritize local residents without being --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Discriminatory.

MS. PULMANO: -- prejudiced or selective. And there are many marketing ways, like actually, you have to come pick up the application. That certainly does...that is a very big way how to get your locals to apply and to get into the homes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. Okay. And thank you for taking care of the missing middle. Thank you so much. Thank you, Chair.

MS. PULMANO: Certainly is needed.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Miss...Leilani. Thanks for coming, and I appreciate all the work that you do. So, my question is, is why did the...did you get a reason why the Administration didn't put this money into the Affordable Housing Fund?

MS. PULMANO: I did. To be honest, the \$25 million is...is kind of a shocker, right? It's a big amount compared to what you see in your affordable housing list. And so, I...I think that that may have deterred...deterred the selection committee. It was a big amount.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, it was just the size of the ask?

MS. PULMANO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. The...did you go before the HHFDC for any State funding?

MS. PULMANO: We don't, not...because we're in that 80 to --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Ah, the missing middle.

MS. PULMANO: -- 120.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's why.

MS. PULMANO: And they haven't come out with Tier II funding. Apparently, the Legislature is...is pushing out some Tier II funding, but I'm not sure when that's going to be coming out or...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. And you said you're shovel-ready, so that means all the planning and design and permits is all done?

MS. PULMANO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, you just need construction money?

MS. PULMANO: We need construction money for offsite...and just to clarify, if we do get this funding, our architects is ready to go to actually start preparing the building permit plans. We've done already our conceptual plans and our schematic plans. So, at this point, they really just have to put their pens to the paper and start doing real drawings.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you for your responses. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, my question, if everybody's done, so...I'm sorry, Member Cook first.

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COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you for coming. And I'm real familiar with this project. My clarifying question is, as far as the definition of shovel-ready. And I just wanted to like...I see how much of the work is being done--roads, curbs, sidewalks, fire hydrants, all of that. What is the...what's the potential employment for Lipoa development when it's pau? Because this is one facet of it for rentals, but there's the commercial facet, and a lot of other aspects. Do you have any numbers as far as how many people...how much jobs there are in that area?

MS. PULMANO: I don't have the numbers for what the projection would be once we're fully built out. I do know that right now there are about 500 employees within Lipoa within the park right now.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay.

MS. PULMANO: Currently.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you. What's the estimated completion date for this project, providing it gets the funding?

MS. PULMANO: We intend to have people move in quarter four 2027.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: That's pretty quick. Thank you very much.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other questions? All right. So, I wanted to ask one question then. You applied, and the Department said that it was too much money. Did the...did they support it? Because if we pass it, the Department is going to have to release the funds with the Mayor and get it done. So, I just want to make sure that it is supported by the Department, and I can ask the same question.

MS. PULMANO: I would like to hope so that...that it was supported. I...I don't know in certainty, but that's certainly a question that you can ask to --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. PULMANO: -- Director Mitchell.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much. Member U'u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. I was hoping you could provide us a little bit more clarification on your shovel-readiness. To be honest, we had a conversation yesterday, and I think...when we're just kind of casually talking, it's easier to have everything top of mind, but if you could clarify all the permits you guys have already. That you're basically doing...you're doing grading now because you have a grading permit, but I'm wondering if you could just tell the Committee where you guys really are at with mean shovel-ready because it's already earth-moving.

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MS. PULMANO: Right. We did receive our State Land Use District Boundary Amendment to Urban. We received our Change in Zoning, our Community Plan Amendment. We are not in the SMA, so we don't have to go through our SMA. We have approved subdivision construction plans, so that's...allows us to actually start construction. So, you'll...you'll...if you...if we haven't already, we've already started dust-fencing and mass...and mass grading. So, shovel-ready, when I say that is...yeah, there are people on the ground working on the project.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you so much. Thanks, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. We should have told you to bring pictures. Good job. Any other questions? Seeing none. Okay. Thank you.

MS. PULMANO: Thank you. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next testifier.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next testifier is Shayne Agawa, to be followed by Rhonda Alexander-Monkres.

MR. AGAWA: Good morning. Good morning --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning.

MR. AGAWA: -- Chair Sugimura. Good morning, Members. Good to see you all again. My name is Shayne Agawa, I'm the Director of Environmental Management, and I'm here to testify on the budget...Fiscal Year '26 Budget modifications. First, I'd just like to start off by thanking all of you for your hard work, you know, making sure and assuring the public that DEM is making the best use of our funds that's, you know, budgeted every year. Most years...you know, you rarely see me up here talking about budget, you know, but most years, the modifications that this body makes, we can make, we can live with, right? We make adjustments, we move on. This year's a little bit different, and I'll just briefly go over why. So, I want to give credit to Member Paltin for doing her due...due diligence, and really trying to hold us to help out the people, especially when it comes to rates and fees, right? But I just want to explain--and I'll get into the details about the rates and fees a little bit more--but cutting the operations--and I know I mentioned before that, you know, please don't touch our CIP, you know, but again, cutting operations, that's the lifeblood of what keeps us going. That's what keeps us under regulatory compliance. In talking to Wastewater Reclamation Division, it's going to be very hard for us to continue to care for the health and safety of the public if our operations budgets are being cut. So, that's just an overall view. The number that we're facing, as far as overall budget cuts to our operation, is roughly about 2.5 million. I have a breakdown here, but I won't go into that. You folks already have that. So, I'll go into kind of the rates and fees. So, you guys are proposing a cut to rates and fees--and I understand, again, it's to help the people, but I know you folks started to go into, okay, let's cut here, let's cut there. It doesn't work that way. Our rates and fees are based on a model. We have software. That model is updated every five years to make sure that

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we're up to regulatory standards, Federal standards, that we make sure that everybody pays their fair share. I know Budget Director Milner mentioned that there's Code of Federal Regulations that oversee us, that make sure everybody pays their fair share, and that we're not putting a burden more on one than the other. So, based on the rate fee--and we crunched the numbers--and based on that 2.5 million cut that we're looking at, what we're looking at is overall rate increase. We said 9 percent. That'll only bring it down by a couple percent, to 7 percent. But that's not the important part. The important part that I want to mention is that 2 percent decrease, from 9 percent to 7, will not affect the Residential monthly rate. And I think that was the intent, is to help out the local people. I don't want to go into all the details as to why not, but that's how the algorithm works. The software design, it takes into account the different strengths of wastewater--residential strength, commercial strength, industrial strength. It takes into . . .(timer sounds). . . consideration volumes, all different aspects, and it crunches out the numbers, and it gives us recommended rate increases. In this case, the monthly for Residential will not change, it will not decrease. The decrease will be on the nonresidential side, which is the commercial and the industrial. So, just to kind of just give you some information that if the intent is to help out the residents, decreasing the rates, they're not going to impact them on the monthly. I also want to just mention that--you know, part of being Director of DEM, our job is to support the people of Maui County, ultimately. . . (timer sounds). . . But part of my job is also to support the Department. Our resources, our people...they're the ones who help the community, and it's my job to provide them the tools to do that. So, operations budget, if we don't give them the tools, then we'll start...we're going to start to run into problems, right? And I think all of you are well aware that you haven't been bombarded by calls from the public saying, my sewer has been backing up, this...you know. And it's due to the fact that our people are doing their job, and you guys have been providing them with the tools by giving us the budget. So, I guess what I'm trying to say is, if we're going to cut from operations, those calls are going to start coming in. Now, getting back to, okay, what's the solution, what's the suggestion? So, although we don't like to make any cuts or give up anything--because everything we propose every year is important, and we whittle it down, we're very fiscally-responsible--but if the goal is to target that 2.5 million, I retract on what I said about CIP. Because operations, in talking with the division, and as I explain to you now, is very key, right, to regulatory compliance, spills, whatnot. So, in lieu of that, from the Department side, what we're looking at possibly is actually making modifications to our CIP budget. And again, this is just a suggestion that you folks can discuss. So, we have a priority list, I think it was talked about yesterday, on the Wastewater side, 1 through 30, 30 projects. We're proposing to possibly move CBS-4586, priority 29, for 300,000, possibly to another fiscal year down the road. Another project would be to move CBS-6082, South Kihei capacity sewer upgrade, which is priority 27 out of 30, for 400,000. And CBS-6648, which is Lāhainā siphon and ditch distribution, that's priority number 26 out of 30, for 500,000. And there's another one that's little bit up the list, it's CBS-1146, West Maui EPA compliance sewer rehab, that one is for 4 million, that is priority number 12. We are not proposing to cut the whole 4 million, but the difference to make up the 2.5, which is to cut it down by 1.3 million, from 4 million to 2.7 million. So, those suggested cuts will give you the same overall 2.5 decrease in our budget. And again, I just want to stress, and we've mentioned this before, that, you know, since COVID times especially, we've cut back, right? We've, for

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lack of better words, kicked the can down the road when it comes to CIP projects. Then we got hit by the wildfires, kicked the can down the road again. Well, the reason I'm up here is that road is no longer there, and that can is all bussed up already. So, we're going to have to raise rates at some point. I have a list here of the different rate increases over the years for the past maybe seven, eight years. It's been pretty moderate, and we've adjusted to it. But we're at a point now where, again, if we do not get reasonable rate increases to support our expenditures, things are going to happen, and not for the good. And our operating expenses--for example, electricity keeps going up--so if you cut from our operations, we're going to be in a bad place. So, we're not supplemented by General Fund as well, right? So, thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, Members, as you can tell, he went over the three minutes, but this is vital. Can you submit that to us in writing?

MR. AGAWA: Yes, Chair. I actually started my written testimony, and, you know, things just happened. I will try to finish it up. I kind of just spoke how I normally present is just --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: From the heart.

MR. AGAWA: -- kind of go it. But I'll do my best to summarize it in writing, and I'll submit it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Because all those CBS, I was trying to write all your CBS numbers and whatever that would...you know, relative --

MR. AGAWA: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- and the priorities. So, that's important. And I guess I just want to clarify that what you're saying is to do this, and to leave your operations alone. Is that what your main message is?

MR. AGAWA: That would be the main message. And it's not something we would like to do, but it's kind of like the lesser of two evils --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. AGAWA: -- right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for your testimony, Mister...Director Agawa. I just wanted to clarify. I was looking through the answers, and one of the questions I put--and I didn't see the answers, and it could be on me because it's late at night when I review the answers, because these guys keep us here all day and night--one of the questions I had, and I...I'm pretty sure I wrote it down or something, was, how would we bring the sewer increase fees to 5 percent, and I never found the answer. And that's why I shot off on my own to find the money myself. Did

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you receive that question of how to bring down the sewer increase fees 5 percent, or you never received it?

MR. AGAWA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for the question, Member Paltin. Honestly, it may be in one of the EMs that was submitted. I just don't recall that question. But I'm not saying that I did not receive it, I just don't recall that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, I didn't see the one about where's the 5 million from Human Concerns either, so I had these questions in my mind. I thought I said them out loud or something, and I didn't find the answers, and that's why I...I made my own path.

MR. AGAWA: No, I appreciate that. Yeah, it's just...there's a lot of clarification.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If you...if you...if the increase is 9 percent, which is now, I'm thinking, to me, the reason why I did that was because of the skewed rents because of FEMA insurance, and now is not the opportune time to do it until those rents stabilize out. But even...so, there's no way to decrease Residential 5 percent without taking the...only the burden is only going to come off of Commercial?

MR. AGAWA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Paltin. That is correct. Based on how our rate model and algorithms work, we punch in the numbers based on our expenditures, everything like I mentioned. There's a lot of factors that we need to punch in, and then it comes out with the different rate increases. Overall percentage increase, and how you see it broken down on the rate sheet, each individual one has a different increase, right, per item. It tells us which items need to be increased by what percent, and that is based on the CFR, that everybody pays their fair share, and that's why you cannot just take one and put it in another.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: In that case, I wouldn't want to decrease it only for the Commercial.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Are you done? Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Director Agawa.

MR. AGAWA: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: We don't mean to put more work on your plate, but here we are. Has...has the GE helped in any way?

MR. AGAWA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Johnson. Yes, it did help. The GE...GET has covered some of our capital expenditures. However, that has been factored into the rate model. That's one of the things. So, again, if the GET wasn't a factor, the rate would be --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Even higher.

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MR. AGAWA: -- even higher.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. My next question is...you know, I represent Lānaʻi, I'm always going to fight for the people who are struggling. Why is Lānaʻi fees so much higher? Is it because we don't have the...is the water private? I want to know the correlation, or what's...why is it so much higher?

MR. AGAWA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for that question, Member Johnson. Chair, if I may request...Eric Nakagawa, our Division Chief for Wastewater is here. Is that possible for him to be a resource to help answer Q&A?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Are you saying he can answer that?

MR. AGAWA: Oh, yeah. If --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MR. AGAWA: -- Eric can help answer that

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Answer that question.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MR. AGAWA: I believe he's signed up as well.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is he next?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I can wait for him once...if it's his turn, a few...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Okay. We'll wait for you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Director. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. So, we'll look forward to your testimony in writing so that we could get all of this, and your thought process, and understand what the...what...I like that you're submitting to us, adjusting your CIPs because that's something that we need to look at. Our budget is kind of...the total budget is high, so we need to lower it. So, appreciate that, and we look forward to working with you. Oh, sorry. Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you. My clarifying question, Director Agawa, by cutting back on the CIP, what is the impact?

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MR. AGAWA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Cook. So, the impact is...again, we're delaying projects that help with our infrastructure to adhere to regulatory compliance. So, the risk is, if we keep kicking the can down the road, something catastrophic could possibly happen. Will it happen? Maybe not. But how we plan our CIP is based on a factor of things--aging equipment, expected lifetime of pump stations--and that's how we schedule our CIP. So, if we kick it down the road, we're asking our equipment to, you know, live on borrowed time.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Sounds like kind of rolling the dice.

MR. AGAWA: It is.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, my cut for rent, for the 345,000, is that something that negatively impacts overall? And...and I'm just...just asking. I believe, like support for the Department is comprehensive. Everybody supports the Department. And so, thank you for coming today and clarifying what the impacts are. And that's huge, because it enables us to make better decisions. So, that's why I'm asking that. It's like we don't want to take stuff away that you really need.

MR. AGAWA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Cook. So, the 345,000 that you're referring to, that's from the Solid Waste Division's budget. It's for a rental property that we're looking at to relocate out of the Wailuku Baseyard. The justification for that is the equipment...it's gotten to a point where our refuse trucks, they're so big, and with sharing with Public Works, it's really crowded. You got people walking around, so it's more of a safety hazard. But again...the impact, again, we don't know if somebody will get hurt, but there's that risk. So, it's just to alleviate space and to reconsolidate, get some of our Staff out of rental properties that we currently paying rent on. Yes, this is another rental property, but it helps us to consolidate Staff that are kind of scattered all over the place. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you for that clarification. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any others? All right. Thank you very much.

MR. AGAWA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next testifier, please.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next testifier is Rhonda Alexander-Monkres, to be followed by Carolyn Auweloa.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Rhonda?

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, Rhonda...Rhonda is unmuted on our end. Oh, I see...I think they just unmuted themselves.

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MS. ALEXANDER-MONKRES: Thank you. Aloha, Chair and Councilmembers. I'm Rhonda Alexander-Monkres, Executive Director with Ho'ōla iā Mauiakama Disaster Long-Term Recovery Group. We bring together community partners to create collaborative solutions for individual recovery, and today I'm testifying in support of an additional \$3 million allocation from the General Fund to Lāhainā Community Land Trust for insurance gap funding. So, we are on the ground and we're seeing firsthand the critical and growing need. There are approximately 300 families in Lāhainā facing insurance gaps that make it impossible for them to rebuild on their own. We currently have five families in our collective pipeline with existing resources to help ten more, but we are just beginning to hit our stride, and the need is much greater. So, we estimate that the average insurance gap for these families range between 300 to 400,000. An additional 3 million would allow our rebuild coalition to support another 10 to 12 families, therefore helping them stay on their land, in their homes, and in their community. We work in strong partnership with Hawai'i Community Lending, Habitat Maui, Land Trust, and many, many rebuild industry partners who provide kokua in many ways. HCL provides the case management, LTRG handles the rebuild analysis and coordination, and the Land Trust focuses on funding, gap analysis, and long-term stewardship. So, together, we ensure each dollar stretches as far as possible so we can help as many families as possible. What makes this request unique and a little urgent is that we're asking for three million to come from the General Fund rather than the Affordable Housing Fund. This distinction is vital because the affordable housing dollars are limited to households earning up to 140 percent AMI or below, but we know that many fire survivors fall just above that threshold, and they need help too. So, there are no other active funding sources for these families in the community. Habitat funding caps at 100 percent AMI. CDBG resources right now are focused on families under 80 percent AMI. And this gap funding from the General Fund will give us the flexibility to help that middle-income family who are otherwise invisible in this recovery. So, we are requesting you to help us keep our families in Lāhainā, not allow income cutoffs to be the reason they are priced out of their homes and their community. So, mahalo for your time and your consideration.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Anybody have questions? Seeing none. Thank you very much for all you do. Next testifier.

MS. ALEXANDER-MONKRES: All right. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Mahalo. Next testifier.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next testifier is Carolyn Auwelo, to be followed by the Royal House of Hawai'i.

MS. AUWELOA: Aloha. Good morning. Thank you so much. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Council. I'm so grateful to be here. Thank you, Rhonda. You...you took all my talking points. No, not really. But I'm Carolyn Auwelo, I'm the Director of Operations for the Lahaina Community Land Trust, and I'm here to testify also in support of an additional 3 million from the General Fund for our insurance gap program. We've been working really hard over this past year. We've developed our capacity and our partnerships,

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most especially our partnerships. You know, Rhonda is...is a huge...huge part of this project, and we couldn't be doing it without the collective work of all of us putting all of our resources together. By collectively putting these resources together, like she said, we are trying to stretch every dollar, and make it go as far as possible, and help as many families as possible. What we've found is every situation is so, so unique. The families are all facing incredible challenges. You know, it's...it's taken a while because everyone's been trying to work it out with their insurance companies, get the details of their final settlements. Some folks have been holding out waiting to see about the lawsuit settlement, and are finally realizing they can't afford to wait. The changes in the construction industry and supply chain are presenting new challenges every day. There's really a sense of urgency, and we can't really afford to wait, particularly with these families that are in that income bracket that are outside of the range of traditional, or already identified funding sources, such as CDBG and the affordable housing money. We are, of course, not leaving those out. Your allocation to us last year is...is slated for folks in that income bracket. And as...as Rhonda said, we are on the verge of signing paperwork with our first five families. We've got ten more in the pipeline that are in the process of going through all of our due diligence, that we work together with Hawai'i Community Lending to make sure we've got a really robust and comprehensive financial analysis. Every family that gets to...gets to this point also has to have their construction plans all laid out, contractors identified, permits...it's really, really comprehensive, and like I said, we couldn't be doing it without the work of this...this team. The timing is critical. We are still waiting for an answer from Hawai'i Community Foundation. We've been working through this process with them for nigh on a year. We are waiting for their decision and grant. But in the meantime, we're so grateful to Maui County, who identified us as a worthy partner, and has stood with us all this time. We're making awesome progress in helping to do what we said we set out to do, and that's keep Lāhainā lands in Lāhainā hands, and keep our Lāhainā people home. This funding is critical to that, and I'd be happy to answer any questions there may be. Thank you so much.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Carolyn. Any questions for her? Seeing none. Oh, sorry. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Ms. Auwelo. Thank you for all the work that you do. Really appreciate it. If some folks get the money in the lawsuit, can the County funding that's filling the gap be returned, or is there a plan for that, or did you guys consider that?

MS. AUWELOA: That's a great question, something that we've been discussing. It's very...there's so many unknowns in...in that whole scenario. And...and just so that you're aware, the funding gaps that we are providing are just like...I don't want to say bare minimum, but we are only replacing like for like, we are not...and it's like a shelter...kind of like fundamental shelter needs only. So, if they do end up with...I guess the point I'm trying to make is these families will still have much financial need --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

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MS. AUWELoa: -- beyond what our...our goal is to just get them home.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah, I understand.

MS. AUWELoa: And so, right now, we don't have a clear path on how we would try to recoup any of that. And honestly, it's a burden that I don't...I don't think that anyone in our partnership really wants to put on these families any more than they already have. And...and we're...we're already using our funding so efficiently that we're not...yeah, we don't...we don't have a clear path to how we would try to do that. And thank you for asking.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you so much. Thank you, Chair. No further questions.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Seeing no other questions. Thank you very much.

MS. AUWELoa: I guess the last clarifying point I would just add to that, if I can, is that...you know, with other communities that waited for lawsuit monies, some of them, it took like nine to ten years before they saw any of their lawsuit funds. So, we understand the families are not feeling like they can afford to wait any longer, and need to try to do what they can to get home as soon as possible.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you. That's a very important point you made.

MS. AUWELoa: Thank you so much.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. All right. Next testifier.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next testifier is the Royal House of Hawai'i, to be followed by Tiare Lawrence.

ROYAL HOUSE OF HAWAI'I: Aloha. You guys can hear me?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

ROYAL HOUSE OF HAWAI'I: Oh, okay. Perfect. I'm testifying as an alodial land tenant, and a Native Hawaiian, and royal patent heir of Hewahewa . . . *(inaudible)*. . . 3237 Apana 2, whereby the new roundabouts stay, where Hilton in Kihei stay, yeah, the new one. No one has any...no one has had any discussion with any of us heirs, who are the descendants of that land, of the undivided family lifetime estate, on the entire ahupua'a . . . *(inaudible)*. . . And how are any of these discussions being passed without any...without letting any of us descendants know when you are all supposed to do due diligence to find the descendants. Because I'm pretty sure all Hawai'i is alodial title, and for the royal patent descendants to govern what happens on that land. And how is it that funding all these projects, or anything that is being passed without any

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discussion with the descendants of the royal patents, because they would know what's best. All the landowners and illegal...all the landowners are illegal landowners, and we'll need to round up all the heirs of the original holders of that land, ili, ahupua'a, and moku by right by law. You need to get every original royal patent alodial title beneficiary of each island and...yeah. And who are these permits, funds, grants, gifts, and plans for? The illegal occupiers, or royal patent alodial land tenants, or the descendants of the royal patents, who are rightfully and the ones who should be getting these benefits? We had electric before the White House, and have the most water in the world. We live in the water breath of God, Hawai'i. How are locals, especially Kanaka residents, moving away from Hawai'i when they are the true landowners...when they are the true landowners, which are the royal patents that are foreign alodial titles with America...which America highly recognizes that they don't have power, jurisdiction, or authority on. So, meaning I'm pretty sure all the decisions being made without gathering all the heirs, again, is illegal. And Hawai'i Revised Statute 172-11, the royal patents, which are alodial titles, should be given back to the original title holders, which are the royal patents, the Mahele. And when these lands were in our hands, it was fruitful, abundant, and fertile. But ever since the illegal state and the illegal squatter side, they highly mismanaged our kingdom, and it's all dry. Where is our water in every single gulch to make business, yeah, of Hawai'i, to like have a...like a different kind of income, you know what I mean? Like an economy, right, the water instead of money. We don't need money anymore. You guys like clean water for everybody's children, your children, my sister guy's children, and their children for come. They no more clean anymore. They're not...I don't know where they're going to get their water, tita. So, please follow my laws . . .(timer sounds). . . my papa's kingdom laws, and your laws, and find all the descendants again, and...because they built on my grandmother's cave. They...they...they built on lands that not going see again not in its natural state. They overthrew my aunty. They illegally jailed Kanaka, and shipped them across the state like cattle, brah. And it created so much generational and historical trauma to my grandparents and the people before them. And no more development, no more discussions, no more plans unless this discussions are planned with descendants, and the royal patent . . .(timer sounds). . . heirs, and the descendants of the royal patents. Mahalo, and God bless you guys.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Thank you very much. Next testifier.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next testifier is Tiare Lawrence, to be followed by Eric Nakagawa.

MS. LAWRENCE: E kala mai. I know I was here yesterday, but I didn't get to get to all the things that I wanted to touch on, so I came back today straight out from picking flowers. But anyhow, mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on the upcoming budget. I respectfully request you guys to consider the following proposals. I know I've talked to Councilmember Cook about this about a year ago to...and so I pitched you this idea. I don't know if the Planning Department has anything going on, but I'd like to see a fund...or the County to fund a pre-approved ADU building plan program. Please consider allocating funding for a County-run program offering pre-approved accessory dwelling unit building plans. Cities like Los Angeles, San Jose, and San Francisco have

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all adopted successful models that streamline the permitting process, reduce architectural cost, and encourage responsible infill housing. These plans are pre-approved for compliance with building, residential, and green codes, enabling homeowners to move more quickly and affordably toward building additional housing. Number two, if the County could follow-up on the Launiupoko master plan funding. Six...maybe it was like six or seven years ago, we...we did on-site visits with the County Parks Department, and nothing has really happened since then. I remember coming to the Council, and the Council had budgeted close to \$100,000 for that master plan, but I haven't seen anything come from that. Maybe Councilmember Paltin might know what's going on with that. And I know I touched a lot on people shit yesterday, and so I was wanting the County to consider a feasibility study for a sewer system in Upcountry. Please consider funding a feasibility study to explore implementing a sewer system in parts of Upcountry. The County is already converting homes from cesspools to sewer connections along County roads, including Waiko Road. I worry that the Department of Health may eventually find nitrate contamination in our groundwater, and require property owners to upgrade to sewer systems, even after upgrading to...to septic systems. Where am I? And I just would hate this financial burden be placed on our kids and future homeowners. As a parent myself, I want to make sure we think 50, 60, 80 years ahead, not just 20. A feasibility study could help determine whether sewer expansion in certain areas is viable, and how it could support R-1 water access for agriculture and drought resilience. And then this is for Councilmember Yuki Lei. I wanted to...you know, I'm a visionary and I'm going to put...plant the seed because if you don't plant the seed now, you may never see it happen in the future. But there's 40 acres across of Pukalani Superette. It's that beautiful piece of land. I would like the County to consider that area for park expansion. I urge the County to consider purchasing this 40 acres, currently owned by--they call themselves Pukalani Associates, but after I did some digging, it's an out-of-state corporation based in California. This area has serious potential for a future County park that could meet the growing . . .(timer sounds). . . needs of our community, and I would be happy to elaborate more on that if you give me the time.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You didn't speak fast enough. Just kidding.

MS. LAWRENCE: Okay. Okay. Okay. So, my kids' soccer team now regularly competes with new sports clubs and adult leagues for access to limited park space. There is currently no outdoor volleyball facility Upcountry, and tensions are rising between tennis players and pickleball players over shared courts. The demand for space has outgrown what we have Upcountry. I'm also concerned that this parcel could be developed in the future, despite being in an area with only two-lane road access and proximity to three schools. Traffic is already a challenge, and more development will significantly worsen the congestion. I think this would make a beautiful park space. We definitely need it Upcountry. One of the things that I love about living Upcountry is that we...our residents are very...live a healthy lifestyle, and man, our parks are packed every afternoon. And I actually have to drive my kids two . . .(timer sounds). . . times a week to town because we don't have enough space Upcountry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That was fast.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That was fast. Any question? Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Ms. Lawrence, for your testimony. How do you...have you...how do you feel, and how do you think people...your friends and family Upcountry would feel, about a community CD...CFD to pay for a sewer system? Because my understanding is, who's going to pay for it, how it's going to be, is sort of a catalyst to get the government to be able to seriously look at it.

MS. LAWRENCE: Absolutely. I mean, I think because there's 7,000 people Upcountry with cesspools that are obligated to pay all this money, that a CFD would be in the best interest of our overall community. And, you know, having access to R-1 water in the future is going to be critical for our...for preserving agriculture. Like I said yesterday, like Mahi Pono, we'll take all the R-1 water we can get our hands on. And, you know, I live on a place with elevation that can be gravity-fed to the current wastewater facility, which I know is privately-owned, but who's to say we couldn't create a public-private partnership or something like that to service the needs for Upcountry?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Thank you.

MS. LAWRENCE: Sorry. Yeah. I'm not an engineer, but...yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any other questions for...

MS. LAWRENCE: Those guys over there.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Lawrence. Mahalo for your testimony. Regarding the pre-approved plans for ADUs, did you catch the meeting last February, February 21st, 2024, on this exact topic?

MS. LAWRENCE: No, I didn't, but I did love some of those building plans that were offered to Lāhainā residents. I would love to see that same type of programs be offered to people like myself who live in other parts of Maui.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I'll send you the link to that meeting so you can see the details in the presentation, and we can continue working on this, because I...I agree, it...it would help.

MS. LAWRENCE: And especially like if I wanted --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

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MS. LAWRENCE: -- to apply for the ADU Fund, you can't apply for it unless you have a building plan. But a building plan costs money, and it's like \$6,000, and not even know that I'm going to get that grant or not versus...you know, it just makes sense to kind of have something more streamlined.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Agreed. Mahalo, Ms. Lawrence. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Ms. Lawrence. Regarding that, I think Maui AIA have been doing a lot of work in Lāhainā, and I believe they may have ADU plans, that they would be willing to do that. So, you could reach out to them. I'll reach out to them also, but you're absolutely correct. To basically simplify that aspect would open the door for a lot of people to be doing that. Thank you.

MS. LAWRENCE: I would definitely reach out to them, and I'd be happy to do a presentation, benefits, goal, you know, whatever. I could team up with you on that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other questions? Seeing none. Thank you very much.

MS. LAWRENCE: Thanks, you guys. Aloha.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aloha. Next testifier.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next and currently final individual signed up to testify is Eric Nakagawa.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes, you.

MR. NAKAGAWA: How come I got to follow Tiare? She always asking about my stuff. Nah, I love her. Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Members. I thought I was done doing testimonies, but I guess not. I think Shayne and Lesley kind of gave a good overall what you guys are cutting, what the implications are. So, I'll just take it from like a real big picture, that's what I always do, right? And so, first, I...once again, I applaud Tamara also for you guys trying to figure out how to minimize the sewer rates, and we do that the whole budgeting process, right? But as we kind of now see, like unfortunately, it's not simple math, and it's not super easy running a utility, right? So, I think bigger picture...like because I just want to kind of tell you guys this now because in the future, you guys are going to see these large rate increases, as Shayne was saying, right, kind of kicking it down the can...can down the road. So, we're very simple, and you guys know it. I'll just reiterate it. Like operations keeps us running, right, day-to-day--paying electricity bills, just like you guys with your house, water bills, whatever it is--if something breaks, our guys go and fix it, whether they're during work or whether it's overtime, right, so all of A, B, C. So, that's how we stress not to touch operations because that kind of makes us run

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throughout the year. It also helps CIP side in a sense of preventive maintenance, and doing all this type of work to prolong the life of the equipment that we need to really replace in CIP. So, now switch to CIP program, right? Like it is a calculated, strategically placed out, based on keeping sewer rates down, but also aging infrastructure, right? So, it addresses aging infrastructure, which keeps spills at a very minimal rate, right? But unfortunately, like I mean, that's the lesser one that maybe can always be extended one year or two years, right? It's a calculated risk once again, right? So, if you look historically, like the past ten years, you guys don't hear any...anything about wastewater spills because we've been super conservative, right? I mean, that's just the way it is, and you guys funded everything every time. So, just a little bit about rates, if you look, it's like in '88, it was a 20 percent, right? It's a cycle, right? So, in '94, it's 45 percent, right? In 2000, it was 29 percent. In '08, it was like 18 percent. And ever since then, it's always been two or three, right? So, that's since, you know, like almost 20 years ago, right? So, now you're going to see 9 percent, right, 8 percent. You're going to see a little bit higher going down. I just wanted to come back and reiterate because...well, because I don't want to come back and testify again. . . .(timer sounds). . . Like don't touch operations, touch CIP, right? So...but in general, like, I think you guys kind of get the gist. It's pretty complicated, and...yeah, but if you guys ever want to make...just I don't know if it's still legal or what, but just call me and I'll kind of explain it to you in a bigger picture, right? Like, here's what happens. Here's if you do this. Here's...there's definitely a very tangible...not consequence, but implication to us. But we can always say, okay, we understand, there's give and take, right? Because I've been in Shayne's seat before, and I understand there has to be some type of give and takes, yeah. . . .(timer sounds). . . So, I'm open for any questions.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. And...and...and we have --

MR. NAKAGAWA: No need ask all one time.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- and we have your phone number. We can call you.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Eric. Good to see you again. So, the question I'm going to have, of course, you probably heard it on the floor, was --

MR. NAKAGAWA: Why does Lānaʻi, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- why does Lānaʻi pay so much? Single-family and duplex-dwelling not served by County water systems per month. That's our whole island. Like, I know there's --

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yeah.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- private --

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- water systems in West Maui, all over, pockets, but for Lānaʻi, this is the whole island. So, why is it so high?

MR. NAKAGAWA: So, Lānaʻi is a flat rate because private water, right? I mean, but technically, they don't pay more. They pay less, right? If you look at the rate, it's 72.50, I think, right?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Whatever the proposed rate.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: 72.50.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Right? But if you look at everybody's other residential, right, they have a base charge of 51-something, right? But they have a usage charge. So, technically, on average, they all pay \$90-something. So, technically...I mean, in reality, Lānaʻi is not paying as much as everybody. But the algorithms and all the rate, Shayne already went into that, right? This is how everybody's distribution of their fair share is, right? So, just kind of letting you know, yeah. So, really, they don't pay more than everybody there, they actually pay less.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Is it tied to because we have a private water system?

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yes and no. Because private water systems, we don't control any of their...what the water usage and all that kind of stuff. So, we can't get that data. I mean, we can always request it from the individual agencies. But because there's just certain areas like in...by Kapalua side, right? Same thing, flat rate. I mean, I have it right there. And then, you know, they pay us \$70-something, right? That's just kind of...and it's all based, once again, whatever that rate model spits out, right, on everybody's fair share.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. So, if any sewer funds...CIPs are bonded, would that...would that impact rates?

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yeah, Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Okay. It's a great question. So, the reason why...and I got to remember how to say it nicely. So, the reason why we're here is always CIP. I'm just going to let you guys know now, right? So, all of those projects...remember, we all...we all want to do these great things. Other than just complying with permits and providing a reliable system. We want to expand reuse. We want to expand services to different people. We

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want to get out of sea level rise. All these different things. Now we're starting to implement them. But all the culmination of projects that we've done in the past...remember, I used to tell you guys, here's our debt service. It's going up. And because the debt service is going up --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Rates . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

MR. NAKAGAWA: -- guess what? Rates has to go up because you got to maintain the system. But now we have a way bigger mortgage, right, for you guys. You guys are...you guys are all familiar with that. Hey, we got a bigger mortgage, and we got to pay that. So, that's the difficulty in a sense of providing community what they want, deserve, whatever the words are, and just staying bare bones. And when you flush, it'll be taken care of, right? So, those are the two balance that I understand is very difficult on our end, on this end, right? We want to balance all the needs and wants. But now it's kind of the reality. So, if you look at the raise, right, I think we put it out. It's out of that five million that goes up in debts...I mean operations, four million is debt service.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Right? So, if you look, I think I put it in the EM-1 or whatever. So, when we keep talking about CIP, like...like this year, we have like 90 million or something, right? So, imagine that's...so GET, you had a great question, does that help us? Yes, because that's an additional funding source --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

MR. NAKAGAWA: -- that does not impact sewer users --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

MR. NAKAGAWA: -- right? So...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I would assume it would go down, but here we are.

MR. NAKAGAWA: But it doesn't go down. Because the only way it goes down is if you get rid of certain projects. But we can't get rid of the --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

MR. NAKAGAWA: -- projects, right?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Gotcha.

MR. NAKAGAWA: So, you minimize the amount of...so basically, mortgages is just spanning the 20 years, right? And so, you're paying that debt along the way. So, it's kind of you don't pay for it today --

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

MR. NAKAGAWA: -- but in two years, when it matures.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. You answered my question on that. So, why...why does Lānaʻi not...or any dwelling not served by County water system, why no usage charge for these guys?

MR. NAKAGAWA: I mean, essentially because they have a private water system, and we don't...we just don't know...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: We don't know how much usage they have?

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yeah, we don't know what their...so there's a flat rate that we charge, yeah. But I can ask...I mean, I can follow-up in writing for a little bit more detail. I'll ask our accountant.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MR. NAKAGAWA: And my...oh.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you. Thanks so much. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Nakagawa, for the big-picture view. I did find the answer to the question, which was kind of a nonanswer because it didn't answer the question. But I wanted to clarify--like you're saying, not kicking the can down the road and things like that, which I 100 percent agree with--why would you tell the Kaiāulu O Nāpili to tie into the sewer on the lower road below the Latter-Day Saints site? Because that road is eroding, and it's been a problem for a long time, that it's right next to a charged waterline, and there is a big concern of a sewer spill, and it...it was an issue before the fire, and it hasn't really been addressed. Public Works was talking about rerouting the land, but that guy, Adam Lee, bought it now. And so, like why wouldn't you advise the developer that if they have a 60-year project, maybe tying into the lower road, which is in the SLR-XA, isn't a great idea, and not just build it above the highway in preparation for managed retreat? Not even mention the issue that we're having there. Big picture.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Okay. Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You want it in writing?

MR. NAKAGAWA: I mean, I can...I mean, I was going to play devil's advocate. What does this have to do with budget? Anyway.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Big picture.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Big picture. So, I tell like a lot of these people, I told Planning, they're right across from us, right? Like...and I think every utility would tell you the same thing, right? When the road moves, then we'll move. Honestly, that's the bottom line. Because if the road doesn't move, the people don't move. If the people don't move, we still got to service them, right? Whether it's just one property or all the properties, right? But as soon as the road...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thinking of big picture, this is a 60-year brand-new project. And you're going to tie it into aging --

MR. NAKAGAWA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- infrastructure that next big rain could blow out the waterline and the sewer line, and then we get the big sewer spill you're talking about.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Right? So, either...right, we could take your approach and say, hey, you...I don't think by ordinance they cannot--because if you have a sewer line in front, they're required to tie in--but I could take that stance if you write something and make it law. And I could be like, hey, you know what? Based on this infrastructure that will no longer be there in the future, you need to develop a sewer system to take it up here. But based on the laws right now that I have, I don't have the authority to say, hey, you need to build this total separate system when you have a connection, right, ten feet in front of you. You know what I mean? So...so...so, that's what I kind of say like. So, even though this is a 60-year project, let's say, right, I still got to service everybody over there. And so, I can't really say you cannot, and then these guys can, just because they're not developing. I don't know if that makes sense.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Or at least give them a heads-up that the road is eroding, and there's a gulch right next to it, and it's a concern.

MR. NAKAGAWA: I...I think everybody is already aware of that, right? Because Public Works is the one that...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Not the guys on the continent.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Oh, you're talking about like the actual...yeah. So, that will be handled through --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. NAKAGAWA: -- the building permit process.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

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MR. NAKAGAWA: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, you know what? I'm going to ask we stick to budget. And Member U'u-Hodgins?

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yeah, because my answers is too long.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: No, I...thank you so much. I do appreciate you guys coming out. For...because we're talking about all the CIP projects, and your guys' willingness to maybe cut some if necessary, for your 25 projects, are you guys all on schedule? And do you anticipate to stay on schedule for '26 for the ones that were originally proposed?

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yeah. So, I think...I'm almost positive you asked that question, right? So, the only reason they were...they went down to 75, remember that whole...so, I mean, historically, past five years, we've always been 100 percent. It's just that, unfortunately, last year, there were...I think there was three projects I told you, right, like that permit-wise, we couldn't finish.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MR. NAKAGAWA: And so, it...that's why that dip went down. So --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MR. NAKAGAWA: -- I talked to my CIP guy again, and he said, yeah, we're all on schedule. There are some stuff he should have pushed out earlier. So, it should have been like maybe half completed, encumbered. But he said, no, he...he's going to finish that half this month, and then the rest will be bid out on the end of the year. So, I think that's for Fiscal Year '25, right?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yeah, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Just so we can anticipate what you guys can do in '26, but --

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- thank you so much.

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MR. NAKAGAWA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I...I appreciate it, all your guys' answers. I know the three of you coming down is a lot. So, thank you so much.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you very much. So, Member Cook...sorry, I didn't see you.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Mr. Nakagawa, for giving the big picture and the details. So, as far as the CIP, the...the ones that the Director mentioned, could you give us kind of an idea, taking those out, what the impact is?

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yeah. So...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Potential impact is?

MR. NAKAGAWA: Right. So, those are...so basically, those are low on the priority list because they...like, for instance, the South Kihei study, the Wailuku pump station study, erosion control, right? Those are just studies. So, technically, they're not really started, but it's something we need to look at. Even like the Lāhainā siphon and the EPA Lāhainā sewer rehab, right? Those are all things that kind of not really started yet, and so we can push them down a few years. And the key for CIP is, if you look at our six-year CIP, it's about 130 million next year, 120 million, that goes out to 80, 60, right? So, if you can push it out far enough, then everything starts to balance out, and you don't have these sewer rates down the road. And so, those are the...kind of the problems that we just figured, okay, well, let's push them out. Because push comes to shove, right? And now, and we just got to tighten the screws. The other EPA one, sewer rehab that we pushed out, technically in two years, we have 2 million again. So, we can always just pick it up in two years, right? So, it was just a kind of a, hey, what can we do? It's like a calculated, hey, let's push these out. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, my clarifying question, I guess, is it's something you can live with, but don't misunderstand that this is something that is...doesn't have a consequence, doesn't have some payment, and we should avoid if possible --

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- in the future?

MR. NAKAGAWA: Yes. Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Does that kind of summarize it?

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MR. NAKAGAWA: Yes. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. No further questions for Mr. Nakagawa. Thank you very much. Nice seeing you here.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Nice seeing you guys.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Nice seeing you.

MR. NAKAGAWA: Aloha.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any more testifiers? Oh, last testifier walking down.

MR. LAW: Last but not least, Jasee Law, Kula Uka, Waiakoa ahupua'a. I'll just make it quick. Thank you for the Royal House of Kamehameha coming in here and getting us grounded. And the recycling deal with our...what's her name? Shoot.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

MR. LAW: Cecile Powell. Yeah. Thank you. She's got red hair. I believe that's her true color. And the Royal House of Kamehameha guys will tell you, don't make a girl with red hair mad because there's this one called Pele. So, you have \$400,000, put that back in, please, for recycling.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any questions? Seeing none. Next testifier.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, there's currently no one else who signed up to testify. Would you like me to do a last call?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes, please.

MS. MACDONALD: If somebody would like to testify in the Chamber, please let Staff know, or our Microsoft Teams, please raise your hand. This is final call...three, two, one. Chair, it appears that nobody wishes to testify. The individual who has their hand raised has already testified.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much. All right. Members, I'm going to close public testimony with your permission, and we will receive written testimony.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

. . . CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I think they said she...whoever . . .*(inaudible)*. . . already testified. So...all right. Members, so I want a break for lunch. It's 12:01, and do you want to come back at 1:30?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair, is that legal?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I think I just asked to close public testimony.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: But then we cannot go to...we cannot go to lunch.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I see what you're saying.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: We got to do discussion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. We'll...we'll start. Okay. So, open...I mean, close public testimony, and who would start this? It would be...Member Sinenci, you can ask a question, and then we'll go to lunch. So, Human Concerns.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We're doing...Chair, we're doing questions? What...what...what's the format here? I thought we were like...proposing like cuts, and...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I'm sorry, yeah. . . .*(inaudible)*. . . operations.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Or are we asking questions?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We'll do operations.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: What are we asking questions about?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, if you have any amendments, Member Sinenci, this is your Committee, or for operations, A and B account, for pages 10 to 13 in Bill 41. Anybody have any amendments? You don't have any? Okay. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I move to cut B8a(3), \$1 million.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is there a second? Member Paltin, seconded by Member U'u-Hodgins. Okay. Explain.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Director Mitchell said I could.

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, Human Concerns.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Human Concerns.

MR. KRUEGER: Yeah, apologies. I believe the motion on the floor is...pertains to the Department of Housing.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, O becomes...O comes before U. L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Number 8. B8. Are we not on B8?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I...I just was going to...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Housing program.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: In order, you said go in order, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We are, we are.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, in order of the bill.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I know it's wrong. Let us start, then, with page 9 for Housing. Any amendments, Members?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We don't have a motion on the floor already? That...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, it didn't get...did you...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin's motion --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Did you second? You didn't second? You did.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- is for Housing.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Is yours for Housing?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You said Member U'u-Hodgins seconded it.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is yours for Housing?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes, it's for Housing.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Director Mitchell didn't give me authority over Director Tsuhako's budget.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Go ahead, Housing. So, it's B8...what did you say?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: B8a(3).

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. And motion made by Member Paltin, seconded by Member U'u-Hodgins. Proceed.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: The motion was for?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Cut \$1 million.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Cut \$1 million, and because Director Mitchell said you could.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I'm sorry, you said 1 million?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, I proposed \$3 million, but he...he didn't go for that.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, it's...it's one-third less than my original proposal.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, it's B8a(3), you said, huh? Okay. Any discussion? None?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The Budget Director also said we could.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Three or one? Okay. We are...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Not three, one.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: One. Okay. All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, who's not here is Chair Lee and Member Kama. So, it's seven "ayes" and two excused. Motion carries.

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VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U‘u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Vice-Chair Kama and Councilmember Lee.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I am going to break for lunch. And be back at what time, 1:30? Okay. 1:30. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 12:06 p.m.

RECONVENE: 1:43 p.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(gavel). . . Thank you. Welcome back to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. It is now 1:43, and welcome back from lunch. So, we are going to continue on with Housing, and here we’ve got Member Paltin’s one amendment. Is there any other? Seeing none. Okay. I have a...Staff has a question for budget, and the Budget Director, Ms. Milner...are you there? Are you going to pop up? There. There. Hi. Thank you. So, this is a question from Staff as they reviewed the document. On page 10 for that Haggai Institute, right, its new name. And item number 8, does it have to say HHF...or Hawai‘i Housing and Development Corporation for Hale ‘O Lā‘ie Project instead? This is the legal kind of thing.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Yes, I think that’s fine that it can say it’s for HHFDC...or no, it’s not for HHFDC. Those are for our maintenance costs for Hale ‘O Lā‘ie, so it wouldn’t be a grant to HHFDC.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Thanks for that correction. So, we can just leave it at what it says then, right? Item number 8, correct? Okay.

MS. MILNER: Yes. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. All right. There’s...Chair Lee, you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, we’re going to go through the Housing presentation and questions before we get to our priorities?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, not presentation, but opening remarks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We're doing it now, we're just going through. There's...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. No opening remarks. Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 41...Bill 41. There's no CIP... *(echoing)* Oh, why is it doing that? Okay. There's no CIP in this Department. Under Appendix A, Part I, Grants, Bill...it is page number 42. So, are there any amendments for this? Seeing none. Okay. I'm going to move on. Appendix A, Part II, Special Purpose Revenues. The following funds are under the Department *[sic]* Housing Interim Financing and Buyback Revolving Fund on page 47. And...and we also have Affordable Housing Fund, which is 51 to 54, and Members have priorities for that particular fund. And here is one that is of interest too, which is page 56, Experimental Demonstration Housing Projects Fund. And then the last fund in this Special Purpose Revenues is page 56, also, Homeowner Programs Revolving Fund. Besides your conditions, does anybody have...or priorities, does anybody have any amendments for those? Okay. Seeing none.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, sorry, I didn't see you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, I have one under the Affordable Housing Fund. . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. All right. That's your...that's your priority, right? We're going to take it all up at once, the Members' priorities. But I just wanted to find out if you had any amendments for these particular items. And then the last appendix is B, Rates and Fees, which is on 20 and *[sic]* 22, so look at 20 to 22 for Rates and Fees, and if anybody has any changes there. Seeing none. Okay. I'm going to move on. Okay. Now this is where Chair Lee was asking. So, Department of Housing for Members' priorities, on the matrix--Staff, please let me know if I'm reading this correctly, right, on your matrix--we didn't change the page numbers, correct? Okay. Matrix on pages 8, 25, and 27 are your priorities. So, I will start with Member Paltin. Your residency area number 2 for 3 million.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I move to add to B8a(7), \$3 million of General Fund monies --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- for the Insurance Gap Program.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. In the Affordable Housing Fund?

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- General Fund monies. As the testifiers mentioned, that there is an invisible class of people whose houses burnt down, that they're unable to get the same kind of assistance opportunities as everyone else, and...and, you know, these are our regular people in Lāhainā because, you know, the cost of living is much higher in Lāhainā than other places in the County. And they're not receiving the same kind of assistance that those in the low-to-moderate, or even 140 percent and below are receiving. I don't know...I keep trying to turn on my camera, but it keeps turning itself off, so that's not...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I didn't turn mine on.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm sorry. I don't know what's...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Can you let her in?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I got two programs going?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, you're talking about...can you give me...the number is in Housing. So, you're talking about a? 8? Did you say 8a?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: B --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 8b?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- 8a(7), increase General Fund, 3 million, to LCLT for the Insurance Gap Program. And this is kind of like, you know, the rental assistance, people that aren't in those specific categories nowadays are needing assistance as well. Basically, everyone's needing assistance except for maybe Elon.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We won't go into that discussion. Okay. Did you get that? Can you repeat that, the motion for the Members?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I move to...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I meant them, but you can.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, sorry. Okay. Go ahead.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, Staff's understanding of the motion on the floor right now is to increase condition...or item number 7 under the Housing Program, relating to the grant to Lahaina Community Land Trust from 3 million to \$6 million.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm going to rejoin is the --

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- the advice I've been given, but I'm still here, live and direct.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Did you hear what...okay. Why don't you do that, and then join us again so we can get you live and direct? Oh, we still don't see you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I'm here. *(echoing)* Can you see me?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And you're echoing. Oh, now...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: My computer has a mind of its own right now. I don't know what's going on.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we can see you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Okay. We're ready, we're back on live.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, do you...do you all need her to say her motion again, or was that offline?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, motion made by Member Paltin, and the second was by who? Gabe Johnson? Okay. Okay. Explain, you did. Yes, Member U'u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Paltin, for bringing this up. I know we heard testimony this morning about this, and they said that every situation is unique, which I can totally appreciate, but out of curiosity, about how many more families would perhaps receive a grant with the added 3 million, and how many families do you think are the total impacted?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, roughly 300 is the total. It depends on the situation. It's been anywhere from 2 to 400 is the gap...2 to 400,000 is the gap, so like maybe ten additional families, if...if we're lucky.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And each family puts...you know, it's not going to be like they're going to rebuild and flip the house. You know, this is in Lāhainā hands, and, you know, I...my memory just popped up of the workshops we did at the high school last year--I

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guess it's been a year already--and one of the biggest blue dots was same neighbors. Everybody wanted same neighbors, so this is --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: That's a good thing.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- one way to make those blue dots happen.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you so much.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sure.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And...and reminder, they're not the ones going out and building the mega-mansions, because it's only for, like, the similar square footage and bedrooms than what they had before.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And pools.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No pools. No pools --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- will be funded with this money.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member, you want to hear the motion again? You're fine? Okay. All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That's nine ayes. Motion carries.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. All right. So...okay. We went through all of the funds and rates and fees, so now we are in the Members...oh, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, yes? You have more amendments?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, I'm just ready for our priorities.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Good.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And mine will be in the Revolving Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So...all right. So, in the Members' priorities, as you know, some of you have Affordable Housing Fund. And in the Affordable Housing Fund--we can get this clarified by Staff or by Director Milner--but the remaining balance after what is listed in the budget today, Bill 41 from the Mayor, is about 1.5 million. And some of your projects that are in there are going to be exceeding what's available funding. So, that's going to be a decision you're going to have to make if you add to the Affordable Housing Fund. So, first, we're going to start off with Member Paltin. You want to talk about your priority? I don't see a page number here.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Do you have...yes?

MR. KRUEGER: Councilmember Paltin's Affordable Housing Fund priority is on page 25 of the matrix.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, of the matrix. Okay.

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MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. KRUEGER: Staff will also note that there are other priorities relating to operations as well. So, I'm not sure, Chair, if you wanted to do all the operations priorities first before moving to the Revolving Funds. That could also be an option for the Committee.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And...or...yeah, you let us know.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I see for Affordable Rental Assistance Program, from Member Sinenci. Residency area 2 is Member Paltin, grant to Lāhainā Community Land Trust for a total of 6 million...add 3, so it'll be 6 million total. Councilmember Johnson, Countywide 4, add a new appropriation, emergency transitional housing. Those are the ones that I see. Oh, and Lānaʻi Affordable Housing Project, as well as the...Sinenci has the Affordable Rental Assistance Program. Councilmember --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Rawlins-Fernandez? Yes?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: On page 8 of the handout with all of our priorities, it has Councilmember Sinenci, then myself twice, and then Councilmember Paltin's last, which we just passed. So, can we just go down the page from top to bottom? It would be Councilmember Sinenci's first, and then my two after. If --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You want to work off this?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- we can just...it would be just a little bit easier for us to follow along. Because we're bouncing --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- around a little bit.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we'll...we'll take eight then.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Is that okay?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, I have here then for Member Sinenci...you want to go first? The top of page 8.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Move to increase Housing Programs under Grants and Disbursements for Affordable Rental Assistance Programs by 1.35 million,

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for a total of 4,350,000, to address the MEO waitlist of applicants needing rental assistance.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member Sinenci, second by Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Chair, we've been following the Governor's eviction moratorium lift, and the...the FEMA changes to rental assistance, as well as the Maui Mediation landlord and tenant proceedings. We are seeing that rental contracts are moving to a month-to-month basis, which provides less long-term rental security for our residents. And so, we're also seeing litigation filed by some out-of-state landlords trying to collect past rents...the rents and arrears for our tenants. And so, this was, we wanted to help keep those...these tenants housed. The Housing Department has \$3 million for rental assistance. However, Chair, those funds are restricted to Ka Hale A Ke Ola, Women Helping Women, Family Life Center, and...and the MEO. However, they're also on a biannual too, so...and I do see a Member...I mean Director Cabebe, who...who testified to having a waitlist of applicants. And she...and she did mention that she could use 1.5 million to address this waitlist. And...and then Deputy Mataafa also stated that there's 150,000 still in the fund. And so, that's why we've brought it to 1.35 million, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much. You know, when we do our presentations of what we want, I'm going to...I'm going to time it so that we can move on. So, you don't --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, sorry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- have to stay here until midnight. No, no, no, that's fine. I just never did that before. Anybody have discussions? Yes, Member U'u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for this. About how many more families do you think will be able to be helped with the additional monies for the rental assistance?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I didn't...she didn't mention the...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I think the max in a year is 24,000. So, if you divide --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- that would probably be the minimum amount helped. Because I don't know if everyone needs the max.

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other questions? Seeing none. You're ready to vote?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: That's 56 more families-ish.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, Ms. Toshikiyo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Ms. Toshikiyo? Sorry.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Hi, Chair. Sorry, I have a question for Member Sinenci. Whether this is an increase of the 1.35 and...and an added line item proviso that the funding will go to MEO --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Correct.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: -- or is it just an increase to the pot?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: To MEO. I...I did not receive any correspondence from the...from the other three restricted. We did have Director Cabebe come and testify during our budget proceedings.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Okay. So, then the total amount will be...it's an increase of 1.35 million for a total of 4.35. Do you know what the total amount for the grant to MEO would be?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I believe it's 850,000, per the four agencies. So, the...I guess the 1.35 would be addition to the...the 850,000. However, Deputy Mataafa did say that there was an additional 150,000 in the fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Milner just popped up. Ms. Milner?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. In...in line with what Kristina Toshikiyo was discussing, I just wanted to confirm, was the intent to do 1.5 plus the 150...or 850, so it would be a total of 2.35 specifically for MEO?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes. Thank you, Director.

MS. MILNER: Okay. Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo, Councilmember Sinenci.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Thank you.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any other questions? Seeing none. All in favor, raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That’s nine “ayes.” Motion carries.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U’u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, next on the list is Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I move to insert a new line item entitled Emergency Transitional Housing in the amount of 250,000. Insert condition to read up to 250,000 is for Maui Rapid Response.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member Johnson, second by Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Chair. I know we’re on limited time, so just give me a moment and I’ll explain a little bit of this. In my first time as Affordable Housing Chair, I went to O’ahu and Finland to see what models they were using to help combat houselessness. One of the models I witnessed that could be replicated here in Maui County was to use residential homes for transitional housing, either County-owned and managed by a nonprofit, or owned and managed by a nonprofit. Each home would have a live-in caseworker/caregiver helping the residents get back on their feet and find permanent housing. For the last three years, Maui Rapid Response has been doing just this, in renting a home on Maui for emergency transitional

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housing. In this time, 31 people have been sheltered for 3 to 90 days due to gaps in housing, domestic violence, or, for example, not qualifying for FEMA. Maui Rapid Response recently were offered the opportunity to purchase this home for below-market value at \$700,000. My priority is to help buy down this home with County funds to the amount of 250,000, with Maui Rapid Response funding the remainder. I reached out to the Administration and worked with the Budget Director to find out where this proposal would be best-suited, and if they would support and facilitate the grant. They agreed to help administer the initiative upon several conditions, which Maui Rapid Response are more than happy to comply with. First off, use in perpetuity. County gets first rights of refusal if M...if MRR decides to sell the property. And a resale based on a resale formula, which is managed appreciation. Housing will be responsible for issuing the grants at any resale or acquisition down the line, and Human Concerns will assist with the drafting of the agreement and any reporting requirements related to the confirming and continuing use of the proposal as transitional housing. And finally, Human Concerns will assist with the review of the reports as it relates to the use of the property as transitional housing. I hope this model of the County partnering with nonprofits to help provide transitional housing is the first of many we give our vulnerable communities the support they need to live a life with dignity. This priority also aligns with the 2024 recommended...recommendations to address houselessness in Maui County report, which mentions the need to provide a range of options that can meet the diverse needs of people experiencing houselessness as being vital to support their journey to stability. So, I . . .(timer sounds) . . hope the Members support my motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Perfect. All right. Anybody else?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Second. Or did that happen already?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, with Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. I have a question, if the seconder doesn't.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Kama, you have a question?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I just wanted to ask Member Johnson...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Can you speak in your mic?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, I'm sorry. Thank you. I want to ask just Member Johnson if the 250,000 was going to be sufficient enough to pay down whatever the cost of that house might be, and then if you knew what those monthly mortgages and the insurances and all those things would be, too.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well, we...the house is for 700,000, which --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- is well under-value.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- And we're going to kick in --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- 250,000 --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- to buy that down. And that's...worked...we worked with Maui Rapid Response to say that is what they can afford.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: This is what we're willing to give. So, both parties, including the departments --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- seem to be on board with that number.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Good job.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I just wanted to clarify, this is the existing house that they've been using, or an additional house?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you for that clarification. It is the existing house.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then how many bedrooms and bathrooms?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, that one I don't know, how many bedrooms or bathrooms.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Never mind. Next question. So, then if we don't do this, they could possibly lose what they've been using as a transitional house?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well, I don't know how...how serious the...the person is willing to sell, but they did go below market value, which seems like that's a nice fit.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: What's the geographical location?

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Actually, Director Milner's on the call, and she can answer the questions for that. I know she just texted me that it's a three-bedroom. So, there's that, and...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, like the manager would live in one bedroom, and then there's two other bedrooms for the transitional folks?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right. It's going to be a live-in, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And the geographic location?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Director Milner, is it in South Maui?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Johnson. Yes, it's located in South Maui, in Kihei.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I'll...I'll yield my time to Ms. Toshikiyo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, she just popped up. Ms. Toshikiyo.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Thank you. I can't write that fast. So, Member Johnson, the restrictions that you're putting on the funding, is...is that going to be part of the conditional language that you'll be including in the budget that's tied to this appropriation?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I don't think so, but if you want...I mean, do you want it to be put in there?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: That's...that's your choice. Because if that's the language that you want to restrict the funding to that will be going into the grant agreement as part of the whole transaction, then my recommendation is that yes. Because I don't believe we have a similar program with all of those restrictions that would automatically --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: -- apply by law. Because I believe this is a general-funded project.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I...I...my intention, Ms. Toshikiyo, was to inform my intention to the Councilmembers, and let the Administration administer it. If you feel that it should be put in, I would prefer that they just do it internally, but I think as long as the Members agree with those are the kinds of things that they want in there, I would let the Administration administer it. That's the way I feel on it.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Okay. Thank you. And then...so the...it's for the...this is for the purchase. Did you want to put in a TMK number or anything so that it's very specific, or you're going to just leave it broad, which is...that's your preference?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good idea.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I...I...I would just leave it broad, but I think...again, the Administration (*echoing*) would probably want --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wait.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- want to have that in the grant.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So we need the TMK number, Ms. Toshikiyo?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes. If...if this grant is very specific to the purpose of acquiring a certain property, then that would be my recommendation. If not, it would be pretty broad, because I think the language is just for Maui Rapid Response. I know we have your intention on the record, but in order to solidify it, and it becomes part of the ordinance.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. If...if that's how we move forward, can we do a friendly amendment for that TMK? And I hope Director Milner might have that TMK number on hand, we could read it in the record.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director Milner? Or I'm sure she's sitting with Director Mitchell.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I have the address, but I do not have the --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MS. MILNER: -- TMK, but I can provide that to Staff.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Wonderful.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Anything more on this? So, it's 250,000 for Maui Rapid Response for this home, three-bedroom. Oh, anybody else? Sorry. Oh, I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair, just a...just a --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I didn't see you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- clarification.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I wasn't sure if the award would be going to Maui Rapid Response or their fiscal sponsor. Because I have a similar one for Maui Rapid Response, but I'm...I'm doing...but I don't know if it's...if it's for the same. If it's to their fiscal sponsor, it would be Maui Collective, Inc.?

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Mine was going to be for Maui Rapid Response, but --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- if...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It's up to the body.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, the name has to be correct. So, does...does Ms. Milner have a correct name for Maui Rapid Response, or a legal name?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mine is...

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I don't have a legal name for Maui Rapid Response, and I was not informed in our communications of the use of a fiscal sponsor, so I will defer to Councilmember Sinenci and Councilmember Johnson to determine how that will move forward. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: It's Maui Grassroots Collective, Inc.--Inc. [*sic*].

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. If that's who it is, then that's who it is. Maui Grassroots Collective then.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Inc. [*sic*].

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Inc. [*sic*].

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Incorporated. [*sic*].

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Grassroots Collective, Inc. [*sic*]. Inc., [*sic*] yeah, you said?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. All right. So, we got the legal name, how many bedrooms, you're going to get the TMK number, and we'll add that to this. So, this is an addition of \$250,000, and under Housing then it would go under 8a, and it would be number 11; is that correct, Staff?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, apologies. Are you asking where...or what we'll be inserting?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

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MR. KRUEGER: Yes, so right now, we have it as a new item number 11 under a, Housing Program.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: It would be the line item entitled Emergency Transitional Housing, in the amount of \$250,000, with the following condition: up to \$250,000 must be for Maui Grassroots Collective, Inc. [sic], on behalf of Maui Rapid Response, for the purchase of tax map key, and then we'll insert the tax map key when we get it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. And I think Member Johnson also said that if they sell the house, the house...we have first rights of refusal or something.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That is...that is correct. County gets first right of refusal if they decide to sell the property, and the resale is based on the managed appreciation amount.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. So, that's new money, 250,000.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm...I'm on the phone with her, and she says it's just Maui Grassroots Collective, no Inc. or LLC.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Let's clarify that then.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I'll take mine off.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And did...I have her on the phone, so does anyone have any other questions for her?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: She can give us the tax map key.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Do you know the tax map key?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Not now, but if she could...if she could provide us some kind of legal...okay. Okay. Does she want to...you want to finish her conversation? Yes, Member Paltin, anything else?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No, no, she said it's just Maui Grassroots Collective.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. No Inc.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. KRUEGER: Apologies. So, Staff would just request two clarifications. The first one is, so the...the restrictions relating to the first right of refusal and the...how the resale price will be determined, that should be included in the condition?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. If...if...I was letting the...the Administration --

MR. KRUEGER: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- administer it, but --

MR. KRUEGER: No, no, no.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- if you want it, I just think it'd be cleaner.

MR. KRUEGER: Sorry, apologies. Staff doesn't have a recommendation on that, it's just after we read the condition, it sounded like perhaps that was supposed to be in there, but...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I...I would prefer that we let...leave it to the...you know, these are departments that are willing to work with them, we're willing to fund it, and I'd leave it...let them administer it. That's my...my two yen on it.

MR. KRUEGER: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: And do you want the actual TMK? I can give it...read it into the record.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Don't do that?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. We'll...we'll...I'll talk to you guys afterwards for the actual TMK.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah. That's...yeah, there's sensitive people, or sensitive folks that stay there, so we'll just leave it for the Administration to administer that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right.

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MR. KRUEGER: Then...oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Any...go ahead.

MR. KRUEGER: Apologies. The second clarification is, if perhaps Staff could just have some leeway to work on whether or not there should be an Inc. in there. DCCA seems to indicate that it's Maui Grassroots Collective, Inc. So, perhaps if we could just --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sure.

MR. KRUEGER: -- you know, have time...be able to check on that afterwards. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Go ahead.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So you're fine? All right. Members, any more discussion? If not, all in favor, say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That's nine "ayes." Motion carries.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Mahalo, Members.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. This is new money, 250. And at some point, we're going to have to think about balancing this budget and make sure that we have less of a budget than the Mayor submitted is my goal. So, we have work to do...to do some finding money. All right. Next we have...who is next?

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I would assume --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Gabe Johnson again.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- it's mine again, Chair. I move to add 5 million to B as in Bravo, 8, a as in Alpha, (6), to the Lānaʻi Affordable Housing Project, and change the language to--okay, to support infrastructure plans, scope, and construction for water, wastewater, roads, curbs, gutters, and utilities. If I can get a second, I'll explain that because I'm on the timer.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Who did the second? Chair Lee? Oh, Member Kama. Okay. Motion made by Member Johnson, by Member Kama as a second. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Members. As you may have recalled, I flew out to Washington, D.C. last year to ask for congressional spending for this project. We were...we were planning to get \$5 million, and then, as you know, the congressional spending all got cut. So, this \$5 million is to make up from that...that lost monies, and the other part of it is to increase the scope of the use of the funds. And I reached out to the Department, and they are in full support of this. That's my motion. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That's number 8, on affordable housing, is what you said.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. KRUEGER: Apologies. Could Staff just ask clarification? So, as part of the motion, then the line item would change. We would delete water and wastewater infrastructure development, and replace that with, to support infrastructure plans, scope, and construction for water, wastewater, roads, curbs, gutters, and utilities?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

MR. KRUEGER: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. So, this is number...number...number 7 [sic] on the Affordable Housing Fund; is that correct? Staff, what number is it on the Affordable Housing Fund?

MR. KRUEGER: Oh, Chair, apologies. This is under the Housing Program and Operations. This one's on page 10 --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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MR. KRUEGER: -- of the budget bill.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: It's number 6.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. So, number 6.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

MR. KRUEGER: Lānaʻi Affordable Housing Project.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I got it. You have a question?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I do.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: For Mr. Johnson.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Member Kama. Go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Mr. Johnson, does this include design money, too?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: The design money? Okay. Let's see here.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Because you got to design the project first, right?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. There is...there is a design out already.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: But there is a lot of things that this includes. But yeah, there is the design here. Remember, this is an old 201H project. So, that's when they talk about it --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- being fully entitled, ready to go.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Yeah. Okay. Thank you. Yeah. Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Anybody else have a question on this? Okay. So, you're adding new money?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Uh-huh.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: And...and on number 6. And you're substituting, as stated, for water, wastewater, roads, curbs, gutters, and utilities. Okay. Any questions? Member Cook?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. I'm definitely supportive of more affordable housing on Lānaʻi. I find it challenging, with the way we're at now, to put this amount of money in because of the amount of time that it's going to take to materialize into housing when we have other projects that are potentially going to provide housing more near-term. Just if...from your conversations with the developer and everybody, how far will the \$10 million get them this year, and then adding to the next? So, I'm just I'm trying --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- I'm just trying to put it in perspective. I'm supportive, but --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- I'm having a hard time with this, because we have a lot of asks.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: The timeline is, this year, we're going to do the infrastructure. Remember, they're still going to go back and ask for more congressional spending next year. So, let's push as far as we can for the infrastructure. Remember, this is a large parcel with more than one phase. In fact, I'll give you the full amount. This...this housing project will produce over 372 residential units for families and seniors on the Island of Lānaʻi. So, that's a very large parcel, very large project. But for Phase I, they are ready to go for the infrastructure. And that's, as we know, where the biggest part, the biggest cost, you guys know. So, it's...get that infrastructure in, and the vertical will move much more faster.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: What...what percentage of the infrastructure will the 10 million get/ 15 million get? I mean is...what percentage of the infrastructure is that going to get accomplished?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: My understanding, it will do all of the...all of the infrastructure that is included in that extra language, which is water, wastewater, roads, curbs, gutters, and utilities.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, that's for the first phase?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well...okay. They still can tap into the waterlines for the other phases. And actually, the...there is...so the possibility...the recycled waterline will be...will also...Phase II can also use that as well. And I want to remind everybody that Hawaiian Homes is sharing the border. So, when they build...when Hawaiian Homes

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begins to build, and I don't know if you heard in the paper, but Hawaiian Homes is going to be building on Lāna'i, they get to share that infrastructure costs. They get to share those...those borders. So, it's really important to get this infrastructure in because it unlocks the affordable housing for the Hawaiians as well.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: And just...I spoke previously with you, so we can't use the GE funds on this because of the private water system.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, DHHL won't be able to use this either, they'll...the GE anyway. They'll basically...it has to be funded alternately because the private water system, because of the State criteria prohibits the GE funds being used for this infrastructure; is that accurate?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's correct, Councilmember Cook. As soon as the funding gets allocated, this developer's ready to go for the infrastructure.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, good question. Could I...could I ask? So, Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is the 10 million enough to start from what you just said?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: The...the infrastructure, yes. And that's, as you know, the biggest cost. So, once they get going, the...they...you know, the 15 is...we...we weren't expecting to lose the congressional funds, but we did. And we all know that that's just how...where we're at right now. Ten million is not enough because we were planning to get that five...that five from the congressional. So, 15 is the...is the spot where they need to go. They really need that 15, but what can you do when the Feds do that? So, I'm here to advocate to push for the extra five. You know, when the Administration puts in ten, they're serious on doing it. So, I want them to, you know, complete the project with the 15.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: The infrastructure, I should say.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we know what's happening with Federal Government, where it's...things change often. So, it's for sure the Federal funding got cut or denied, I guess?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's correct.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Members, this is 5 million more. Okay. Member U'u-Hodgins?

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Johnson. As a reminder, this is the County-owned property. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, it is.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So, we're investing in ourselves.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: And then the...if I can remember right, is it the Bigley, Doug Bigley, who is helping us with this project?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's correct, Ikaika Ohana and Doug Bigley, guys. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Ikaika Ohana, that's right. And then, are they getting funding from any other sources? Besides the congressional spending that we lost?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I'm sure they are. It's...let me see. They're...they're...they're going to be applying for the HHFDC money. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Because remember that they specialize in the 80 percent AMI and belows, and that's HHFDC sweet spot. So, as...as you all know, that if the developer comes to HHFDC with County-owned land and County monies, you score real high.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. So, this then is going to be rentals?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Phase I will be a rent-to-own model, which --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- they have done on the Big Island, and --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- kūpuna housing, which is rentals.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Rent-to-own, and then kūpuna housing.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Kūpuna housing, not rent-to-own, or rent?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: They're just rentals for the kūpuna housing.

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It's like a, you know, multi, you know, eight...

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Multi-level?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah, multi-level.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So...

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thanks, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, if you look at the Affordable Housing Fund, this is the same project that's listed there on number 7, which is up to...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Number 6? Or...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: In the Affordable Housing Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, it is A0745 Lānaʻi, L.P. Is that the same project?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, there's a loan for 7.2 million Kaiaulu O Lānaʻi Project --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- located in Lānaʻi City.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's the one.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's the one. Okay. So, just curious, why wouldn't you want that to be in the Affordable Housing Fund?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: There's...why was...because...

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: I mean, why wouldn't the Administration want to put it in the Affordable Housing Fund? I guess not necessarily you, but...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 5 million didn't happen, but...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah, I've tried my darndest to make sure that we could get some Federal fundings for that. Flying to D.C. isn't easy just to lobby Senator Schatz and those guys for money. And I did it, but when they cut it, then that's just the end of that, right? So...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Members, anything else? All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye." So, this is going to be...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Roll call.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, roll call. Proceed.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, proceeding with roll call vote. Council Chair Lee.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Excused.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

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MS. MACDONALD: Committee Vice-Chair Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. MACDONALD: Committee Chair Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No. Oh, and Chair Lee's back.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. MACDONALD: Oh, Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, that is seven "ayes," two "noes." Motion passes.

**VOTE: AYES: Vice-Chair Kama and Councilmembers Cook,
Johnson, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and
U'u-Hodgins.**

NOES: Chair Sugimura and Councilmember Paltin.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Mahalo, Members.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. All right. Next item. So...okay. That was Gabe. Tamara Paltin?
Tamara Paltin? Do you have another one?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I move to keep the 33 million in the Affordable Housing
Fund because it expires at the end of this fiscal year for Pulelehua.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member Paltin, seconded by Chair Lee for
Pulelehua. What number is it in the Affordable Housing Fund?

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's 18 and 15, I believe, and the paperwork is on Corp. Counsel's desk, I believe, to move forward for Pulelehua.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What page in the matrix . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: 25.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair? Apologies.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. KRUEGER: Staff would just like to ask clarification. Does the motion include the addition of the condition included in your priority, or is it just for the funding right now?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, sure.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I move to...that...and...and it's...it's not an increase, it's existing money that expires, so I move to keep up to 33 million must be for the Pulelehua project at TMK (2) 4-3-001:082 and 083, located at...on Akahahele Street in Lāhainā, Maui, Hawai'i, for infrastructure and to complete Phase I with 100 percent affordable units. And if I get a second, I'll speak.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. So...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin, and second by Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I had a meeting with First Deputy Kahahane...I mean, not officially, but we talked at the other meeting in Lāhainā. To...she's supportive, she just doesn't have a definition for CWRM, what affordable means. And to me, the most definition is land that's zoned correctly, land that's entitled, land that has...you know, it's not like we're doing a 201H or it's ag land, or it's not in the community plan, it's 100 percent affordable. And to the other point, these folks are building sewer and R-1 to and from the project above the highway. And so, if we change the law that you have to tie into existing line, this could provide redundant capacity for a managed retreat of the lower road. They're working on sewer lines in Wahikuli where some of it has to go up, and so there's pump systems for that. I mean, there's portions of the lower road that are...are going to be underwater in the next 60 years, so I'm not sure why there's not master planning being done around that, but they will also take whatever R-1 they add in to the sewage system. And if it were me, I would have started two years ago, so that 240 Lāhainā families could be living in Lāhainā right now.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Member Paltin. Anybody else? Member U'u-Hodgins.

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. Member Paltin, in her explanation, said that there are some grants on Corp. Counsel's desk?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Some...the paperwork to deal --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh, paperwork.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- with the...I think it's the residential workforce housing agreement, maybe, or something.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. I just wanted --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: But I know the paperwork...

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- some clarity, and then I'll ask.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm not sure exactly what the paperwork is, but that's --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- what I've been told.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Can I please ask Ms. Toshikiyo?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo? Member U'u-Hodgins has a question for you.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Can you please clarify what documents you have for Pulelehua that Member Paltin was referencing?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: I don't have anything currently pending. There was a draft residential workforce housing agreement, I think, in the...amended in the fall, but that was then up for revisions. But the...I don't have either grants...either the original one for, I believe, 18 million, or the one that's from Fiscal Year '25. Those are not pending with our office.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So, you had a draft workforce housing agreement, is that what you said? I'm sorry.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. I know they had one, maybe for the \$18 million, but I believe that's, at that time, a 2.96 project, and this...this language is for a 100 percent affordable unit, which is not 2.96. Is that what's being changed, or what's being changed?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The phase is 100 percent. Phase I is 100 percent affordable.

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Phase I.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And they would like to...

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes, I think that there were changes in the phasing by front-loading the affordables, but I don't believe the original grant appropriation...I'd have to go back and look at what that was from, I guess it was from calendar year 2022. I...I kind of recall from our discussion last budget that there would need to be a change to that older \$18 million grant in order to align with the...the new proposed project.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Has that been done? Because I believe the original \$18 million, that was for for-sale units, and was to help pay down the individual units. And then I know we've had a few iterations, and right now, it's supposed to be 100 percent affordable rentals. Yes?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes, it's phased.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes. So, if it's 100 percent affordable rentals, and that differs from the budget appropriation in--I guess it was Fiscal Year '23, I think that was a budget amendment, if I recall correctly--then in order to amend the grant agreement, we would have to do some other steps, which would include, I think, either terminating so that the funds would be lapsed back into the Affordable Housing Fund, and then reappropriated, and then a new grant would have to be executed that aligns with the new project.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Or the new...I'm sorry, the revised project. Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Right, right, right. Okay. Thank you so much. Maybe this is a question for either you, Ms. Toshikiyo, or Member Paltin, but...so the status of the \$18 million will lapse June 30th, 2025, and then what about the \$15 million when we added from last year? What's the status on those monies, and are they also lapsing on June 30th, 2025?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: So, the \$18 million from the grant that was executed, I have the certification in front of me, on December 30th, 2022, that grant will terminate on June 30th, 2025. So, if it's not extended, then it will then lapse the funding. For the appropriation from last year, so for Fiscal Year 2025, I'm not aware of any movement on the application. I don't have a request to do the...the grant, but that one, if it's not encumbered by the end of this fiscal year, the funding would then lapse back into the Affordable Housing Fund. And I saw Director Milner just popped up as well. She might have a little bit more information.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Toshikiyo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director Milner.

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MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmembers. Yes, the intended grantee has not submitted an application for FY '25 to date, so there is no application in process. If the intent of the body is to use that 15 million this year, I can inform the Department. We didn't include it in the estimated balance because they do have until June, but as I stated, no application has been submitted. So, if the intent is to use that 15 million, obviously, they will quit asking them if they're going to submit an application. And I would also advise, because the 18 million is still encumbered, that the body consider a condition similar to what they did in FY '25 that states if the original grant agreement is terminated, the budget must be amended so the amount disencumbered is allocated to increase the funding for this project by the same amount, and so make this line item 15 million again. And then if that other agreement is terminated, we can come back with a budget amendment to bump it back up to 33. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: From...from the applicant...

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Oh, I'm sorry, Chair, if I could...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: From the applicant side, they --

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- said that the Administration has had all of those documents, the amended grant language for the original grant, the new grant application, and the new residential workforce housing agreement reflecting all of the changes since last December, early January. Unless the Administration told us that Corporation Counsel had it and lied, we have numerous emails from the Housing Department, including from Buddy Almeida and the entire Housing team, saying that it's all the documents are under review with Corporation Counsel since end of December.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo? Did you hear that?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: I did. I did, Chair. But I did want to point out that the...out of the \$18 million from that older grant, there, I think, was money, some funds spent out, so then it wouldn't be the full \$18 million that would then, I guess, lapse at the end of the fiscal year when the...the grant terminates, because I think there was some monies paid out.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, I remember that.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .(inaudible). . .

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: So...go ahead, Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. The last time we had this conversation about this project, I know we were going back and forth with prevailing wage, and then I think everything went in limbo. Do you, Member Paltin, have an updated status on that?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. They...they pulled all the things, and I think the difference was one million, and their feeling was as long as the Administration was holding all their paperwork, they weren't going to pay that until they move forward because they felt that they could pay the one million and still get the shaft as they're getting right now. So, they're intending to pay it because...but they want to ensure that they will be moving forward.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. I...I hear you on that. I don't...I disagree, that probably the money should have been paid, and I...I would wish for better work together between Admin and everybody else if that's the case. But for me, it's going to be a no right now. Thanks, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I have a...Member Johnson, then I have a question after.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. I...I...I'm trying to understand, I'm getting mixed messages with the Admin. And...now I understand they can't move forward without water, and if there's an update, I'd love to learn more about it, but also, maybe...oh, did you want to add to that?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, I have a meeting scheduled with the First Deputy after we finish budget. She could have met earlier, but I was like, I cannot. And right now, they can't move forward without the residential workforce housing agreement, which is in the hands of the Administration. It's, I don't think, any different than the County asking for a declaratory ruling on the Kahana Well. You know, the...the situation...I totally support CWRM, the Ground and Surface Water Special Management Area designation, given all the data, but I think people are forgetting that an entire town burnt down, and like 10,000 people were displaced. And so, like I said, if it were up to me, I would have started on the Kaiāulu Nāpili as soon as the fire happened. I would have given the green light to Pulelehua, like right away, so that people could be living back in West Maui right this minute. It's interesting to say that we have money...or water for Nāpili, but we don't have water for Pulelehua when Nāpili is still zoned Ag. And...and I'm supportive of both, but it...it feels pretty politic-y [*sic*] right now.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, can I ask Director Milner, has there been discussions with the developer for the County to buy some of that land so they can kind of jump up in the scorings for CWRM to get water?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director, did you hear the question?

MS. MILNER: Yes. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Johnson. Yes, the County is having discussions. I believe that there are details on that in either HO-3 or HO-4,

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which was transmitted this week...HO-3. And some information on that is pending. Documents are being routed through the County right now to look into the feasibility of acquiring a portion of the property. I don't believe it would have anything to do with moving them up in the scoring --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MS. MILNER: -- but we are in conversation. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Councilmember Paltin, you speak with the developer often. Is...are they willing to work with...I mean, it seems so...I'm just trying to find a path. Is...is the developer willing to sell some land to the County if that's would help them in their cause?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That's what Angus said at David Malo day. But, you know, if...if the developer is not being allowed to move forward --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- for whatever reason, what good is fully-entitled land with no housing? But ultimately, I think that's a question for Mr. Chang.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Um-hum. Okay. Thank you for that. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, I...I...I went to the CWRM meeting. I think that was one of the questions about Pulelehua and its eligibility to get water. And it sounded like probably not because they're not County-owned, or it's not government-owned, and it put them in like another class. And Member Paltin probably knows all the terminology better, but I think they still have water challenges.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, they have two wells, and reverse osmosis is a proven technology. They're using the same person to do that stuff as the Wailea 670. So, if you believe that Wailea 670 has water, then I don't know. You know, if you don't believe Pulelehua has water, we can't believe Wailea 670 because they're using the same consultant.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, this project has been going on for kind of long, and I know that this has been one of the challenges. So, it sounds like it hasn't been solved, then. Is that correct, from what you just said?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, the residential workforce housing agreement is in the Administration's hands. The Administration has not been helpful in moving forward this permanent affordable housing that is desperately needed in West Maui. They're meeting with CWRM...the developer's meeting with CWRM on Monday. I can call the First Deputy right now if you want. I mean, but I was going to meet with her after budget.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: It just relates to your budget...your...your...your amendment. And I guess I'm wondering then, should this be...instead of 33 million, should it be for the 18 or the 15, Ms. Toshikiyo? Or the whole thing?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Thank you, Chair. I'd also have to want to confer with the Budget Director if she's available because, as she stated, the initial 18 million is still encumbered under that grant, which sounds like the scope has changed for their 100 percent affordable Phase I project, which means that we can't just amend it. We would have to, like, go through the whole reappropriation process. But at this point in time, that funding is encumbered. As to the Fiscal Year '25, that also is right now appropriated. So, I...I don't know what the timing would look like because if the intention is still to enter into that grant agreement before the funding lapses at the end of this fiscal year, or if it's going to be intended for fiscal year...the following fiscal year --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Milner?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: -- that we're working on right now. Sorry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Milner, you popped up. You have something?

MS. MILNER: Thank you...yes, thank you, Chair. So, as Kristina said, yeah, the 18 million is still encumbered. So, I feel if the Council does a line item here for the full 33 million, they would need to find 18 million in additional funding to move into the Affordable Housing Fund. I think we can do something similar with the 15 million that we did last year with the Aikanaha and recognize it in '25 and '26 because we don't know how timing's going to work out. But the 18 million, I think you would need to find additional funding to cover that. So, that's why I recommended making this for 15 million and adding the conditional language that if the original grant agreement is terminated, the budget has to be amended to put it toward this project. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Friendly amendment.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Ms. Milner, sounds like Miss...Member Paltin is interested in what you just said. Can you send that to our Staff? Or did you get it?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, yes. If we could just confirm with the Budget Director that it's just the same language that was included in FY '25 for the 15 million for Pulelehua.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Yes, the...I was recommending the fifth condition that was under the FY '25 Pulelehua project, and then reducing the amount from 13 million to 15 million for Fiscal Year '26, and increasing the estimated balance by 15 million. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Got it? Okay. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So --

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- I just want to know that with all the numbers and all the FYs that have been tossed around, is there...it possible to get, by F...by Fiscal Year '24, '25, '26, how much money are we talking about each one of these years?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: 33 million total as soon as possible is the answer.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, we talked about 18 million in...was '24, right? Sometime around there, early...earlier before that, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: When Victorino was Mayor.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: And then there was 15 last year, I think, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 20...'25.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: And then what did we have for '26...or '25?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Where did 13 million come from that I heard, Member...I mean --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Ms. Milner?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- Ms. Milner?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo popped up.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Chair? Yeah, Chair, thank you. Just the history of this one. So, grant number...I don't...is it...ah, I have it. Grant number G5884 for \$18 million. That was Fiscal Year '23 funding. So, we entered into that on December 30th, 2022, for Fiscal Year '23. And this one terminates...the agreement itself under the old scope terminates at the end of this fiscal year, so June 30th, 2025. Fiscal Year '25 has the budget language for \$15 million with all the conditions that have been discussed, as well as that language that Ms. Milner talked about, that addresses the issue with grant number G554...5884. If it terminates, then the funding would...must be...the budget must be amended so the amount disencumbered, and that language was because some of that original \$18 million was spent. So, the amount disencumbered is allocated to increase the funding for the project, so the \$15 million by the corresponding amount.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Got it. Thank you. Thank you, Ms. Toshikiyo. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's very involved. Okay. So, Member Cook.

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COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. Do we have a number of how much of the 18 million was encumbered?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I think it was like maybe 200,000 or something.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Anything else? So, can you read the motion, then? I think it's been amended.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, Ms. Toshikiyo, might have...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Ms. Toshikiyo?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yeah. Sorry, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: I...I just wanted to make a really quick correction to what was just said. So, the full 18 million was encumbered, but the amount that was expended, I don't know that amount. I believe it was in the ballpark of like a couple hundred thousand out of the 18 million was spent.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Okay. All right. So, that's what...okay. Are you ready? I'm going to get the...oh, Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: One question for, I guess, Director Milner. I want to kind of hear...I want to hear the Administration's on board with this project. And it's got slowed down before, and it doesn't...I'm not seeing any of the issues being resolved between the Admin and the builder. And that's a concern of mine, that if...if we put this money in, and the Admin, hey, they don't have to spend it, and we see that a thousand times. They didn't spend it last time. So, I'm concerned that if we tie up this money, we're tying it up. I want it to be spent, right? So, I...can...can the Administration tell us, speak to us on...on that issue? Are you...is the Department in full support? Are you guys going to try to move forward?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Or is this money going to sit?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- it was one of our written questions as well, I believe, right?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Johnson. The Administration is supportive of all affordable housing projects. For this specific project, we have been trying to work with the developer. We have gone back and forth on amendments for the

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workforce housing agreement. We had one in process, as Ms. Toshikiyo stated, but then the conditions of the project changed again, and we had to go back to the drawing board, which started us all over again. The Housing Department is not aware of any application that has been submitted for the 15 million for Fiscal Year '25. And we're still very concerned about the water issues. So, it's not that we're not supportive. We just want to ensure that any County funds that are appropriated can be used quickly, and for projects that meet the requirements of the County, such as the pay requirements. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Next, we have Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Question for Budget Director. Mahalo for responding to Member Johnson's question. I know this isn't exactly your department. I was hoping that you could elaborate a little more on the Administration's confidence in the reverse osmosis for Wailea 670, and moving that project through, and the lack of confidence, or concern of water for Pulelehua, when it's the same as Wailea 670.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director Milner? Okay. Yeah.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez. The Administration doesn't have an official position on the reverse osmosis process for either of the projects. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez, are you done?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: For now. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, if the Administration doesn't move the residential workforce housing agreement forward and whatever, I guess, and the developer is blocked from building, he will sell, and the County's made an offer. I mean it's do we want to deal with this guy who's offered affordable in perpetuity? The changes made to the contract was to front-end the affordable housing, not like we're asking for changes that our people don't want. You know, they're trying to work with the people, work with the County, but ultimately, if the Administration stops it from moving forward, then they've made offers to purchase it. So, whether this is used for the developer to build it or for us to purchase it and then maybe RFP it out, but that the County wants to purchase it if the developer doesn't move forward means at some point in time, there will be housing there, and we need housing now in West Maui desperately. So, I'm not a lawyer. I don't do contracts and all those things. I know how to do some math, but the Administration's response to permanent housing needs in West Maui is abysmal. There's no sense of urgency here when we have something staring us right in the face. I don't know why everybody can't sit in the same room and straighten it out for a few hours. That's beyond me and beyond my pay grade. But I'd say one way or another, this money for Pulelehua, whether it's for acquisition, or infrastructure, or whatever, we need it on West Maui, I

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guess, is what I would say. And...and hoping that the Administration can come on board, and sit down with the developer and the lawyers and CWRM, which I guess the developer is meeting with on Monday.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, if I understand then, this amendment changes to 15 million; is that correct?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, like appropriating it in Fiscal Year '25 and '26, like we did for the Aikanaha, I think they said.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, this is not 33, it's going to change to 15 million.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Because the other 18 is already encumbered --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's already encumbered.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- but it needs to be changed.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Ms. Toshikiyo and Ms. Milner, that's good, right? So, for today, in this budget, we're talking about 15 million and not 33. Is there any special language we need to add to make sure that we captured all that you have shared with us?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: No. My question just was to Member Paltin, whether that language that had been discussed in Section 5...or I don't know, sorry, (5)B from the Fiscal Year '25 Budget is also going to carry over regarding the funding from the \$18 million grant agreement.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That's for me.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Did you have a question? That was for Miss --

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Shucks.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: That was for Member Paltin. Thank you. Just...just to clarify what...if that 15 million is similar to last year, we had that language if the original grant agreement is terminated, the budget must be amended so the amount disencumbered is allocated to increase the funding for this project by the same amount if that was also included in your motion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes, please.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Thank you. Just had to confirm.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Staff, you got that, right? All right. So we are now...this is now 15 with the amendment just read by Ms. Toshikiyo. Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. For either Budget Director or Ms. Toshikiyo. Because the 18 million is encumbered, the contract...the grant contract, I think you said, ends June 30th. Without any conditions, what kind of assurance can you provide Member Paltin and this Council that the 18 million grant contract will be extended after it expires, or...or can it be extended now so that we can be...have that assurance? I see Budget Director. Oh. Oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Miss...

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yeah, and if I...do you want me...to go with me first?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go.

MS. MILNER: Yeah, go ahead, Kristina.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Okay. So, thank you. As we discussed, that original \$18 million, the scope that was in the budget appropriation that allowed for this grant agreement, is different from the revised budget that is...I'm sorry, the revised project that they have in terms of Phase I, where they're putting all the affordable rentals upfront. So, we would not be able to just amend or extend this because now the projects are different. And we can't amend the grant agreement because it relates to a budget from a prior year. So, what would happen is that we would either have to terminate before it terminates, or it will terminate by virtue of the June 30th, 2025, and then the funding would lapse back into the Affordable Housing Fund. And then either it would be added to the \$15 million grant agreement, which has the new revised project scope.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. So...so, that's what I'm talking about. Like, how can Member Paltin be assured that after it expires it'll, you know, go to the project? This is our Council's only opportunity to, you know, make that assurance. Budget Director?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez. Yes, that was the purpose of the conditional language that I proposed for this, is that if that grant agreement is terminated, the budget must be amended so that the amount that is disencumbered from that agreement is added to this project. So, that is the assurance to the Council, is that conditional language. So, it will be added back to this project if it is terminated.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then I want to make sure that BFED Staff got that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You have that? Mr. Krueger says they have that.

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. Yeah.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Krueger. Mahalo, Ms. Toshikiyo, and Budget Director. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'll just say, you know, the theme of this budget, the Mayor said, and like, you know, the vision is kama'āina housing priority. This developer committed to affordable in perpetuity, committed to housing for fire survivors first, committed to housing kūpuna. It's...there's other projects being looked at that's not zoned correctly, that's not in the community plan. And, you know, you guys were all here when I asked the Housing Director, and...and I didn't see a written response. So, it's not like I'm not trying. I don't know where the Mayor is. I mean, he's probably at home because he had surgery, but I don't know why he's not meeting with these people and making his vision of kama'āina housing all-affordable offer. Like where is he in advancing his own vision of kama'āina housing? The people are there at the table, you know, but where is he? And I'm not meaning literally, because I know where he is, but like, where is he in the conversation? Where's the Housing Director in the conversation? Why, in all the emails back and forth over the past year, was it not helped out that like hey, we don't have a right application for Fiscal Year '25? Like we've...we've dealt with developers before...like the Ikaika Ohana, the first time when they were building Kaiāulu O Kūpu'ohi, they were calling me all the time. I was the go-between between the Managing Director and Planning and Public Works, and they're like, these guys don't know what they're doing, and then they did it, and now they know what they're doing, and they're providing us more and more housing. But I'm not seeing that same level of cooperation for somebody who says their priority is kama'āina housing. And...and I don't know what more else to ask for out of a developer beyond in perpetuity, house fire survivors first, house our kūpuna, you know? What...have it be in the community plan, have it be in the correct zoning, provide your own water. This first phase, to put in...to use the money and put in the infrastructure does not require water, and we know eventually that the County would acquire it, and then it would have the infrastructure, and...and the deal, as it is, is not 100 percent affordable, and the developer is willing to go 100 percent affordable. He front-ended the affordable. Like, who does that? So, just waiting on the residential workforce housing agreements, pay off the prevailing wages, move forward, get some water, set up the infrastructure for managed retreat of sewer, R-1. Some people want the R-1 to go north. I don't, but, you know, they're committed to using all the R-1 they put into the system.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And that's all. I mean, I would call for the vote, but I see Member Kama has a question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, sorry. Member Kama. Sorry, I didn't see you.

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, I just want to be clear about what I...I heard these few moments, these few minutes, that if we terminate the \$18 million--what are we calling, encumbered--the \$18 million.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Encumbered funds.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: We terminate that, and then we turn around, and we have to add that to the 15 million at some point in time so that it becomes 33 million so that it does what I think Member Rawlins-Fernandez was talking about in terms of ensuring that that 33 million stays in place. So, my question is, how does this get done, and when does it get done? And will it get done today, or are we going to stay here until we get this done?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is that a question for...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I just want to know if I have to get malasadas, to make a call.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is...we should ask Ms. Milner. Ms. Milner, you probably have Housing sitting next to you.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I mean, malasadas are always a good idea, but...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I guess we're getting malasadas, and we're staying.

MS. MILNER: But if I understood Councilmember Kama's question, today we would allocate the 15 million. If the original grant agreement is terminated, which may be June 30th, and if it is June 30th, I will submit you a budget amendment for either the first or second meeting in July to reappropriate the remaining funds to the Pulelehua project.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Instead of waiting for June 30th, could we just do it sooner? Was there something...

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Kama. The funds are already encumbered, so if...if you were to add the full 33 million today, you would also need to find that 18 million in revenues to cover the delta.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I see. Okay. We'll just let it die gracefully. Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thanks for unscrambling. Can you state the motion?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. The motion on the floor made by Councilmember Paltin, seconded by Council Chair Lee, is to keep...or, you know, recognize in the estimated balance as of 6/30/25, an additional \$15 million, and add the following condition to the Affordable Housing Fund: Up to \$15 million must be for the Pulelehua project at tax map keys (2) 4-3-001:082 and 83, located on Akahale Street in Lāhainā, Maui, Hawai'i, for infrastructure, and to complete Phase I with 100 percent affordable units. If the original

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grant agreement is terminated, the budget must be amended so the amount disencumbered is allocated to increase the funding for this project by the same amount.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin, is that good?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes. Thanks, James.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. All right. Members, is it a roll call vote, or do we want...roll call? Okay.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair...Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: No.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: No.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Committee Vice-Chair Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: No.

MS. MACDONALD: Committee Chair Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, that is four "ayes," five "noes." Motion fails.

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VOTE: **AYES:** **Councilmembers Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, and Sinenci.**

NOES: **Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, and U‘u-Hodgins.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION FAILS.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Next, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Could the Budget Director repeat what she said about what she’s going to do with the new budget regarding this amount? Director Milner?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director Milner?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Chair Lee. The motion failed, so the condition is not added to the budget. So, if the \$18 million agreement lapses, those funds will return to the Affordable Housing Fund for appropriation. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I see. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. So, next we have Member Cook. Page 51 in Bill 41. It’s for your Kilohana Makai Workforce Housing Project.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, 25 on the priorities. Do you have it? I know, plenty of papers, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. On the Special Purpose Revenues, Affordable Housing Fund, Section 920, Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, Chapter 3.35, Maui County Code. Insert a new condition to read up to \$500,000 must be used for water use development fees for the Kilohana Makai Workforce Housing Project, TMK (2) 3-9-004:141, Kihei, Maui, Hawai‘i. And I’d just like to clarify...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is that your motion?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: That’s a motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Is there a second?

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COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Motion made by Member Cook, seconded by Member U‘u-Hodgins. Proceed.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Basically, the costs of construction have continually increased. This grant will be used for water use development fee for the project, which includes 30 water meters, 2 meters for irrigation, along with other auxiliary costs relating to the installation of the related infrastructure. And basically, the water meters is for the source, storage, and transmission part of the cost of meters. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I think Mr. Ueoka came and testified. Anybody have any questions for Member Cook? You have a question, Member U‘u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: I do not. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. My question for Member Cook is, have you kept the tally of all the County funds that we’ve now allocated for this project that wasn’t originally asking for money, but has piecemealed requested money year after year?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Cook?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I don’t...I haven’t...I don’t have the tally. I followed it. I’ve gone to the project. I think this project is extremely unique for its location.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I see Budget Director, she might have the answer.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez. I believe it’s been approximately \$6.5 million to date, so this 500,000 would bring it to 7 million. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Anything else, Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I feel like it was more.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I don't support the motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion? Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mr. Krueger said there were some leftover in this fund would cover this?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Please confirm the amount. I think it was over a million.

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. So, with the conditions currently existing in the...in the Affordable Housing Fund, there's 1.4 million available for conditioning. Thank you, Chair. This condition would bring it down to just about \$900,000.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. I guess it's...any more, Members? It's a roll call vote. Proceed, please.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. Who had a question?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I do. I'm sorry, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I'm sorry, I didn't see you. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I get...thank you, Chair. Following that line of questioning before about why we don't use GE funds for this, if this is water?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, because it's...it's not our...it's not County property.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Is that why, is it...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I believe because it's on-site, not off-site. So, the water meters are...water meters are the County, but it's off-site, but it's the responsibility of the developer. So, that could be asked for the Budget Director, I don't know.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Milner? Did you hear?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember. So, this is for water use development fees. This is not for the water infrastructure. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Sinenci, you're fine? Or who was that? Oh, Member Johnson asked that question.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Are you done?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: This might be for Corp. Counsel or the Budget Director. If this is for water use development fees, can we just make a...like waive them?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yeah. Sorry, Chair. I don't remember off the top of my head, but I know that this happened a couple of years back on something that Member Rawlins-Fernandez worked on, which was using the Affordable Housing Fund to, I guess, pay the Water Department for the fees that had been waived on the project. So, I'm not quite sure where these fees are intended to go, if they are required to pay the fees and that this fund will pay for it, or if this is intended to make the Water Department hold on fees that were waived. So, there's a difference.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Rawlins-Fernandez had her hand up.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, that's what I was going to say.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But if Member Cook has more details, then--because this is his proposal. So, where Ms. Toshikiyo was uncertain about the details, I was too. So, if Member Cook has that information, then perhaps that would be helpful.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you for the question. The water source development fees, previously, basically, the...they yielded them, waived them for the affordable housing, but then they have to be paid. So, the Water Department is requesting payment. Either way, if you waive it, or if we pay it, the Water Department is still...the...the County is still subsidizing the project. This is basically taking from the Affordable Housing Fund to pay the Water Department for the water source development fees.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Make them whole.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Make them whole.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Similar. Okay. Any other questions? Any other questions? Seeing none. Ready to vote? Okay. Roll call, I guess.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Committee Vice-Chair Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. MACDONALD: Committee Chair Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, that's eight "ayes," one "no." The motion passes.

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

NOES: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, who voted no?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. I didn't hear...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The one that said she was going to vote no.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I didn't hear you say no, but, okay. I thought, oh, she voted yes. All right. So, that motion carries. Thank you, Member Cook. Next, we have...actually, now we have Member Kama, your --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, I'm sorry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Lipoa investment.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I was laughing at Keani's statement.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Chair, could...can we take a five-minute break?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Sure. Let's...can take a little longer break.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Page 25.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You guys are ready for a break? Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Page 25.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, let's come back at --

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: But it's a new --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- 3:25.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 3:25. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 3:18 p.m.

RECONVENE: 3:34 p.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(gavel). . . Welcome back to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. It is 3:34, and we are on the Affordable Housing Special Purpose Fund, and next is Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, I have on the matrix --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Page 25.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- page 25, on the bottom, that's where I'm at, and it's...and I have adding a new condition for up to 25 million must be for a grant to Lipoa Investments, LLC, for an affordable rental housing development in Kihei. And of course, we all see the note that says that all...the Affordable Housing Fund currently only has a million dollars available, and the funding for this priority will probably be through increasing the transfers from the General Fund. So, I read all of that, so I just wanted you to all know --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Is that a motion?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- I am aware. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You made the motion, I need a second.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Kama, and second by Chair Lee. Okay. We heard testimony earlier today. Does anybody have questions on this project? So, we all know, also from what Member Kama just read, that in the Affordable Housing Fund, after...really after what Member Cook did, there's like 1.4...well, 1 million...no, 900,000 left, only 900,000. Well, not only, but yeah, that's a lot of money. All right. Anybody else has questions? Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Kama. I'm curious, I really would like to have this go to Committee to discuss the project. I got questions on all kinds, you know, the landscaping plan, the...the conditions, everything.

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There's so much to talk about. Would you be willing to send it to your Committee to have conversations on it?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Member Johnson, if you approve this project today, definitely so. But even if you didn't, I would anyway. Even if you didn't, I would...because, you know, there's nine of us, but no pressure, none at all.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I kind of don't support it going to Committee because we're in the middle of deed restrictions, there's the Minatoya list, and there's all sorts of other things. Unless...and I'm not down for extra committees any...I mean...so, I mean, I don't understand why maybe you couldn't do a live and meet with them on your own time, and then you can spread the word to anyone who wants to know.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Anybody else have questions? Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I agree with Member Johnson. I think like for all the projects...and I missed the motion...the time to make a motion earlier. I think it's number 5, 6, 9, and 10 that I wanted to strike from the Affordable Housing Fund, as well before...because once we approve it, then unless they have any other needs, other...other things to have Council approve, then this is it, it's done. Like, I mean, I guess we can invite them to have a presentation in Committee, but we can't make any amendments to the Operating Budget. Like it's over, so we...we're giving up our leverage now if we put it into the Affordable Housing Fund...or if we put it into this budget now, then that's it, it's done. They can easily make...the Administration can easily submit or transmit a budget amendment to add all of these projects to the...the budget after we adopt it, after we have an opportunity to give the public the opportunity to learn about all these projects that they haven't learned anything about...because it's not just about the questions that I have, it's about having it in our legislative record, what the...what the questions are, the people who wanted to come to testify, to be able to add things to the project at that time, you know, any other...other things. Because we are the branch that provides the venue for that type of dialogue, and we are the Legislative Branch, and one of our main, you know, kuleana is the...the purse strings, is adopting the budget and doing fiscal oversight. So, I...I'm not supportive of giving up that authority right now, or in the future. So, I'm not saying I don't support this project. I would like to have this in Committee first, and then I'd be happy to be supportive of a budget amendment after that. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Members, motion made by Member Kama, and Chair Lee was the second. Chair Lee, you want to say something?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I actually don't have a problem with voting now on this project. My understanding is that this project was approved by a previous Council around 2017 or so, so it's not like the public didn't hear about it. They know about it, I'm sure. But I'm not opposed to there being a 7(B) later on. Just...just saying that I'm...I'm ready to vote because --

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- all of these good projects have been the victim of time, and who caused that? We did. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair, your video's not on. Chair Lee.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, I'm familiar with this project because they're building it virtually around us in Kihei, and I know that all of Lipoa, the entire development is using R-1 water, and has been for years. They're...I believe if any project won't come back and ask for any more money, it's this one. And I understand it's a lot of money, and the situation...I'm very supportive of the project because I think it'll be one of the sooner ones to bring housing, and there's jobs really close by, et cetera. I understand the concern. It's a lot of money at the last minute. I don't really want to raise taxes for it, so we got to be creative.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, good.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Anybody else? Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well, how do we put conditions on it, is...is my point. Where and when is our role, besides just writing a check, which I support writing checks for good affordable housing projects, but I want to have some say in the conditions. This is just me thinking outside the box. I don't even know if this will work, but maybe a lawyer can answer. But what if we put the condition after it passes out of Committee with a majority vote, then the money gets distributed? I don't even know if that's possible. I just figure we should be able to have a say and put conditions. Like what Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez was saying, the community wants to come in and talk about it. If those are...if I agree with some of those points the community's talking on, I'd like to put that condition based off what the community has to say on it. So, I don't know, is that...is that a thing we could do? Could say that once it passes out of

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the Committee, has to pass out of Committee, then the money could be, you know, allocated, or is that not a thing?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Then it gets allocated, is that what you just said? Can you say that...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I just want us to be able to have...you know, do our role, what we always do when projects come before.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: We...we have a role in it. We talk about the conditions, we talk...the community comes and talks, and you know, you're going to have pros and cons like any other affordable housing project. We...we often have that discussion. So, is that something we could do, is just to have it...the money...like once it passes out of committee, then the money could be allocated --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- after the fiscal year, Ms. Toshikiyo?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yeah, sorry, Chair. I just kind of wanted to jump in because I'm not familiar with this project, but maybe some other people who know the history of this project would know better whether or not the project already has its approvals and entitlements. Because then in that case, it wouldn't be going to Council for any additional approvals. I can't think off the top of my head what would then be the trigger because it sounds like the request is to have discussions in Committee, not necessarily pending approvals by this body if those approvals have already passed.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Maybe Miss...Director Milner can talk...give us a quick history. Has...has this...is this fully-entitled? Has it gone through the...the Committees at one point?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Milner.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. My understanding is that this project has all of its entitlements, but is just waiting on subdivision approvals. So, I believe it has gone to Committee for all of the required County approvals. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: All right. Thank you for that. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other questions?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

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MR. KRUEGER: Apologies. Could Staff just ask clarification? You know, our understanding that the intent to fund it might be to increase the transfer to the Affordable Housing Fund from the General Fund. Should...should we interpret that as to be included in the motion to make that addition, or is that something that the body will be handling separately?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: It doesn't matter --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- to me. It was just a note that was put on there, and I just wanted to make sure that we all saw the note that I saw.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Well, we will have to do that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That would make it not be a Revolving Fund proposal if you're adding 25 million, just...I mean, according to the rules, but whatever.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo? Did you hear?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Okay. Did you hear what Member Paltin said? That if we add General Funds to...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That's...that's your rule.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, that's not a legal question.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That's your rules that you made.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yeah, I believe that's actually a budget procedural question.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Not law rules.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Thank you. Okay. Okay. Anything else? Member Johnson, you look like you have a question.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I thought maybe you would want to speak on that. Like...I mean, if it's not...I know we have our priorities and our...but maybe...is this something that we would all agree on that we could allow, or...I'm curious to what your take is on it, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, you know, I think the...for me, the very different thing that has happened with this Affordable Housing Fund is we have a new Director, and from what I understand by, you know, when he's come to us in Committee, he has affordable

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housing plan or whatever, and he's...he's...his process that he's going through. And...and Director Milner, he's probably sitting in front of you, you could correct me, but he's following a process. But in the past, Members, you all know that when this came up in Committee, affordable...I mean, in budget, everybody would add projects and raise the amount, you know, and it's something that we can do, the Members. I'm just cautious about spending more money is just where my thought is about using General Funds, raising taxes. So, that's...that's --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- my general, you know, concern about that.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sure. I mean, I don't share that concern with you, Committee Chair, but I just...I just wanted to know, you know, if we're going to stay in the lane or allow an exception. But I do have a question for...for the...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead, go ahead. And I see Member Rawlins-Fernandez after. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Is this a workforce or affordable housing project?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: It's...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, is it 100 percent workforce?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: She said...she said it was workforce housing.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: 80 to 120? Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Right. 80 to 120, right, she said.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you for that. Thank you, Chair.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: And this is the missing middle.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. I think that's...that's what makes it very important, right? One moment, here's Staff. Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. I...I think you didn't understand the question that was being asked. So, in the...the guidelines that we were given that we all agreed to, we were given proposals...two for district, five for Countywide, that would potentially increase the...the...the budget. And then we're given two Revolving Fund conditions and two grant conditions, which wouldn't increase the budget...or at least that's what the guidelines instructed us to do. So, because this proposal increases the Revolving Fund and not stays within what the revolving...the amount of the Revolving Fund that's projected by the Administration, then are you breaking your own rules, or are you going to allow everyone to do this?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: So --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That's the question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- I would love for everybody to stick with my rules, that if you add something, you got to find a cut. I mean, that was my initial thing when I first started this. It was not very popular. In this particular fund, it...it...the beauty of it is that it's already money there, ready for you to condition. But in this case, it's, you know, taking us over the limit. So, Members, it's your call...you know, your call. Because we're definitely not finding cuts for everything we add, more than this...this fund. I'm hoping to hear what you have to say. Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Well, what if we increase the Affordable Housing Fund from, I think, it used to be 3 percent. Mayor put in 2 more percent. And what if the Council added two more percent to the Affordable Housing Fund from the RPT?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Mr. Hanano? Legal, is that...is that something for Kristina Toshikiyo?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, it's not a legal question. This is a policy question. This is for our Committee to decide. But the first question that everyone's asking is, this doesn't follow the guidelines, and everyone else has followed the guidelines. So, are we following the guidelines, or are we not? And then my second question is, if you're saying that we're...we're going to...everyone can amend something in order for everyone to have the same opportunity to not follow the guidelines on the Revolving Fund, then my next question for Member Kama is where are we getting this 25 million? Is there a proposal to...to increase because it exceeds the projected amount that we have from the Administration? And it's...it's our policy, it's a policy decision if we get money from RPT or elsewhere. But that's all the answers that I think would be necessary in order to make this decision. But first is, are we following the guidelines or not?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: It's up to Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I'm going to take a break. We'll...we'll take a recess, and I'll talk to Staff, and we'll come back with some kind of determination. So, 3:56. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 3:51 p.m.

RECONVENE: 4:11 p.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(gavel). . . Welcome back to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. Thanks for the break. On the...the affordable housing project that we're talking about is the Lipoa Investment, LLC, and...in the Affordable Housing Fund, Member Kama. And the question is, is that I guess there's not enough money in there right now, the way it is, and would...how are we going to

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react to that, right? And in...in retrospect, all of us have been adding projects to the whole budget without having to find cuts, or the replacement, or whatever for the General Fund. So, to me, this is very similar. It's a situation where, you know, you're adding a project to the Affordable Housing Fund, or you can cut projects that are in there, you know, to make up for the 25 million. And it's a project that...well, we heard from the testifier, ready to go, and whatever. So, Members, I am going to ask Member Kama to take a look at the project, see if you can find any funding in the budget, or any thoughts about finding funny...finding funny...finding money for the 25 million, and, you know, we'll take it from there. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Didn't we just vote on seven million for Lāna'i?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Five.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, five million. But there was five million?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And it...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: His wasn't a Revolving Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, it was in General Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh...oh it was...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It was in the housing, yeah, in the pot. Not this Revolving Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, that might be an option for Pro Tem Kama. But...but then, you know, by following your suggestion, the person who goes first gets whatever the balance is. And Shane Sinenci has nothing, or maybe even us, second and third and fourth already. So, I can't see where that is a fair --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Measure.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- method of determining, you know, who gets Revolving Fund from...funds from the Affordable Housing Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, I think that--from a practical point of view, I think we should go through the whole process and then see how much we're over, and then to collectively find a way to add or...or subtract --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- together. Okay. Thank you.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Makes sense. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The way we address what Member Lee said last year was take them up together like, and that's how Member Kama and I split the remaining six million...three to the PARUS, and three to the land trust pilot. I would propose we vote on a revision of the rules. In looking at the dollar amount of her thing, and...and also, looking at a lot of the Affordable Housing Fund projects, they're loans, too. I would be okay with revising the rules. If somebody had a priority that didn't align with the rules, they could move it from a Revolving Fund to...like I guess this would be a Countywide priority because not only Kihei people could live there, and the penalty would be subtracting three of her Countywide priorities. That would be my proposal --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, that's your proposal.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- for us to vote on.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Because it's...it's a fairly big ask, to add 25 million to the Affordable Housing Fund. And as the people are in...a resource in the gallery, if they're okay with it being a loan--because some of the other affordable housing stuff are loans--and I'm not sure about that. Sometimes they say nonreimbursable loan and all of that, but it's a rental housing project, and their workforce housing rents are pretty high, as we hear from the Kaulana Mahina folks. So, maybe they can pay it forward to the next missing middle stuff.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. I forgot to mention that there was talk to review a suggested project. Now, we haven't reviewed any in the Affordable Housing Fund, really.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, or at least new projects.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: We're familiar with a few, but...but the rest are all from the Mayor. Unreviewed, unvetted. So, it's like giving that chair to him without any question. You know, his is not vetted, but ours...but we end up with a balance of one million to share amongst nine of us? I just don't see how that's fair. Thanks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So, first, we have to take up the rule amendment so that there's fairness amongst all the Councilmembers since this didn't follow the guidelines, and then there would be fairness. I could be supportive of what Member Paltin said, proposing letting all the Councilmembers have that opportunity to exceed the Revolving Fund, or exceed the proposed grant amount, in order to fund whatever, you know, their proposal was. And then if this were to pass, I

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could be supportive of adjusting for the...the...just how large of a request this is without, you know, any proposed cuts. But I'm...I'm also not opposed to increasing, you know, Non-Owner-Occupied Tier III, which is why I made the ranges a little bigger, so that we could go higher. And then I would like to add information commenting on Member Lee's last comments about how these projects that have come before us are not vetted, because as we all know, they are. There's a committee that scores it. There's...there...there was 19 applications, and we received the top 12, and as you know, in the Affordable Housing Fund RFP, there are four criteria that they're all scored on, and that's community need, applicant experience, readiness, and financial leveraging. And of the 19, this was one of them, and it did...this project, Lipoa Investment, LLC's project, did not make the top 12 based on the committee's...you know, the whole committee's scoring of the 19 applications. So, I don't think it's fair to say that it's not vetted. I agree that I --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: By us.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- would like to, you know, be able to have it in Committee before voting on it. I agree with that, but they are vetted before they come to us, and they are scored relative to all the projects that come before them. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. I meant they're not vetted by the Council. They're vetted by other people --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: By that committee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- who --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I agree, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- are not elected. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, yes. They are not elected.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. So, I believe...I believe that all of us heard the presentation, right? I did speak with the developer. I did speak with Director Mitchell, and I asked him about this project, and he just said the reason why it wasn't in the affordable...the list was they asked for too much money. So, he was going to go talk to them about that, and see if there's a way of phasing it. So, I don't know if they did or not, but that was my last communication with Director.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: You want me to move to amend your rules, or no?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Well...okay. This is what I don't want to happen, is that I don't think that this action is a gross...is...is grossly not following the rules, right? Because what they did was they applied to this particular fund. This just so happens that now, like what

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Chair Lee said, you know, no more money. So, as far as the rule, I think the rule is good. I don't want everybody to say, oh, now I'm going to apply for another one. I'm going...because as you all may or may not know, a lot of the projects that you have put on as your condition, you didn't have a pot of money, or you didn't find a cut, right, you just added. This is just like that, to me.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No, if she would have followed the rules, she would have did it like Member Johnson, but the path forward would be to amend the rules. Like Member Johnson didn't put it into a pot that we knew didn't have any money, he just said, I want five million. I would amend the rules, and just say, withdraw three of your other ones because of the size of the misinterpretation of the rules, and let her proceed, or...or I don't know...if you want to cut something else from the Affordable Housing Fund, and give them that money.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's an option also. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. The...Pro Tem did mention, I overheard her talking to her...her Executive Assistant that she was considering raising the...the pot, the fund itself, through real property taxes. So, that's another way. Besides cutting, there's...there's also the opportunity to add funds to a fund. So, I'm not sure how you would want to proceed with revising your rules?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: It's more of a clarification, I think.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, at this point...you know, what I don't want to see is, I don't want to see in this body--not that you would do this--but you'll say, oh, okay, if Member Kama can do that, I going do that. And I don't want that to happen.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: We're...we're amending the rules for things that are already on paper. We're not adding anything new. Like you can't add it. The...the amendment wouldn't be to add new things. The amendment is to let her break the rule, but you know, she didn't follow the rules, so take out her --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: She did follow.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- other stuff. And I would...no, not the way that it was explained to us. The...the way that it was explained to us is, you can have two resident area priorities, you can have five Countywide priorities, two Revolving Funds, and two conditions. If you're going to add money to a Revolving Fund, that's not following the rules. The purpose of a Revolving Fund is you're not adding to the budget. I'm saying if we amend the rules and...and stick it to whatever is on paper right now, not...you can't add something that you just thought of on your head. And then you withdraw, you know, because it's a big ask, 25 million, take out three other Countywide priorities. That's my motion.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member Paltin, second by Member Sinenci. Member Kama, do you have any thoughts on this?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I need time to think about the priorities I already have, the Countywide, right? Okay. So, I have to think about that to see if that's even possible.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- that's...that's my response, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we'll put this on the side so you can think about it, and maybe we'll come back to it at a...later on this evening, Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, you want to vote?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, I thought you --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, there's a motion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- said you were going to put it on the side. I'll...oh, Member Rawlins-Fernandez has discussion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. So, there's the rules as they are, and how everyone followed it, or didn't. So, that's...that's one issue. And then I...I would be supportive of the motion, I guess, like, if this passes. I don't know if it's going to pass, and I don't want to penalize Member Kama if it doesn't pass. So, we...we can think about it a little more. I'm going to vote no on this because I would like to be able to discuss it in Committee first. I could, you know, potentially be supportive of increasing the Affordable Housing Fund to make room for this project if, after Committee review, we're supportive of that project. But the first issue I'd like to dispose of is amending the rules to make it fair for...for everyone. And...and then that way, we're all discussing it together and, you know, it's not just one person dictating to us how it should be. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, you want to...we can do that. We can vote on it later, once Member Kama has time to think, and all of you have had time to think about this.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'll withdraw my motion.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. We'll do that. You withdraw? Okay.

MS. KAWASAKI: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. KAWASAKI: Thank you, Chair. I...I think that we do have the underlying...or the original motion on the floor. I think based on prior discussion, should that be instead of us laying it on the table, adding to our collection, is that one going to be withdrawn as well? And we can revisit that later.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Her entire motion. Okay. We'll withdraw your entire motion then.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And I withdraw the second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You're fine. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. And always, in an effort to make things clear, I'm going to probably make it a little more muddy. But, you know, I didn't use my resident districts, and I didn't use a condition. I don't know if other Members didn't use...or used all of theirs, I'm not sure. But for myself, in an effort to collaborate with people, I wanted to leave a couple extra spaces because we didn't know their priorities until it came up the day of. So, I'm just trying to like, you know, maybe if you could consider like I have some openings, but I also had some big asks, right? So, I'm just trying to think, maybe if we could all...I mean, I don't want to make it more complicated, but I know Councilmember Paltin was saying, get rid of a few of your priorities, and then you can...you can do this. Well, I wouldn't mind saying, hey, I'm not going to use my priorities, you can use it. And so, there's...so if you guys are thinking that would be something you would be interested in, I...I would certainly, you know, think that would be one way. That being said, as far as the project, I do...would like to have it come to Committee, so even though we would...you know, I still want to have that discussion. I just...I just don't know enough about that project to really vote on it today. But if you guys want, I could hand out my priority, if that's something that the body would consider.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Would that be a rule change, so we would be voting on a new rule that Members can...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Swap.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, not only swap --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Share, share.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- but just, I have a couple of priorities that I'm not going to use anymore, and so can...can we make adjustments? Can we give our portion, or whatever you call it, to another Member so that their project can go forward? I don't know how you word that. Richelle, how do you word that?

MS. KAWASAKI: I don't know how to word that, but what I would say is, you know, if the body is agreeable to advancing in a particular fashion, that's fine. I'm trying to recall if you actually did a formal vote on the "rules" at the beginning, or if you just kind of stated this is how it's going to go, and nobody objected. So, that really is up to the Chair how she wants to run her meeting. If she wants to change the procedure, she is free to do so, as long as everybody is in agreement with how to move forward. If they're not, you know, you folks can debate it on the floor and come up with a decision on how to move forward from here on. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Tom...Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. I'm just thinking, isn't what we're talking about doing now pretty much what we did last year? Like we started with we weren't going to have a barrier. We would understand that we were trying to balance the budget, and we did it, we went, and then we made adjustments to make it work. So, is that this new proposal versus the existing; is that correct?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I think it...I think...I think it's our process, right? So, everybody submitted your priorities and, you know, or your conditions. And really, Members, at the end of the day, I would like to see us cut back. Because right now, all we've done, right, is add, add, add...or condition, right, into a pot, like Affordable Housing Fund, or whatever it is. So, there's been, you know, no net impact of that. But at the end of the day, I think we need to look at all that we're doing, and figure out what it is we want to do in...in terms of this body, and what we want to move forward to send to the Mayor for the new budget, right? So, right now, we've added, we've added, we've added. So, whatever Member Kama has done, it's kind of similar to what all of us have done. It's just that the Affordable Housing Fund, like Chair Lee said, has run out of money, right? I mean, available funds, there's like 900,000 left. But like what Member Johnson did was he added, you know, his...his project to the...to the General Fund, basically, you know, to...to the Housing Fund, not Affordable Housing Fund. So, it's very similar to what we have been doing. And I think the real lesson, the real moment we're at, is that at some point, we're going to have to decide, do we want to send the budget to the Mayor, which is 1.5 million [sic], and all of ours on top of that, right? So, we're going to add, or do we want to look at where can we cut? You know, those are the kind of serious decisions going forward. Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well, for one, I'm...I'm ready to tax the rich.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I'm sorry. You're not done.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's all I'm saying.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: You're what?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I'm ready to tax the rich to get these things done. Because these are here...these things are here to help the folks. You know, this is affordable housing projects we're talking about. We're talking about helping out farmers. We're helping out...helping...helping our nonprofits. There's plenty of wealthy people in this town that could simply add to the budget, and leave our folks alone who are getting killed by these big assessments.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I kind of lost my train of thought.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I was going to be...this is what I was going to say. This is what I was going to say. We have been making cuts along the way, and that was part of the process of getting from OCS at the end of the day, where we...where the cuts were, where the adds were, where we're at. So, to counter what you just said, we haven't just been adding. We have been making cuts, but we don't really have a clear picture of the extent that we have cut. Like I reduced Environmental Management by \$345,000, you know, here and there. Now granted, way out of proportion to some of the adds. When will we know where we're at with the adds and subtracts, is one thing? I'm...I'm an advocate of moving forward and understanding that what you're striving to do is to meet the budget, or lower the budget is our goal and objective, but we won't know that until we get through with all this.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You're right, until we're done. So, along the way, you know, it's never been a requirement for you to come up with a cut if there's an add, right? Everybody's just been adding. So, very kind of similar to, you know, this discussion regarding the Affordable Housing Fund. And I think in the past, I think we just added stuff to the Affordable Housing Fund. We never took it quite this narrowly. So, this is something different from this Administration that was not like that before. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So, when looking for...at Revolving Fund or grant pots to put our priorities in, we first assess, is there enough for my proposal? And when knowing that the Affordable Housing Fund only had \$1.9 million more, obviously, 25 million far exceeds the remaining balance of 1.9 million. So, it wasn't like a just so happened. But --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: True.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- to Deputy Director Kawasaki's earlier remarks about whether we had a formal vote, we did not. To your credit, Chair, you asked if there were any amendments to the guidelines as we were going to follow the process. And we had some discussion, but we didn't make any changes. We all agreed, and there

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was consensus that we would follow these guidelines. I think in pretty much every budget session under you, under me, we have made changes throughout the...the process if we wanted to make changes. I see a Committee Chair, or any Chair, as the facilitator of the meeting and not having a, you know, dictator-like status to make the determination and have full discretion. But to your credit, Chair, you have not been doing that this year, and I really appreciated that. You've been doing a really good job at asking us for our feedback for every step of the way. And...and I don't...I didn't say that enough, but I appreciated that you did that to ensure that the...the group, that there was consensus throughout. So, I think where we're at now is, we discovered that there was, you know, one proposal that didn't quite follow the rule. And so, how do we dispose of that? And there's been some ideas, and I think perhaps one way to dispose of that is, you know, we'll...we'll just take a vote. If, you know, together, the majority is going to say that it's okay that this deviates from the guidelines as we all had consensus on in the beginning of budget session. And if Member Johnson has some ideas and wants to put it to a vote, like here are some of my unused priority proposals that I'd like to offer Member Kama, and then we can put it up for a vote. So, perhaps any deviation from the guidelines can just be put to a vote, and we decide at that point. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Wow. Very interesting. Thank you. So, Members, let's...we got to...we got to decide on this, you know. So, I think what it looks like is Member Johnson, you're going to give up one piece.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, I thought...I thought we were tabling it. We're going to...we're going to...we're going to table it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We can table it, but based upon what you just said, I thought maybe you guys wanted to make a decision, then Member Kama can decide how she's going to do whatever.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well, Chair, I have one conditional...one condition and one resident...district residency. So, would that follow under conditional?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It would be...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well, it doesn't have to be --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Countywide.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- your district. It would be a district priority.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Cannot be.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It would be just a different district than hers, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, you're not in the same district.

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: It's in South Maui.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: But it doesn't have to be her district, does it, right? It could be any...it's very district-specific. That --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- building ain't moving nowhere but South Maui.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That building in South Maui, but it's not necessarily everybody going to be from there.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I think the district would be ideal for it because...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Staff, what...oh, no, I'm going to ask, just for clarification. Oh, I want...I want everybody to just...based upon what Member Johnson just said, could Member Kama then use one of his pukas --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: District priorities.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- to fill this...do this project? You have a list...you have the list?

MR. KRUEGER: Well, Chair, apologies. I...I don't think as...as Staff, we can provide the definitive answers. I can perhaps provide some things to consider. One would be that the way that we interpreted the Countywide versus residency area priorities is that Countywide impacted two or more residency areas, and residency area would only impact that one. So, I think the body would...would need to deliberate or consider, you know, does this only impact one, or does it have impact across more? And then I do think...I don't think the body discussed rules relating to allowing Members to use each other's priorities this year, but I think that has happened in the past, if I'm recalling right. So, I think that would be another matter --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Share, share.

MR. KRUEGER: -- that the body would have to consider. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Like what Chair Lee likes to say, share. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: To me, it would be Countywide because people from all over the County could live there.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: But...and...and it's not like an entitlement thing because it's already entitled to be built. If it was entitlement, then it would be more district-specific because you're adding impacts, but it can be built. The question is, who will get to live there is the impact, and they're not restricting it to just South Maui people.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well, Members, I don't have a nondistrict priority. If anybody else has it...I mean, that's...that's my offer on the table. That's all I got, folks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So...yeah, sounds like it matches. Okay. Members...Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I have a couple I could give up. Of course, this kind of doesn't make sense because 3 million for the 'Ohana Assistance Program, which it would have come from the Affordable Housing Program, but 3 million there, and 5 million for the West Maui Hospital, and then 1 million for the 'Īao Theater, and then 300,000 for the Army Corps of Engineers' program, and...let's see, instead of 4 million for the Sober Living House for Aloha House, I'm asking \$168,000 instead. So, I'm pretty bare bones for me, but I can deal with it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good. Okay. I'm going to table this so that we can look at it. And I want to move on because it's too early for dinner, right? 4:41. I have to ask--but I'm going to take a little recess--I want to ask if the food is here. Do you know?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Michele is handling the food.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I know, so I'm going to ask my Staff. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I have a flight at 6:50. I've been texting with Ms. Yoshimura to let her know that I'll be on and then off, but if we leave on time at 6:50, then I should, you know, arrive at 7:20, and then I'll be driving up. So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- letting you know.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thanks. So, thank you very much because you're going to be here.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. And I would like to not miss votes as much as possible.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's different than deliberations when we're just asking questions. Like this...this is votes for, like, final decisions.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Serious.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, if we can at all accommodate that flight, I would appreciate it. Thanks.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, what time do you leave? 6:50, I mean, when you get to the airport.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: 6:50, and my understanding is that we may be going until 9:00 p.m. And if that is the case, and if we're still going when I'm flying, then I'd really like to have a recess during that time.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm okay to eat dinner at 6:50.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I don't know how you do it. It's hard.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm not a senior citizen.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's hard.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: She snacks all day.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That's fine. So, when you're in the air, then we'll be eating dinner, I guess, right? So, you're going to still be in the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, but also, I don't want everyone to...to...to get hangry or anything, so please --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I agree.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- eat if you need to.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Who, us?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You don't have to wait for me the eating part --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- just wait for me for the voting part, please.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, anybody else have any more projects we can talk about for Housing while we still have Member Rawlins-Fernandez here? Anybody? You did yours, Tom.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I...I have...I have one, and I think Chair Lee has one, but it sounds like she gave it up.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I gave it up.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, can you tell us what page it is on the priority list for yours?

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. Mine is on page 27. It's the last page, and that...it's the letter Z, Homeowner Programs Revolving Fund. It's the same fund that Chair Lee had her proposal in.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And so, I move to add the following condition. Up to 500,000 must be used for a volunteer housing deed restriction program on Moloka'i.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member Rawlins-Fernandez, second by Member Paltin. Okay. And that is, I see, the third item on that page. Any more discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Correct...fourth item. Chair, there is a projected balance of \$5.7 million, with \$130,000 in conditions, so there's a lot of space for my \$500,000. This would be...so, you know, I've been talking about the volunteer housing...voluntary housing...the housing part's throwing me off. Okay. The voluntary deed restriction program. And HB740, which is the...the Legislature is in Conference Committee on this, which would provide funding through HHFDC for voluntary deed restrictions. They are limiting their deed restriction grants to be toward ADUs. My proposal is not because the discussion that we had was there's a lot of projects going on throughout the County, Lāna'i included, which I'm super supportive of, and I'm excited for everyone. We don't...on Moloka'i, you know, for those that I've talked with, having a whole new subdivision on Moloka'i isn't really how we do housing on Moloka'i. We do housing by building, you know, on the lots that we have, and by extending or modifying the houses that we have. And so, by having, you know, this...this as a grant, it can provide our residents an opportunity to do repairs, or extensions and improvements to their existing home so that, you know, their growing family will be able to, you know, have a place to live nearby. And so, the deed restriction program that I would be working with our Housing Department, with our Director on, would kind of follow the program of like Eagle County's Good Deeds Program. And I...I did have...I know everyone had their individual meetings with the Housing Director and Deputy. And I asked...I've been asking him if we can start a pilot program, and, you know, they're still working on building capacity, but I asked if we could do, you know, just a few on Moloka'i just to start off, and then that way we'll be ahead of the other counties as far as having an existing program, which will give us an edge in getting funding when HB740 passes into law and creates this new program under HHFDC. Because we'll already have an existing program. You're welcome.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's good for Moloka'i.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Here's Ms. Toshikiyo.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Hi, Chair. Thanks. So, this is under Chapter 3.34, the Homeowner Programs Revolving Fund? Okay. So, I'm looking at the Purpose section, and it lists the purposes that are allowed uses for this fund, and then it says any similar future programs have to be named in the paragraph upon establishment and approval by Council. So, I just wanted to see how it ties in with the existing purposes of the fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Somebody's having...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Which part? Oh, sorry, the...the...the kid's basketball, they just finished, so they're all coming out by my office, and having fun, for sure.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: So, it's pretty limited.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm looking at the 3.34.020, Purpose. Are you talking about the first sentence?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Well, it says that grants from this...it's the second sentence. So, it lists that grants from this fund provide capital to first-time homebuyers through the First-Time Homebuyers Down Payment Assistance Program, matching funds through the IDA program and the 'Ohana Assistance Program, and for similar future programs to be named in this paragraph upon establishment and approval by Council. So, I think that we would have to amend this Purpose section to include any new programs that don't fit within any of the existing programs.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: First, or before the money is distributed? Because it can be...the Code can be amended before the funds are distributed. It can go into the budget, and then we can create the program.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: I don't think that we can condition the fund if it's not an allowed use of the fund at the time. I think we can do it at the same time, and that's what we did with the 'Ohana Assistance Program a couple of years ago, where they passed concurrently.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. We'll do that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, it's possible. You just made Chair Lee think about how come her project is not done yet, but...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: What? I'm sorry?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, that's okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We were talking about your 'Ohana...

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Focus. . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, your pride and joy of three --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- years ago that hasn't started yet. Yeah. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, yeah. Okay. So...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Don't remind Chair Lee.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. So, you...you...motion made...oh, that was a motion by Member Rawlins-Fernandez, and is it second by Member Paltin? Did you? Okay. And we have to pass another law simultaneously. Is that what Ms. Toshikiyo said?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Correct.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo, did you hear that? Got to pass --

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- another...you're going to work on it?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Either prior to the passage...yes, either prior to the passage of the final budget or concurrently.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. You're all fine, everybody? Oh, Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And then I...okay. So, I know how it's written on the spreadsheet, but I'd like it to say the following condition. Up to 500,000 must be for a volunteer deed restriction program on Moloka'i.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Take away the housing, then, for a volunteer deed restriction program. Take away the word housing, right? In your write-up. Okay. All right. Members, any more discussion? If not, we can vote. All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That would be nine "ayes." And motion carries.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Do you have another one? That's it. Member...I'm sorry, Director Milner? You're spending so much time with us.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I'll stay Budget Director, but I appreciate the work you all do. Thank you, Chair. I just wanted...we talked briefly earlier about a housing buyback. Did you want me to address that now?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. So, Members, this is a brand-new item that Director Milner would like to talk about, and it's something that the Housing Department was going to send a budget amendment to us regarding this. So, Ms. Milner, please discuss it, and then we'll see if the Members want to take it up now, or is there...and is it time-sensitive? Can't hear you. Okay.

MS. MILNER: Let's try that again. Thank you, Chair. Thank...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, we can't hear you again.

MS. MILNER: All right. So, don't put your papers on your touchpad mouse is what I've learned. I apologize, Chair. So, as I indicated in BD-9, we anticipated a \$500,000 amendment for Fiscal Year '25 for buyback of a property at the Lokahi Pacific Mokuahau Subdivision in Wailuku. My discussion with the Department this morning, the timing on that has changed, and so it would be better included in the Fiscal Year '25...'26 Budget. So, we do have \$500,000 available in Carryover/Savings to move to the Affordable Housing Fund, and it would be for the purchase of real property. And then the Department's intent is after that purpose, it would transfer the ownership to Na Hale O Maui to keep the unit affordable in perpetuity. And I can submit the TMK in writing to BFED Staff. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: What's the geographical location?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. It's in Wailuku, Maui.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: How many bedrooms and bathrooms?

MS. MILNER: I will look into that and let you know, Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. So, you need somebody to make a motion right now is what you're saying?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, it would be brand-new.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And it wouldn't count towards our priorities because it's the Mayor's thing?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Only against Director Milner.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's Director Milner's thing? It's not...is the house for her?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's actually Saumalu's. It's actually Saumalu's.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's not a house for Saumalu, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No. But he mentioned it to me.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'll make the motion for Deputy Saumalu.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. So, motion made by Member Paltin, second by...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm just clarifying. It's not for him to live in.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, it's not. That was --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Just clarifying.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- that was a good joke. So, Staff, did you get that? You want to...you want to repeat that? I want to make sure we get this correct. And we can...we can get more from Director Milner.

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. So, right now, Staff's understanding of the motion on the floor is to recognize an additional \$500,000 in Carryover/Savings, appropriate that from the General Fund, include that in the transfer to the Affordable Housing Fund, and then recognize that condition under the Affordable Housing Fund, up to \$500,000 must be for a house buyback, at property...that tax map key, and then we'll get the tax map key from...from Director Milner. Something along those lines. Permission to mess around with it a little bit if needed. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Sounds like what we heard. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Since Director Milner is offering proposals, did she offer a proposal to cover the \$7 million deficit? I...I...I missed it. I don't think I was here that day.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, that was...that was when we got the certification.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Right, yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Did you offer to cover the shortage, Director?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmembers. I think there are several avenues that you could take to cover it. I'm happy to discuss them with you. But, you know, we could reduce the transfer to OPEB. There are several things you could look at to cover the deficit from the certification. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Those are the things we don't want to do, right, what you just described? I thought you were going to say you have --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I do have a motion on the floor.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- you have more Carryover/Savings for us. Ms. Toshikiyo.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes, I might have some of the answers to the questions. I pulled up a document. I just wanted to confirm that this is the...the Mokuhaul Subdivision property, Ms. Milner?

MS. MILNER: Yes. That's correct, Ms. Toshikiyo. Thank you, Chair.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Okay. So, if this is the one that I'm thinking of, I think it's a three-bedroom, two-bath. And the tax map key number is (2) 3-4-033:005.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Coming from a lawyer, that must be correct on the tax map key. Thank you. And the project. Okay. Members, any more questions? We'll add this. And it did come with money. So all in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, that's nine "ayes." Motion carries.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Do you, by any chance, have...yeah, Director Milner? This is...this is...do you, by any chance, have Carryover/Savings \$25 million that you could add for the earlier discussion that you might have missed?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. No, we do not have 25 million in Carryover/Savings.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Just trying to --

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- just trying to help all of you. Okay. Are there any more discussions regarding Department of Housing? Are we done? Okay. Wow.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: So, Chair, to confirm, we’re going to come back to Department of Housing so we can figure out what we’re going to do with the last-discussed housing project?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, we are. And we’ll see what Member Kama comes up with. Okay. So are we done with Housing, Staff? Are we done with everything?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair, I...I believe that takes care of...because Chair Lee withdrew her...the...the...her other Revolving Fund for the homeowner programs. Yes, I believe that completes the priorities for the --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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MR. KRUEGER: -- Department of Housing.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Let me look at my notes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Is it enough time to...for Member Kama to think if she wants to take Chair Lee's priority, or...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Do you have to talk to Staff?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I mean, it's a policy decision. So, I'm not sure why you would talk to Staff.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, her Staff, not our Staff. Her...if she wants to talk to her Staff on what she's going to do.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: To take Chair Lee's, if she wants --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I mean, what she wants to do with this.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- to take Chair Lee's priority or not?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: What she wants to do with this whole thing. See, they are discussing.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . she's not ready.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, it doesn't sound like...I hear you guys chattering over there. All right. So, are we done with...done with Housing? We're done. Okay. All right. So, Members, we still got to...we still will deal with the director, deputy, that whole Staff, the, you know, the compensation that we started talking about yesterday. And so, we cannot finish this until we resolve those...that discussion. And that is, where do you put the director and deputy's compensation? Are those the only ones that are involved with the Salary Commission? Right?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: They told us yesterday that they had enough money in the salary adjustment to compensate the Director and the Deputy Director, as well as possible bargaining union increases.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I...I remember a conversation that some of you wanted to put in each individual department the compensation for those positions in the Category A Account. I could be wrong. And...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, it would just be a transfer from their salary adjustment in . . .*(inaudible)*. . . to their salary?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. So, wherever it's sitting now, we're going to take all the individual salaries and put it into the department that it actually will get paid. We can leave it where it is, Countywide, or...okay. I see no. Yes, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. Last I understood, Budget Committee Staff was going to give us a list of the adjustments that were going to be required for the directors because they...with the new Salary Commission, they're getting paid more and different. And so, they were going to give us an amount to add from...well, reduce from Countywide and add into the department salary to accommodate for the directors' pay increases.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Are we still expecting that?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's what I...that's what I remember. But this morning, I had a meeting with Staff, and they basically wanted to hear from you, a vote, I guess, or whatever. We need to formally discuss it. I think it was casually discussed.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So moved.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin and Member U'u-Hodgins. So, with that, oh, all in favor...oh, discussion? You understand?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Can you repeat the motion?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. So, what...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I move to take the money from Countywide and redistribute it to Category A for the directors and deputy directors' salary increases as per the Salary Commission.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin, Member U'u-Hodgins. Clear? Okay. All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That's...that's nine "ayes."

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Good. We got to get plenty of work done while Member Rawlins-Fernandez is still there, okay...before she flies off. All right. So, Mr. Hanano, will you work on that?

MR. HANANO: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, when do you think you could...well, let us know when you're going to be ready. I think...I think...I think, from what Mr. Krueger said, is that you all have that information already assembled.

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. If now's the appropriate time, we can distribute something shortly for the Members to take a look at.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, it's done? Oh, I thought...I thought...I thought you said you needed the consensus before you could work on it.

MR. KRUEGER: Oh, we...we have an understanding. Yeah, we already have an understanding of what the salaries would be.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And you got the adjust...you got the second meeting also?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, inclusive of the additional adjustments that they made for the Mayor, the Managing Director, and the Deputy Managing Director.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And it was the Department of Ag and East Maui Water Authority?

MR. KRUEGER: Those are not included on the spreadsheet because those have not been decided yet. Our understanding is that the Salary Commission won't take those up until May.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, is that the research? I thought they did take it up. I thought they did. Okay. But they made the change with the Mayor and the Managing Director's compensation, and they weren't able to take up East Maui Water Authority and Department of Ag?

MS. KAWASAKI: Thank you, Chair. I'm not sure what they were able to or not able to take up. We just know what the result was for those particular positions, which were the Mayor's, Deputy Managing Director, and the Managing Director. And I don't...I don't believe --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. KAWASAKI: -- to my knowledge, that we've received a letter from the Salary Commission yet on that, but our Staff did follow that --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Here's...

MS. KAWASAKI: -- particular meeting.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Here's Director Milner. You have more information for us?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Just...just a little bit to add. Thank you. The Salary Commission has not been able to vote on the Director of Agriculture or the Director of East Maui Water Authority. There's a committee member who needs to recuse himself due to a conflict of interest, so they did not have quorum at the first meeting to take the vote. At the second meeting, they would have had quorum, but one of the members was not comfortable voting as he didn't have the background information. It was his first meeting. So, they are working to ensure that they have quorum to be able to take the vote in May. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. In May. Boy, we're going to be...this budget is going to be passed by then, I hope.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Still time. Still time.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, you have as much information as is available right now, and those positions are not...we're not able to have any kind of finality. So, how do you want to deal with that, Members? You want to just take it up at that time, but we'll move forward with whatever information we do have?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Consensus on Liquor Control.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wait, we didn't get there yet. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thought you were trying to move along fast.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, no, no. I just want...I just wanted to resolve what...we're going to just take whatever position Salary Commission has approved so far to date, and then maybe tomorrow, Staff, you can present it when we start our meeting, okay? Okay. Is that...is that good, Deputy Director Kawasaki?

MS. KAWASAKI: Yes, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, moving right along here.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Huh?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wait. What...what about Human Concerns? We just did Housing. We're going to come back to the Lokahi [*sic*] apartments.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Lipoa . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Lipoa apartments. Okay. So, Members, where...you want to move forward and just take the next one? Okay. Let's...I can't hardly wait.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: This is --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- so wonderful. Yes?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I'm going to step away for a few minutes; is that okay?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Do you guys want to take a break? Is that what it means?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah, they don't want to take a break. I need to step away.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Okay. Okay. Department of Human Concerns. Any amendments? A Account, B Account.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I move to cut (*echoing*) --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- B9b(1), Category A, 250,000, plus 234,950 fringe, and inclusive of this motion is to allow Staff to adjust any of my fringes because I was on the wrong page before. And the good news about that is, it's going to be more fringe cut.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin, seconded by Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: For my discussion, I went through all the full-time nongrant-funded vacancies, pulled out positions that have been vacant since 2023, or that are pending redescription review, and cut the funding for those by four months.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: The four-month theory. Okay. Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Could you please repeat the amounts?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: 250,000, with a fringe of \$234,950, and granting the Staff leeway on the fringes throughout the entirety of my cuts because I was using the wrong page last time. And the good news on that is, the amount I was using was lesser because I wasn't including the vacation and leave benefits.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, that's B962 [sic], you said?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: B9b(1), Category A.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Category A. Okay. Members, you got that? You got that? Okay. All in favor, raise your hand...any discussion? All in favor, raise your hand. Okay. Motion carries. Member Rawlins-Fernandez? Okay. That's eight "ayes" because Member Kama excused.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Vice-Chair Kama.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Any more for Human Concerns? All right. So, for Human Concerns, if we have no other amendments for A or B account, we also have CIP, Budget Bill page 25. Are there any proposed amendments in the CIP Fund for the Department of Human Concerns? CIP. None? You're fine? Okay. Appendix A, Part I, Grants, which is 39 to 40. Do...anybody have any proposed amendments? Page 39 to 40. Wait now, A-I (*phonetic*). Okay. Anything? No? A-I, Grants. Okay. A...A...Appendix A, Part II, Special Purpose Revenues. And in here is Kaunoa Senior Leisure Program activities on page 54, Immigrant Services Division, United States Passport Application Facilities Revolving Fund on page 60. Okay. No amendments. That looks good. Appendix B, Rates and Fees on page 19 to 20. Are there any proposed amendments in Rates and Fees? So, 19 and 20.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I move to transfer all animal management rates and fees to the Department of Mayor...nah, Agriculture, whatever...Agriculture.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, it is...it is going --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- . . .(*inaudible*). . . in Agriculture, yeah. All right. Motion made by Member Paltin, seconded by Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Okay. Any discussion? I think we...we discussed that. Okay. All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's eight "ayes," and one excused, Member Kama.

**VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura and Councilmembers Cook,
Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci,
and U'u-Hodgins.**

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Vice-Chair Kama.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's Rates and Fees. Members...yes?

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MR. KRUEGER: Chair, apologies to interject. Staff...and to backtrack. Apologies to backtrack. For the Kaunoha Senior Services Revolving Fund, we just wanted to flag for the Committee, there's a discrepancy with the condition. There's a condition for \$200,000, but it exceeds the...it exceeds the...the...the total balance, which was only \$160,000. So, we just wanted to flag that if the Committee wanted to address that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: What page is that on?

MR. KRUEGER: It's page 54 of Appendix A, Part II, Special Purpose Revenues. Kaunoha Senior Services Leisure Program Activities Revolving Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, that we have to ask Director Milner.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I think, isn't some of the leisure...leisure --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Activities.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- limited-term appointments vacant?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. Director Milner?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I...I move to amend up to 160,718 must be for Leisure Program activities.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member Paltin, a second by Member U'u-Hodgins. So, you're saying that under item M, that 160,000 [sic] must be for the...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: \$160,718.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- 718 for that Leisure Program instructors [sic].

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No, activities.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Activities. Oh, right here. So, right now it says up to \$200,000 must be for Leisure Program activities. So, you want to decrease it to that number, 160, whatever you said?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes. Because...did you want me to do my discussion or something?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Well, I'm just wanting to verify that's...that's what you want.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. My discussion would be that's all that's there. So, give it to the people, the seniors, for --

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- Leisure Program activities.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Because of that discrepancy, that's fine. That solves it, yeah? Okay. Good. All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye." Okay. That's eight "ayes," one...oh, no, seven "ayes," two excused, Chair Lee and Member Kama.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Vice-Chair Kama and Councilmember Lee.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. Anything else? That's it. Members' priorities, 9 and 11 of the...page 9 and 11 of the matrix. So, I guess we should go by the matrix instead of calling it out. Okay. Who would like to go first? Member Kama's not here. Member Johnson, on page 9.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. This is the Maui United Way Kama'aina credit, so...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right. Right.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: All right. Members, I move to add a new appropriation entitled Maui United Way Countywide ALICE Initiative Kama'aina Credit.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. For the amount of 15,000 [sic]. Fund...funds must be used to grant Maui United Way to provide...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You said 15,000.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, I beg your pardon, 15 million. All right.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Little bit different.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's like...okay. Funds may be used to grant Maui United Way provide assistance to asset-limited income-strained employed ALICE households and individuals. And I can explain a little bit of it, and thank you for the second, Councilmember Paltin. So, we're talking about Maui United Way. You heard them come and testify. They...I think they gave eloquent testimony, but I'll add a few points. Maui United Way has capacity for this program. First off, if you recall, they distributed \$8 million months after the fires. Maui United Way also has the relationships. They work well with other nonprofits. They work as an umbrella organization, and they work well with Human Concerns, which we know, relationships with the Administration is what a lot of these folks need to get this...get these programs up and running. And if you recall this stat sheet that they...they had handed out here, it's among our...our desks, I hope. Maui County leads the way in ALICE...in ALICE family households. So, we...we are at...43 percent of our...of our...of our households are in the ALICE category. We know that the...we've been...the...the problems have been compounding on...on our communities. First, we had COVID, a lot of jobs lost, a lot of money lost. Then we had the fires, and that as well has added to the...the issues that these folks are facing. And just in a timely...a timely...I think this is very important discussion, when we were just talking about Lipoa Apartments, their rents are from 2,078 to \$3,457. So, a lot of these ALICE...ALICE folks would fall into those AMIs. And if you look at how many there are, there's a lot, and we need to help them. The...the...the program would include rental assistance, and the rental assistance we have is for 80 percent AMI and below, and this would be for the ALICE and the gap folks that are, you know, above that. So, that would help the...the gas cards, the utilities. We just were talking about the sewer rates, and how they're getting an increase in sewer rates, right? So, these are all things that help with people paying their bills, and that group is expanding, and we need to help them. So, that's my proposal, Members, and I hope you support them. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Anybody else have discussion? So, Member Johnson, we all heard an eviction moratorium, you know, that was talked about also in Member Sinenci's Committee. And I've been to the...the workshops or community outreach at the...at MEO and at Cameron Center, and saw people come in and have the need, and you know, whatever. I...I also know that MEO...and I see...I see Director Cabebe in the audience, that MEO has a program that they're doing very similar to what you're doing, what you're proposing. And so, I'm wondering if there is a need for 15 million, maybe we can be for less. And...and Member...not Member, Director Cabebe is sitting in the audience, and I wonder if she could tell us about the TANF program, and all the things that they've been doing and getting funding, and I wonder if there's more funding coming. Because I would hate for us to do this, and the need is great, but maybe no need as much. So, can I ask Director Cabebe, is it okay? Can you talk about the programs that you're doing at MEO? I'm just...I'm just wondering if we need to put in so much money --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- and what the program is.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair? So, this would be a deviation from our normal process right now. So, I think you would need to ask the Committee formally to take a position on this because we haven't let anyone outside of public testimony speak during our decision-making.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: True.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm not saying I'm against it. I'm just saying that this is not part of what we're...we've been doing.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I heard her the first time, and I do think the need is that great. I don't know if...who your friends are, but --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- almost every single one of my friends need help.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Well, anyway, there's a lot of people that need.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And they're all employed.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And there...there's a lot of people that need help. I'm not saying that there is not the need. But I do know that MEO has...has been...since the fire, has been, you know, helping a lot of people. And I just wonder if we need to put out 15 million of our money, if there's already money that MEO is receiving from the TANF funds, you know, which came from the state government, so it didn't come from us. And I think they're going to get more funds. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Actually, I'm just listening. I just stepped back into the meeting. Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. That's...that's all.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: TANF only applies to families. There's a lot of single people out there that are saying, what about us? It's the people that consistently get left behind

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as well. And then...and...and TANF has a lot of also limitations. Like it's not just needy families that needs help right now. People with good salaries needs help right now.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Anybody else, Members? Member U'u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. So, Member Johnson, this is going to be from just General Fund money?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Does it have to be 15 million?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well, I would first say, the need is that great, if...but I'm willing to listen to my colleagues. If you think that that's too high, I don't know. I don't think it is, but I also want you guys' support on this. How about 14.9 million?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I like that. That's funny.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, 14.99 million. How did you get that number? How did you get 15?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. That's...that's an important question. If you don't mind me answering --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah, yeah, Please, please. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- hers while you were being recognized.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, the...you know, when we spoke to Maui United Way, first off, that \$8 million came up. It was gone right out the door, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: From the fires.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Secondly, they said it will need to be substantial, and they have the capacity to do it. When they look at the numbers of people that they need to help, that's the number that we landed on, okay? I don't...you know, I'm one to try to, again, find consensus with the Administration, and that sounds like they have a very good relationship with the Administration. That sounds like they have the capacity. And you're right, it is a policy position on...on this body. Then, just like what Councilmember Paltin says, I know a lot of people, and it's not just anecdotal. Here's the stats, right? There's...we're overrepresented in the ALICE population statewide. So, I think that money can be spent. These are the folks to be...to be...to be dishing it out. Now, I hope that answers your question, Councilmember U'u-Hodgins, but...

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Well, that answers, Member...Chair --

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- Sugimura's question.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Do you have anything else?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah. The only...the reason why I'm asking is, we just had the...I know we had that whole other discussion about our internal rules for this Committee, but this is \$10 million, which is still a lot of money, so don't get me wrong, less than the last discussion we had, where we were talking about where are we going to get this money? I just want to let you guys know, I didn't use all my priorities either, and all of the additions I made, kind of roughly equal to about \$200,000, which is pretty consistent in how I've been in my priorities. And this is huge, and you're really good at asking for huge amounts of money. That part is consistent on you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's my superpower.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: It is, it is, and we come from opposite ends of the spectrum on that. But it's just...it is a lot of money for me. I don't disagree that everybody needs help. I mean, my husband and I, we...our paycheck...well, actually, we are direct deposit to direct deposit, you know, with four kids. It's a lot of money.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So, that part, I don't...I don't disagree with you at all. Nonetheless, when we're dealing with tax funds, like everything else, it's still people who are direct deposit to direct deposit helping other people who are direct deposit to direct deposit. And I know what you said earlier, I heard you, tax the rich. We're not there yet --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- you know, in our...in our decision-making process.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I...I --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- I hear you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- I will add to where else we got money. It wasn't...we looked at bonding projects, and we just did 6 million from the two fire stations, if you recall, that was 6 million --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah, yeah. Yeah.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- we saved in cash.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: And we looked into Parks so that we did...you know, there are cuts in Parks, right? And bond...you know, switching them into bonds. So, I hear you. We do got to make the cuts, but our community is hurting, and that's just the --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: No, I hear you, too.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- the reality.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: We're...we're all...we're all literally just barely making it.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So, that part, I don't disagree. It is just, it is a lot of money for me. And like I said, just you and I come from different ends of the spectrum, where mine's [*sic*] are kind of mellow, like I'm asking for speed bumps, you know, around Pā'ia School. I don't disagree that this is needed. It's just a lot of money for me, and I would be happy to maybe discuss lowering that amount, but --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sure. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- this is your priority, and I'm not going to tell you what to do...but thanks.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thanks, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, if...if we could bring Ms. Cabebe down, I don't mind having her because she could add to this because I have a feeling a lot of these questions, to have somebody with boots on the ground might...might help some of that. So, I'm okay with that if the body's okay with it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I'm okay if you guys are okay. It's kind of what we --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- said earlier we weren't going to do. Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Correct. So, we're already projecting to go until 9:00 p.m. So, if we start to bring one person down, at what point do we...do we say, okay, no, enough resource people during decision-making? So, I...I think we have to be mindful, like that this is...this isn't just a one-time thing, this could potentially be setting

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precedents. Because if there's other priority proposals that Councilmembers want to bring a resource in to...to explain, to provide additional information on why we should or should not vote on something, then at what point do we draw the line? And so, that's...that's what I'm saying.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, during break, you can talk to her, and I will too. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm not sure if I was clear enough, but people that qualify for TANF are not ALICE people. And ALICE people are...you know, are working families that are on the verge of getting evicted, and we know we don't have homeless solutions right now. We...we're trying for them, but we don't have them to the extent of the amount of people that are getting evicted. And the people that are working most times are the ones, you know, providing services. So, like, you know, it could be your kid has a cavity, you have a flat tire, and you have to get a doctor's note to stay home, or you got to stay home to take care of your kid, and next thing you know, you're evicted. And we have no plan for all those people, and we have no solution for all those people. So, I think this is more of a preventative...preventative than anything. I mean --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- when we help the most...oh, are we being timed?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: When we help the most vulnerable people, that's what...that's a right thing to do, but you also have to help the people that are working because the people that are working make the State work because they pay income taxes. And, you know, traditional times before COVID and before this Administration, those people were okay, but, you know, like they say, it's not just the middle class housing or the middle housing that's having a problem, it's like the middle class that's shrinking. And...and even the ones that are left in the middle class, they're not getting the support of, you know, Trump or TANF or CDBG-DR or, you know, all the programs that we have to help our most vulnerable. And I'm not talking against those programs, but everyone is vulnerable now. And if...if we don't help our workers, then it's all just going to go down the tubes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any more discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair? Mahalo, Chair. And after this, I'm going to have to jump on my phone and then head to the airport. I have a suggestion for this. So, I fully support this proposal. One idea that we could consider, since this is a large proposal is putting, you know, this proposal with the \$25 million proposal together so that we can, you know, discuss, like, all those big proposals one time...because we're

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going to have to also talk about how those proposals are going to be funded. So, that's a suggestion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, you're saying table this, too? That's what you're saying?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Member Johnson brought up the...the \$6 million, the CBS General Funds to Bond Fund. So, my question to Councilmember Johnson, are you going to continue on that list? Because if we continue to move from General Fund to bond funding, that would clear up over \$17,680,000 that could, you know, theoretically address your...your priority.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Councilmember, great minds think alike. That's exactly what I was planning to go down the list on. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, to be reviewed. Anything else, Members? Okay. So, we're going to put this aside, and we'll talk about it further along with Member Kama's. I just heard a mic go off, no? Okay. Is there...are there any other appropriations from --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, mine.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- or considerations from...you have, Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, thank you, Chair. I move to...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wait, which one is yours?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Right after Member Johnson's, on page 9 at the bottom.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Add a new appropriation.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes. Move to add a new appropriation entitled...from the Human Concerns Program Grants and Disbursements, entitled Maui Rescue Mission, Incorporated, in the amount of 200,000 for the purchase of a mobile hygiene truck, truck to tow, registration documentation for both trucks, maintenance, and upkeep for...for both trucks for up to six months, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Maui Rescue Mission, Inc., in the amount of 200,000 for the purchase of a mobile hygiene truck is your motion. Is there a second?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Sinenci, and second by Member Johnson. Discussion.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. And Chair, as the Social Services Committee Chair, we've heard...in a couple of our WASSP meetings, we heard a lot of testimony from both advocates, and...and the houseless community as well. So, I've got a couple in this, since it's under my Committee, just to address some of those concerns that those testifiers came and...and had. Chair, we also received the ECONorthwest report, which we spent 240,000 on, but it didn't come with any recommendations or...or a plan to address the...the houseless situation. So, these are some of the things to quickly...just to summarize real quick, the report said, you know, there was a lot of silos between the different agencies, there was distrust and division among the service providers. And so, the...one of the recommendations or some of the core issues was access to food, water, and hygiene facilities. So, this was one...one priority to address some of those core issues that the report had stated. And so, we did have testimony from Maui Rescue Mission in Pā'ia, and the trailer...the hygiene trailer would be 110,000. The truck to tow the trailer would be 25,000. A used truck is fine for them. And then the monthly operation of the trailer unit would be about 7,500 at six months for \$45,000, as well as the registration, and the cleaning supplies for the laundry and the bathroom for the trailer. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion? Oh, Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes, I just wanted to ask Member Sinenci, I'm sorry I wasn't here for your entire presentation, but did that include repair and maintenance on the vehicle, both vehicles?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes, I believe so, both trailer and the truck.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Generator maintenance, flat tires, seems to be a theme. Plumbing, electrical, and the washer/dryer repairs.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: How about just general repairs, like oil change and that kind of stuff?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Both trucks upkeep for only six months, how come?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: That was what their ask was.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Request was? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All in...oh, more discussion?

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I'm sorry, what?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I'm not ready to vote yet.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. Are they planning to take this mobile hygiene truck on County property?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, I know that they already exist, and they're...I know that they're visiting the different camps, but I don't know if those camps are like on County property, like in Pā'ia.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Like Holomua, Cut Mountain?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Like Holomua, right.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Do they go there? Is that where they're seeking to go?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I think...I think Maui Rescue Mission was more possibly West Side, I'm not sure about...about the Central side, but I know they visit several of the camps.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Are the camps on County property, do you know?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I can...I can find out, or...

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Do they have a right-of-entry?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: You mentioned that. I can...I can find out, but they wouldn't be able to...

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: What happens...what happens if somebody trips and falls on this mobile hygiene truck that we bought on County property, and they don't have a right-of-entry? What is our liability?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And I would think that this would cover some of that liability as part of this, but they don't say that in this request.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Do they...do you know if they have a right-of-entry to County properties? Because that's where a lot of the...the camps are.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: On Country property.

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Or are they willing to get a right-of-entry? Can we condition this money so that they get a right-of-entry if they're going to use it on County property?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, I would be open to that.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: That would be great, please. I don't really want to open ourself up to liability.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Of course.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You got that?

MR. KRUEGER: Apologies, Chair. Can we have that repeated one more time? And confirmation of Councilmember Sinenci's accepting that as part of his motion.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: This is conditioning the funds to ensure that either Maui Rescue Mission--and I'm going to probably make this amendment for everybody that we go through--have a right-of-entry on County property.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Did you get that? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good idea.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Any other...oh, Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, I'd just like to, you know, thank all the outreach folks who are doing this kind of work. This is not easy work. To give people a hot shower is giving them dignity. And that's money well spent. You clean your body, you can start thinking about cleaning your soul. You think about cleaning other sections of your life. To start anew with a fresh shower gives you that kind of, you know, let's take on the day. And I...I appreciate that. Sometimes it's just that simple, that basic need of, you know, food, clothing, shelter, and just feeling good about yourself. Having a little dignity does go a far...a long way, and pays back in spades. This is the kind of work that I support the County putting its money towards. So, thank you for that priority, Councilmember. Thank you, Chair.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Can I ask you a question?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, is...did this group talk to Human Concerns Department? You know, they have all different kind of programs, right? So, are they in touch with the County? So, they're not randomly doing things, or part of a cohesive plan, you know?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. And I...thank you for the question, Chair. I know that the two...the...the hygiene trucks that the County has is...we sent an inquiry to the Maui Police Department. Those are...are out of commission. So, I don't think there's...and that was the one that the Department of Housing and Human Concerns previously had, and that had...that had been sent to the...to the Maui Police Department, and those are...are not working. So, right now, that's...I mean, this would be the only ones that would go out and do some of this outreach.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Any other discussion? Ready to vote? Yeah, all in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, who is missing is Member Rawlins-Fernandez. So, that would...oh, Member Paltin. Oh, I'm sorry. So, that would be seven "ayes," two excused, Member Paltin and Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmembers Paltin and Rawlins-Fernandez.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. This is \$200,000, it's an add, right? I just want to start talking, though. We're adding, so I want us to be --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- sensitive to...at some point, we got to figure out how to pay for all these things. So, I will keep on talking about it as we go along, because we're going to have to figure out how to pay it...pay for things.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Or create cuts. Next. You have more?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. My second one was also in the Category B, and it's to add a new appropriation entitled Maui Grassroots Collective, Inc., in the amount of 450,000, to develop harm reduction training as we had heard in testimony; overdose prevention training, which they also share with the Maui Police Department; and the Holoholo I Ka Wai Program, which was the water...the lifesaving water program; and also meals, hygiene kits, and any outreach program supplies and basic necessities necessary for the health and wellness of the houseless community, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Do you know that I already wrote down first, and the second was coming from you? Okay. Any more discussion? Member U'u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Can you please condition the right-of-entry, please?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Friendly...friendly amendment. I can include the right-of-entry on County property.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Really, that's so important, right? Liability. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, that means...that means subject to receiving the right-of-way [sic]?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right-of-entry.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Right-of-entry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Okay. Any more discussion? All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye." Member Paltin? Okay. So, that'll be eight "ayes." Oh, look, here's Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Okay. That's nine "ayes." Motion carries.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next, Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. I...I have one more under this Department, and again, this was a request...well, I'll do the motion first, and then I can go. Add a new appropriation entitled Maui Family Support Services, Incorporated, for Ikaika Partnership in the amount of \$175,000 to prevent child abuse and neglect.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That's your motion?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Sinenci, and second by Member Johnson. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you. And last Thursday, April 17th, we did have all of the...come testify at the Wailuku-Kahului one, as well as Member Johnson recognizing April 25th as the Child Abuse Prevention Month. And so, child abuse and neglect affects all socioeconomic groups, educational, religious, ethnic, and cultural groups with the highest rates affecting children of Native Hawaiian ancestry. So, this was a request. They...they offer 200 families, up to 200 families, the navigational services, and at least 1,000 families per year at outreach events on Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Hāna, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And they...they have approximately 25 to 30 providers that help with this work. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any more discussion? All right. So, I'm going to vote. All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

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COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So eight “ayes,” one excused. Oh, look, there she is. Nine “ayes.” Member Rawlins-Fernandez in the air, probably, as she’s moving around like that. Okay. Nine “ayes.” The motion carries.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U’u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Kama. Page 10 on the matrix. Is there one? Oh, yeah, there’s...oh, no, she withdrew the top one. Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you’re...okay. Oh, sorry. Okay. There’s...Member Kama gave you her...or you took the Roots Reborn.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That’s correct.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So Member Kama has Hale Mahaolu and Hale Makua.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, this must be my night for breaking rules. No, seriously. So...okay. So, let me tell you what both of them are. Hale Makua, we all know, right, is where

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we...the people go to rehab. And Hale Mahaolu is, again, where people go to live, or they can...you know, and they all...they both do basically the same kind of thing. They do in-house care and personal care. So, when I did this, I wanted it to fit into my...my district. So, I put the money for increased services for personal care. You know, the people that go into your home and...and help your tūtū who cannot bathe themselves, feed themselves, do their shopping, all those kinds of personal care needs. Very personal care. So, that's what these two things are. So...but in speaking with Director Tsuhako, she said, the word residence...Kahului residence area cannot fit because you cannot guarantee that all of the patients who'll be going into Hale Makua and Hale Mahaolu are going to all come from Kahului because they will come from all over the place for rehab services or whatever. But anyway, so she told me if I just deleted those two, it would be okay, which is a really easy thing to do, right? We just do these amendments. The problem is, once you take that out, then they no longer qualify for the Kahului residency district, they become Countywide, right? So...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, you're withdrawing?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I have to withdraw --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Because they don't belong there.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, that would be the Hale Mahaolu personal care grant, as well as the Hale Makua.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, I'm withdrawing before you even get a chance to withdraw. Okay?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Are you...are you all still with me?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I'm still with you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I don't know if there's anything left to be with me for, but let's go for broke, whatever.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Let's look further.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: And then I think we're now on page...are we on page 9 or page 11? I just turned my page and...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: There's one on page 11.

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So, I would go to 11, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Salvation Army.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Well, can we go back to page 9 or did we already pass page 9?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, no, no, no. Okay. Page 9.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Right. So, this is, I think, the one Gabe and I talked about earlier, or actually yesterday, I think. It almost seems like a long time ago. But this is for...to increase the County grant and subsidy detail for MEO by 630,000 for early childhood programs, and reduce the general County grant subsidy for early childhood programs by 280,000, which means a decrease in competitive bucket only, not the total grant. So, in this one, I think what I'm going to end up doing is withdrawing this one too...because you covered what you were...what you were talking to me about yesterday was correct. And I talked to Debbie Cabebe about it too. So, I don't know who was in favor of withdrawing more, me or...or Member Paltin, but nonetheless. So, that was item...on page 9. Are we good, Chair? Now we can go to 11? Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Do you really want to withdraw that? I would really hope we could keep it and maybe just chop off that second section where you would defund 380K. Because remember, Members, Head Start is in trouble with this Federal funding. That's over 120 families in our communities that are receiving...or going to Head Start. We heard when we went to the district...district meetings about how important the Head Start was. I...I...I appreciate --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I can do that. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- Councilmember Kama's proposal. It's just that deleting --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: The 380 --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- that 380K might be the...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- is for the early childhood kids are at, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right. We don't want to have --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: The five.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- them fighting each other over these funds that are getting more and more limited. So, are you sure you want to withdraw? I would really hope you wouldn't, because those folks are...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I feel so encouraged by somebody today, so thank you.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right, right.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, that means also...which also means that where it says a decreasing competitive bucket needs to be deleted, though, right? That's what you're saying?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I would say increase County grant subsidy detail for Maui --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- MEO by 630K for --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- early childhood programs and stop...full stop.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right after programs.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Gotcha. So, if that's a friendly amendment, I accept that friendly amendment from Member Johnson.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, do we have a motion that is...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I'll second that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Kama, and Gabe Johnson is the second. So, this would be increased County grant subsidy for MEO, Inc. By...you're going to increase it by 630,000. You got that?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. Just...just for clarity for Staff's understanding. So, for the motion, what would happen on the budget bill is we'd increase this line item for early childhood programs by \$630,000. And then would it also include a condition underneath it that just says up to \$630,000 must be for Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MR. KRUEGER: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You're good?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Now you can...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You want to say something, Member Cook? No? All right. All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we have Member Paltin and Member Rawlins-Fernandez are not here, so that's seven "ayes." Oh, there she is. Eight "ayes," one excused is Member Paltin. The motion carries.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Hey, good job.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Anything else, Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes, on page 11. Under Human Concerns Program Grants and Disbursements for Health, Human Services and Education Salvation Army, increases the appropriation for the Salvation Army by \$355,000 and condition the increase for services to unsheltered persons.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member Kama, and second by Member Cook. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Discussion.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- so, this is Salvation Army. You remember those are the guys that when you go shopping at Walmart, they're the guys ringing the bells, and the money that they

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raise there is for here. But they do that plus, if you've ever seen their van out there with, I think, Mark (*phonetic*) driving the van, and dropping off to all the different encampments, personal hygiene kinds of things and, you know, food and clothing and so on and so forth, that I think they have a really good thing going. I just want to make sure that they continue to do that. And I think they have a great staff that's able to do...volunteers too, that help them do this plus other things that they need to get done. So, that's my rationale.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: And I like Salvation Army.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to support the motion on the floor. I...I understand that the Salvation Army is part of those agencies that help with the...the efforts to address the houseless crisis. So, I'll speak in support, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You ready to vote? Oh.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .(*inaudible*). . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Director Milner, you have a thought about the Salvation Army?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I just had a little bit of additional information from the Department I wanted the body to have before they made the final vote, if that's okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Please.

MS. MILNER: Okay. Thank you, Chair. Over the last three fiscal years, the Salvation Army has not fully expended the funds that the County has awarded them.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MS. MILNER: In Fiscal Year '23, almost 28,000 lapsed. In Fiscal Year '24, 43,000 lapsed. And we're not sure, but at this point in the fiscal year, it looks like they could potentially lapse up to 30 percent of their funding. So, I just...I just wanted you to have that information before you took the final vote. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Well, thanks.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh, sorry. Director Milner, this question was for you.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. So, what was the total amount of funds they were able to expend?

MS. MILNER: So, I believe for the past few years, I don't have the exact grant amount, but if we assume 245,000 per year, in Fiscal Year '23, it would have been 217,086. In Fiscal Year '24, it would have been 2...a little over 200,000. And this year, it looks like it'll be around 175,000. But again, we're only partway through the fiscal year, so it's possible the spending could pick up --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Sure.

MS. MILNER: -- in the next few months. Thank you, Chair.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Good thing.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I don't know if with that information, you might want to amend some of the monies that we're increasing the appropriation for, unless they had a plan to spend down the 355, Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I don't know if they had a plan to spend it down, but I think at least taking...or decreasing what you're asking is certainly warranted.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. What do you suggest then?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: How about...I'm looking at what they did, what they spent. I think the most they've gotten was 217. I would say 250.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: If we're looking for a number.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. I can support that. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So...oh, Member Rawlins-Fernandez has her hand up. Thanks.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I just wanted to ask a clarifying question to Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Did the Salvation Army request this funding?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: No.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. And...and we're confident that they'll be able to spend it? No? I guess Member U'u-Hodgins asked if they have a plan, and the answer was no. Okay. Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Sorry, I didn't hear the answer. What...what did you say the answer was?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I didn't answer.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: She asked if I was confident.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, Member Kama can answer if she wanted to, sorry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, that's what I'm asking.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I feel confident, I do. And I do feel like, you know, they will get a plan. And I'm hoping it's a good plan. Be a happy plan.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, this is going to be the total amount for...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. I guess...I guess that's all...oh, I guess the follow-up would be...okay. So, they didn't request the money, the additional funding, but did you talk to them about you proposing additional funding?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes. Well, not me personally, but my Staff did.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, the Salvation Army is now 250,000, correct?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And your amendment...a friendly amendment, I guess.

MR. KRUEGER: So...

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Kama and Member Cook.

MR. KRUEGER: Apologies, Chair. Just for Staff's clarification. So, is it now the increase is by 250,000, or would it be that the new appropriation amount would be 250,000?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: It's an increase.

MR. KRUEGER: Okay. So, we'll...we'll...the motion now is to increase by 250,000 --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MR. KRUEGER: -- so that the new total for the fund would be...apologies, just...so the new line item total would be 495,000, and the 250,000 would be conditioned for services to unsheltered persons.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Correct.

MR. KRUEGER: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Correct. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. We're good? Ready? All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Rawlins-Fernandez? There. Okay. So, that would be eight "ayes," one excused, Member Paltin.

VOTE: **AYES:** **Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.**

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **Councilmember Paltin.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Is that it?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, me.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. Okay. I have on page 11, number 12. I'm...I'm switching this one out because this is the big one that I am going to defer for another time, a \$4 million request for the purchase of homes for Aloha House, Incorporated. That's substance abuse. Instead, I'm asking for \$168,000...\$168,000 for their partial hospitalization program. And this is a program which extends care for their clients who are exiting their program. They're finding a high incidence of relapsing. And so, this program will help them as they transition out of the treatment program, out of the housing program. And these...especially for those who have co-occurring disorders, substance abuse, and mental illness. So, they have already started this program. They want to expand the program. It's...it's been highly successful, and I ask for your support in a motion to move...to accept this.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I'll second . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So Chair Lee made the motion, and seconded by --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: If it wasn't what?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I didn't know if you got a second, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, I'll...I'll second it.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, as I explained it...I explained it. This is a very good program that has been started as a result of them noticing the high incidence of relapsing and people coming back too soon. So, to help them transition better and to be more self-reliant, they're...they're doing this new program, which so far has been very successful. Most of the money will be for additional personnel and some rental assistance, that's it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, I second this because I really support it, and thank you, Chair Lee, for coming in with something like this. This is very needed for our community. I want to remind everybody, May 7th will be the groundbreaking of the 12-bedroom Aloha Dorm that I fought for on my freshman year as a Councilmember, and finally, they're breaking ground. So, sometimes these projects take a very long time to happen, but now all the things are coming together, and we're really going to kind of tackle this issue head-on. So, thank you, Chair Lee, and I rise in full support. Mahalo.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, I see the trend that we seem to be going in. You buy a house, and you allow a nonprofit to run it for whatever it is that they're passionate about, whether it's sheltering the unsheltered, or sheltering those who are trying to become addictive-free, or whatever that might be. I think...I like that path that we seem to be on, because it's so much easier to buy a house, right, fund it, and let them run it, right? I like that. So, I like those programs. I might think of one next year. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. And no more discussion. All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we are at...Member Rawlins-Fernandez did not pop up, and Member Paltin. Oh, there she is. Okay. Eight "ayes," one excused, Member Paltin.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any more?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I have one, Chair. And I'll try to be quick, because I hear bellies grumbling.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: What page?

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Same page, page 11, just above Chair Lee's proposal on the...on the matrix. And that is in Human Concerns Program B, number 4, Grants and Disbursements for Health, Human Services, and Education, and number 7, Immigrant and Migrant Services. So, I move to increase by 235,000, and insert a condition to read, 235,000 must be used for Maui Roots Reborn, Incorporated, Know Your Rights Train the Trainer, and Community Care Navigation Support Programs.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member...Member Johnson, second by Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Last year, I proposed 800,000 for Immigration Services, but I cut it down to 400,000, if you folks remember. The 400,000 is carried over as a line item, but we need more. The 400,000 was contracted out to Pacific Gateway, and Roots Reborn did not apply due to the lack of funds with Federal cuts. The stance the Trump administration has taken for immigrants is well-known, and this money is needed now more than ever in FY 2026. The...the program summary is basically, the Roots Reborn is dedicated to providing trusted, cultural, competent, effective services to immigrant and migrant communities in Maui. Their integrated community empowerment work combines two of our strongest initiatives, the Know Your Rights and the Train Your Trainer Program, and the Community Care Navigation Program. Together these programs empower community members with vital knowledge, and...and direct support in accessing essential services and pathways to advocacy. The program objectives are four: educate immigrant and migrant community members on their legal rights through workshops and training, provide personalized support through community care navigators, and access critical services such as healthcare, housing, and other social services, build leadership capacity with the community by training leaders and to extend knowledge and support their peers, and collect and utilize data to provide service delivery, identify gaps, and enhance program effectiveness. Of course, the activities were know your rights, trainer, and community care navigation. And then Roots Reborn had a meeting with Director Tsuhako about not duplicating the Pacific Gateway work, so everybody's on board. This...and that's my proposal. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion? Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. If anybody hasn't checked out Roots Reborn's office in Kahului, I suggest they do. They...I suggest you do. They are an amazing group of people doing amazing things, and this is something like it's so...it's necessary for us to do, but it sucks that we have to. It really does. So, I wish them and everybody else nothing but the best, and I'm happy to support this.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Anybody else? Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I have a question for Member Johnson. So, you know your community care navigators, these are the guys that go out and do a lot of the Train Your Trainer,

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Know Your Rights, and all of...and they go into these communities and...and try to help them to do that. So...and these are all volunteers, right? Most of them; is that right?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: They...they have 20 trained...for the train your trainers, 20 community leaders to serve as trainers fostering peer-to-peer knowledge and dissemination --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- but they do have full staff.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: But they're...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: But they have volunteers too, right?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Twenty, yeah...twenty.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, my question is, do the volunteers who do the Train The Trainer or Know Your Rights, and they go into these communities and do these workshops, do they have mileage? Do you know if they get mileage to do that?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Do they have mileage for their car if they go and drive?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: For the navigator, the person that actually goes to the meetings and does all of that. Because they're volunteers, right?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's true. I...I don't know if they get paid for their mileage.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It's something we can certainly bring up with them and find out, though.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I like where you're going with it.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: They should be compensated if they can.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Just for gas.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah, for gas.

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. That's all, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good. Any more? We can break for dinner.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Great.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, call for the vote. Sorry. Getting hungry. All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye." So, this will be...there. Okay. Eight "ayes," one excused, Member Paltin.

**VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and
 Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee,
 Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.**

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Mahalo, Members.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Yeah, dinner's here.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Were you going to break for dinner?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Do you have more?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No, I just wanted to say, mahalo. I think this...the Department of Human Concerns is one of those really big and important. I mean, they're all very

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important, but the discussions that we had and the funding for...for these programs to continue. I think in the next four years, under this current administration, we're going to need as much help as we can. So, I'm very appreciative of my fellow Members and the investment in...in this particular Department. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I know, there's so much happening with the Federal Government that I think is going to touch us faster than we know --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- and makes me very worried also. But like always, right, good thing we have MEO, and all of those that have been with us, even the...the hardest times, right, they're with us. So, I'm very grateful. All right. Members, so it is now 6:11, and how long do you want to take for a dinner break? Come back one hour, 7:15?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 7...7:15? It's 6:11.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh, okay. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, that'll be 7:15, we'll see you back. We'll take a recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 6:11 p.m.

RECONVENE: 7:31 p.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Welcome back to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. It's now 7:31. Thank you, everybody, for sticking around. And we're going to try to do departments so that we can move forward to do Mayor and Managing Director tomorrow. So, if we can, if...with your permission, Members, I'd like to do...complete the Human Concerns, but Liquor, then 'Ōiwi Resources, Planning, Prosecuting Attorney, yeah?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, but we got to. Liquor, 'Ōiwi, Planning, Prosecuting Attorney, and then we have some revisits. But basically, I'm trying to get us to move forward as fast as possible so that we can...not have to work on Saturday. That's our goal, right? All right. So, the Human Concerns, we have one priority from Member Kama. I'm actually on this sheet that was just passed out to us. Pacific Gateway Center.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay, I withdrew that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You withdrew this? Okay.

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah, only because of...yeah. So, go.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. This is withdrawn. Yay, that was fast.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Because I spoke to the...the Department Director, and she said that they didn't finish completing their paperwork for FY '25.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, that's really important.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah, it is, so...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And Staff, are we done then with Human Concerns?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Nohe, you want to talk about the proposed reinstatement of Fiscal Year 2025 salary cuts? Are we ready to do that, or you want to take it up?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Sure. Are we going to do that...are we going to do that...for which department are we doing that for?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh, I was going to just do the ones that we were going to discuss tonight. Which...are we --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- not doing?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No need.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We can do the complete.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Because I know that some we already did, the departments that we had, some of the cuts exceeded some of the cuts we did from last year, and some were near about the same, but I was going to propose the salary cuts, the ones that we did from last year for the departments that we're going to take up tonight.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, you can proceed. So, we did Agriculture. They have nothing on this list. Corp. Counsel...

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Chair, which departments were we going to just do right now? Were we going to do Prosecuting Attorney and Planning?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I have Liquor, Planning, 'Ōiwi Resources, Prosecuting Attorney, and we did Housing, Human Concerns, and that's it for today.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Well, going in alpha order, next is just the Department of Liquor Control. And we didn't cut anything from there yesterday because they're a self-funded entity, so I have nothing for them. I don't know if anybody else had anything for Liquor.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: No.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, they don't have anything proposed reinstatement. Okay. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Should we do --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we're going to take up 'Ōiwi.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- 'Ōiwi? 'Ōiwi, we had nothing as well last year.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Nothing. Planning.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: But Member...Member Sinenci does have a priority for 'Ōiwi Resources if that's the next department we're going to take up.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, we're not ready. We want to just take this up now.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh, okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Then we'll take up the other departments one-by-one.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Let me find where we are.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Liquor, Planning, 'Ōiwi Resources, Prosecuting Attorney. Okay. You want to take up Prosecuting Attorney also?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Sure.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You want to take up the departments we took up already?

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: No, I was just going to do the ones we did because some of the cuts we made previous to this was more than that. How come I cannot find Planning? Why is it hiding from me?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's on the second page.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: No, not...not in there, in our budget. Is it page 19?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Proceed.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh, yeah, I missed that whole page. One second, Chair. I move to reduce in...sorry, let me get organized...Category A, Salaries, in the Department of Planning by \$108,000.77 [sic].

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: And this is referenced in the handout that we received on the BFED meeting of April 21, 2025.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: What about the rest? You're going to just do one-by-one?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh, did you want to take it up in one motion?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, let's do it all in one motion.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. We can do that too. Well then, continuing on with the motion, I move to reduce Category A for number 18, Paragraph A, Prosecuting Attorney by 97,477.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, that's 97 percent [sic].

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Can you repeat Planning's one again? Hundred...

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Sure. \$108,777.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's on page 2.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 'Ōiwi.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. And actually, on this sheet, 'Ōiwi has nothing. And --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Liquor has nothing.

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Liquor has nothing.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Liquor has nothing. They're self-funded. Liquor has nothing and Ag has nothing.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Ag has nothing.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ag has nothing. Okay. Are you...are you all okay? Okay. Members, are you okay?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. Only two, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, actually only two, because the others have nothing from last year. So, Planning for 108,777, and Prosecuting Attorney for 97,477. Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, 108,777. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Discussion? Oh, I hear Member Rawlins-Fernandez. We can...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We cannot see you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I am in my vehicle alone.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, my video is off. My question...my paperwork is in front of me at the moment.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you have...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, for the two...Prosecuting and Planning, for those reductions, what document is it coming from...is the percentage or rationale behind the reduction?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, it's coming from Bill 41, Category A. It's from the Department Administration and Planning Program.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, no, that's not my question. My question is, where is the proposed reduction coming from? Is that accommodation from the departments, or is that a percentage? What is the rationale for the reduction?

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I can answer that, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: This is the proposed...this is the Council reduction from last year that every single department is asking to be reinstated. The reason why I'm proposing this...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, this came from OCS?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah, this was...this was the...we got the...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Calculations they made.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah, this is the calculations they made. And then --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- they retrieved it from the...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Document that we passed.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah, the details. And they...every department kind of recalculated their numbers to make it like what it is this year. And so, I'm just re...proposing to make those cuts because none of those departments came back to us to ask for that funding during this fiscal year.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. All right. So, all in favor...any more discussion? Member Sinenci? Oh, you're ready to vote? Okay. All in favor, say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Cook?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I made the motion. I made the motion, Chair Lee second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee made the second. Okay. Okay. So, it's one...two...three...four...five--and Member Rawlins-Fernandez--oh, there she is, that's

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six. One...two...three...four...seven. Okay. Who's not here is Member...oh no, Member Kama is here. Only...only Member Paltin's not here.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Paltin and Johnson.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Johnson.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Johnson has left. Okay. So, seven "ayes" and two excused.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmembers Johnson and Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And this is only for these two departments, actually, because the other departments have nothing. All right. We will take up the rest. We're not done with this, right? Okay. Now we're going to...so Member Kama, you're done. We're done with Human Concerns. Ready to take up Liquor, everybody? Okay. I got to get my stuff out, sorry. So, Liquor's on page 13 of the budget bill. And when Member Rawlins-Fernandez gets here, I guess, then we can take up what...what we laid on the table for that Lipoa Apartments issue. And then for Member Johnson, he's left. He said he's going to be listening in, but he's left the meeting. So, his item we can take up tomorrow, which is that fund, which we said we would lay on the table, yeah? The 15 million one. All right. So, I'm going to take up Liquor. And then after that, we'll get to you, Member Kama, so be prepared. They're on page 13. Anybody have any amendments for Liquor? No? Yeah. CIP, none. They don't have Appendix A, Part I, Grants, not...none. And they...Liquor Education Fund is on page 48 in Appendix A, Part II. And these are the funds that every year is capped at, I don't know, it's \$22,000, or whatever it is, a percentage of their fees, and it needs to be changed...increased through the Legislature, so it's a fixed fee, we can't change it. Appendix B, Rates and Fees, pages 22 to 24. Are there any changes, Members? On page...Appendix B, Rates and Fees, page 22 to 24. Liquor. Yeah, I have nothing either. They have no changes, so it's all the same anyway. Okay. Everybody's fine with Liquor? We're done, actually.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Good night.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That one, we're done. Next, 'Ōiwi Resources. This should be quick, too. So, 'Ōiwi Resources is Bill 41...oh, I said I was going to take up Member Kama. Let's take up Member Kama, your Lipoa Apartments.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, she's not here, you're right. All right. 'Ōiwi Resources, which is on page 18. Okay. Anybody have any amendments?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No? Okay. CIP, they have none. Appendix A...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I have an amendment.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. So, maybe we can go back to that. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm going...I'm going to be there in like five minutes. Can I make it when I get there?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Okay. Appendix A, Part I, Grants, there's none for them in that section. Appendix A, Part II, Special Purpose Revenues. And as a reminder, the following funds are under the Office of Hawaiian Cultural Resources Revolving Fund, which is page 55. So, maybe we can talk about that when Member Rawlins-Fernandez comes. And Member Sinenci has a priority in this, which is on matrix page 17.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Sure. Page 17 of the matrix.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Move to increase Category B by 74,000 for a drone with LiDAR technology and ground-penetrating radar machine.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Second? Motion made by Member Sinenci, second by Member Cook. Discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Funding for the drone was provided in the previous year; however, that fund lapsed. The cost of renting a drone is \$10,000 a day. So, with this purchase, the County will save hundreds of thousands of dollars in survey costs, including coastal surveys, and the...the drone surveys using LiDAR technology will be more accurate than the current work. Now, with the establishment of the new Department of 'Ōiwi Resources and in hiring new Staff, the Department can now facilitate these surveys with a new LiDAR drone, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow, so expensive, yeah, per day. Wow.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I'm sorry, it's 60...60,000 for the drone, and 14,000 for the ground-penetrating radar machine.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, Member Sinenci, didn't they ask the Mayor for...to cover that cost?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: This was from the...the--Dr. Six, the archeologist, this was a request from her.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, no. But they didn't...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Like include it --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: When...yeah --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- in...in the overall budget?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- when they were putting their budget together?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I think it's because it had lapsed. And the...the archeologist has finished her certification program and so that she can now train the new hires with the new drone.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, maybe we can ask Lesley that question. Did you ask?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, you want to ask Ms. Milner?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Milner. Ms. Milner, are you there? Oh, there. Okay. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: The question was, if the LiDAR wasn't included in the Mayor's final budget request.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Sinenci. I don't believe this was included in the request the Mayor received from the Office of 'Ōiwi Resources. So, it would not have been included. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So that's your answer, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I got it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Members, any more discussion? If not, you want to vote? You have a...you have a question? Okay. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So, the monies lapsed. So, did we put it in 2023?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, I think I put it in the last...maybe in 2023.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. And then do they have any unspent funds in this Department that they could buy it now, or no?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I don't...because we moved it. I think it was in Management, and now we moved the archeologist to the new Department of 'Ōiwi Resources.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Maybe that's a Budget Director question?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Maybe Budget Director can answer. Because it sounds like something they might need now, that's all, and then they're going to be waiting until July --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: July.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- 1 is when this funding is available.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, got it.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: But I mean, the only reason I'm asking, 74 is not that much money, so I would...happy to support it. But it seems like maybe they might have that many dollars in their current operating budget, but I'm happy to ask Director Milner.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: There she is.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director Milner?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you...thank you, Chair, thank you, Councilmember U'u-Hodgins. I haven't run their actuals. I can check the report that Finance sent to you all yesterday on expenditures to date. I'll just need a minute to pull that up. If they do have unexpended funds, they can use them this year. I don't know if they have them earmarked for other purposes. I will need to check with the director.

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COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. I’m happy to support this now. We can figure it out if they can buy it now. If not, we can just vote on it now so we can move on.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Thanks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, welcome.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And we’re now voting on ‘Ōiwi Resources, Member Sinenci’s...his priority for a drone, drone, and LiDAR.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. I’ve been tracking.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. No discussions. All in favor, raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, this is now eight “ayes” and...oh, two “ayes,” so... I mean, sorry, two excused, which is Member Johnson and Paltin, so seven “ayes.” Motion carries.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmembers Johnson and Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Gabe Johnson and Tamara Paltin. Okay. That’s good. Moving right along here. All right. Are you ready to talk about the Lipoa Apartments?

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, she had one for 'Ōiwi . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you do? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. It is not a funding, it's a position, unfunded. I move to add an unfunded position for a Cultural Specialist under the Department of 'Ōiwi Resources.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second. Discussion?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Any discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Um-hum. Yeah. This position would be based on Moloka'i. I talked about this in the KA'Ā Committee and asked about it and everyone agreed it was a great idea, so I hope you support my unfunded position. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion? Seeing...oh, Member U'u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. I just want to know, because I'm...I'm not in your Committee, but what do you think...or what is this Cultural Specialist going to do on Moloka'i?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh look, there's Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I know there's a lot to do, I just want to hear it.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, like broadly speaking, or like specifics?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, some of the things include...so they have the three divisions, right? So, the . . . *(inaudible)*. . . iwi, and cultural specialists. And so, having one on-island cultural specialist for Moloka'i, so that's my proposal. And then eventually one on Lāna'i, that way they have...the Department has a presence on-island for the types of issues that they respond to, to have someone on-island. And then we also have like wahi pana and wahi kapu that will also be beneficial for the County to have a presence on the island. Mahalo for the question.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah, thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. No other questions. Member Johnson is here, too. All right. So, Members, I'm going to take a vote. Oh, Member Johnson, you have a question? Or you're voting? Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Hi, Chair. I...I just wanted to let everybody know, I'm alone in my workspace, and I...I support the proposal. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good. Members, all in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That's eight "ayes," one excused, Member Paltin.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Any others for 'Oiwī? Are we done? All right. Moving right along here. All right. Now that Member Rawlins-Fernandez is here, we can talk about Lipoa Apartments. Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, Chair --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- if you could, could you bring us up to speed as to where we are in this whole thing after all of our discussion? Where exactly are we?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we were looking at your project --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- your priority project for that \$25 million for --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Lipoa Apartments, right? And so, we said we would come back and visit because the Affordable Housing Fund had, at that point, \$900,000. And we put your project on the table to figure out what you wanted to do to fund the \$25 million project.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, is that the discussion, how to fund it? Okay. So, a couple of ways. We could increase the...the percentage that we give to the Affordable Housing Fund. I mean, I think we started at 3 percent. The Mayor, I think, added two. And now, if we add two more percent, I think that would be more than sufficient.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, you're saying add...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: If you're asking how to fund the \$25 million.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That's the discussion. Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So, mahalo, Member Kama, for that response. So, I know...so my question was more specifically what classifications in RPT would you raise, and what is the proposed amount? You know, like because I know we can move General Fund into Affordable Housing Fund, but where will that General Fund money come from?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, I was looking at the RPT report that we just got. And it said, I think we received 643 million from the RPT. So, I was looking at 2 percent more of...2 percent of that going into the Affordable Housing Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. But I think that 2 percent has to be... has been appropriated somewhere throughout the budget, you know?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: She's talking about new money is what she's talking about.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: We're talking about us, you know, the Council--if we would raise it 2 percent more than what the Governor...the Mayor has already put in 2 percent, which would make it 7 percent. And if we added two more percent, we'd bring it up to, I think, 9 percent of the total RPT. That's what my reasoning is.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. So, my question was which classification, tier, and rate amount?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I didn't go that far.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Well, where are you going to get the money from?
We're just going to...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: RPT.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: No, but that's my honest answer, though. I hadn't figured it out.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, I mean, I'm...like I said, I'm supportive of
increasing property taxes on Tier III's. I don't know how much. That's why I increased
the range --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: To...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- to go a little higher.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But are you going to increase it to \$25? Like
that's what I'm asking. And if we don't have that answer just yet, then perhaps we'll
have to like table this until we have that answer. Because this is...is a lot.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Well, we're not going to know until Friday, I think. Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. I don't disagree. I also would like to
know where this money is coming from. I...I think we might have some money coming
in in the future. If you wouldn't mind, I would actually like to talk to Director, which I
can't do now, because I'm a little bit curious for one of the projects. I don't really want
to touch the money, but one of the projects is the one that we discussed previously,
which is on Open Space land, that they'll need to --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Transfer the money.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- refund the Open Space. I think they need to do
entitlements...because right now it's Ag. They'll need to zone it appropriately, and they'll
need to do whatever subdivision required for this. I think when we had Ms. Milner...or
I'm sorry, Director Milner in...here the last time, they were going to do some sort of
calculation on the entire parcel and what was actually going to be used for the affordable
housing. So, that part would need to be subdivided out. And so, right now we have
\$12 million, over \$12 million for planning, design, and new construction. Considering
how long entitlements take, I don't think we'll get to new construction. Maybe we'll get
to design, and we'll definitely do some planning, but I don't see how they could use
\$12 million in the next fiscal year to construct a project that isn't on entitled lands. But
I can't answer that question right now without --

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Speaking to them.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- Director Mitchell, unless he's here, and how he thinks this company is going to spend this much dollars.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You want to ask Director Milner?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: She wants to talk to the Housing Director.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I know, but he's probably sitting next to her.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I'd assume.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Huh?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I'd assume that she has --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- some sort of contact with him. So, I would...I would like to know that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Chair Lee, you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, as I mentioned earlier, we haven't really talked about the existing proposed projects, whether all of them are shovel-ready, or even close to it. So, we need to vet those projects as well, or get a report on each project as...as to its readiness.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And if it has all its funding as well. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, you know, therefore, I kind of like that, your...your train of thought on this particular project. It's number 12 in the Affordable Housing Fund, is up to 12.4 million, must be for a loan to A0746...oh, you can't hear me, sorry. It's for A0746, Lahaina LP, for the Kaiāulu O Nāpili project located in...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Try to lower the microphone.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You have to speak into the mic.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, can you hear me now? Okay. Now I'm speaking too loud. So, this project, as you know, it just passed out of my Committee. I don't even know if we passed second reading yet on that Bill 33. And it was...it is Open Space Funds, which the Department used...is proposing to use that parcel to build housing, but the land is

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not even correctly entitled. The land, the parcel itself, right, is still Open Space. So, there's homework that has to be done. And if this is here, then maybe this can actually be affordable housing for next year. Because there's...there's still more work to be done. It's not going to go to construction.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I...I think so too. I would like to leave some of the funds in there to assist with the entitlement process. I'm not too sure how much. I don't know if that's like 1.4 or something. And remove some of the money. I don't know. That would be for somebody else to tell us how much is appropriate to leave for re-entitlement and planning. And then some of the funds from there can be used to help support Lipoa, and we could offset the rest by however else we're going to figure this all out. But I just highly doubt they'll get to new --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- they'll start constructing their project --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Kind of...kind of far, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- if the land is not entitled yet.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Is Miss...is Budget Director Milner on?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Milner? There.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I would just request...I need to touch base with Director Mitchell on this. I know they provided the Affordable Housing Fund proposal for this fiscal year to the Council in writing that had details on all of these projects. So, I'd really like a chance to look at that, and speak to him before I make any comments on the use of funding for next year. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Well, very good. Getting closer. Right? Because now we're at possibly \$12 million...or, you know, \$11 million, I guess. So, Members, you want to...you want to...or Member Kama, you have any other ideas? We still need to get this information.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: None at this moment --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- but I will by Friday.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, maybe tomorrow we'll have more information from Director, right?

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Can I...can I add on to this conversation?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So, this is 51 acres in Ag land, which means they would have to go to the LUC. This isn't even...County can't just zone this unilaterally, and we don't control the State. I mean, I do know somebody on the LUC that obviously can help us out, but I'm just saying that's another layer of bureaucracy that we don't have control over that I don't see getting entitled tomorrow.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, this...this parcel has 50 acres?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: It's 51 acres, so --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 51 acres.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- anything over 15 has to go to LUC.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: They probably...well, they're probably going to...well, who knows. Okay. Let's find out more information.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I would...I would like that, and then if that's the case, I would like to make that a more reasonable amount for what they can expend in Fiscal '26 and help fund the Lipoa project. But --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- I will...I will propose that, or Member Kama can propose that, when we have a bit more information. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. In the meantime, Member Kama, put on your thinking caps, but this is a good possibly idea.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes, Chair. And plus, she has a friend on the LUC.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I know, we like him. We like him, too.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I never heard that explanation before. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We can go ask him directly. Member Cook, you have an idea?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I'd like that when we do speak with the Housing Director tomorrow to...about this, to ask about other projects that are realistically stuck, or not going to move forward, and that those funds could possibly be freed up and reassigned when it's at a better place. And...and I don't mean that just for this project, I just mean in general, for us to be able to get up current with the Housing...Affordable --

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- Housing Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, here's Director Milner.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I did just want to say that I...part of the affordable housing review process was whether the funds could be utilized in the coming fiscal year, so I don't believe that the answer to that question will be that they don't anticipate that these funds...sorry, I'm double-negating. I don't believe the answer will be that they feel the funds won't be encumbered in Fiscal Year '26. But again, I will speak to Director Mitchell, and either he or I will get you the information in the morning.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's very good. Okay. So, Lipoa Apartments still is...okay, maybe not yet. We'll hear what Member Rawlins-Fernandez has to say.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Since Miss...Budget Director Milner was speaking to one of the criteria that the committee that reviewed all 19 applications, if she can...she was speaking to the criteria of funding readiness and leverage, and so...financial leverage. And so, that's how I understand that they were scored and put in order, and that Lipoa Investments didn't make the cut of the top 12 that we have in our Affordable Housing Fund now. Also, with all the details that everyone's asking about, that is why I like to have it in Committee and have a discussion before approving it for all these reasons. And my understanding is the Nāpili project is going to be on 15 acres or less and 201H fast track. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: When they're ready, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Also, I would not support taking action on taking money away from West Maui without the West Maui Councilmember here. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, good idea. Okay. Anything else regarding that? So, we'll find out more information tomorrow. Thank you. And the other project, then, we have Member Johnson here. If we could go back to your project for...is it Maui United--I don't know what the actual project is called, but Maui United Way.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sure. I guess the...Chair, I guess the...the question before you guys is probably, you want to know how we're going to pay for it. To pay for the Maui United Way, the bonds that are CIPed are funded by General Funds. We're going to try to defer some Park projects, and if need be, we'll have to raise Tier III of Non-Owner-Occupied and Short-Term Rental tiers. So, that's my plan going forward. There's a list--and Councilmember Sinenci referred to it before--there's a list of CIP

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projects that can be sent to bond, and the total is 17 million. So, that's...if that...that's what I was going for, but if the Members have more to talk on it, that's...that's my point.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any discussion, Members? Member U'u-Hodgins, and then I have a question also.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. This was what I brought up the last time. I don't disagree that anybody, especially the Maui United Way, can spend \$15 million serving this population. You know, at some point, we could spend all the money, but I do think it's too much, so I'm going to be voting no, not because I don't support this project because...or this idea, but because I think it's just a little bit too much, and if you're willing to go down a little bit --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- I'm happy to support it. But like I said, I wouldn't tell you what to do, it's your priority. Thanks.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No, I...I...Councilmember U'u-Hodgins, let me be clear here. We vote on this together as a body. I would like for us to have a unanimous vote. My proposal is 15 million, and I'll tell you straight that the Maui United Way guys told me if it's anything below 10, it's really not going to make a dent. So, if you folks think 12 million is something you can...you can feel free that you think you could vote on, I would...I would move down to 12 million if...if you guys are okay with that. I want us to kind of come together with a number that we're all comfortable on, but I also know if we go too low, we kill it, okay? So, what say you, Councilmember U'u-Hodgins, 12 million?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you for that. Can you please clarify why anything less than \$10 million wouldn't make a dent? I...I think...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: You saw the numbers, right?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: No, I know that.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: You saw the amount of people...okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So, it's just...it's just the amount of people that need help is the reason why \$10 million. If \$10 million doesn't make a dent, then we're doing everything wrong.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: The...they just...

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: And I don't...I have no issue with 12, I'm just saying. If...if \$10 million --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: You have no what?

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- doesn't make a dent to help people, then...then what are we doing, in all honesty? Because \$10 million should be --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: We're playing catch-up.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- life-changing amount of money for a lot of people, but...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: We're playing catch-up. You know, they...Maui United Way said it wouldn't be worth it for them to go that low, anything below 10 million, because it's just not making a dent in all that effort that they're going to put. Remember, this is going to be a big program, right? They're going to work with a lot of other nonprofits. They're going to affect a lot of our people. And the amount of administration it's going to take, it's...that's where their number is. If anything less than 10, they don't really want to do it. So, working with everybody at the table, there's a lot of people involved. I had to get the Administration on board. I had to work the United Way, and now I'm working with you guys.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, that's...that's...I think 12 million is me moving down pretty...pretty good --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- if you guys are willing to do that.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I will say, I really like Jason Economou personally, so I have no issue that he'll be great at using these funds. It's a lot, but okay, I can...I can support.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Music to my ears, Councilmember U'u-Hodgins.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Music to my ears.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I was going to recommend 10, and then he came up with . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No, no, no, she said 12 now, so come on now, let's take a vote at 12.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I don't think there's ever enough money, you know, that's...that's my perspective. Well, we could do ten million. . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, you want to go back up to 15? I hear you, Councilmember --

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, no, no.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- Sugimura, I'm...I'm there for you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I'm just saying it's a very deep well, that's all I'm saying.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right? So...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: At the end of the day, Members, our people are struggling, you know?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Everywhere, everywhere, and...and a lot --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Including us.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- including us. We got to go home. Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: One of the things I always want to remind myself about is that, even though we start with what we got, right, we can always come back next year, right? When you see how successful something is, and it probably exceeds the amount of people, the amount of help that was given, and you see how your community rises, and you can say to yourself, that was worth doing. And so, you go ahead and fund it again, and give it a little bit more. Or you say, boy, that didn't work so well, maybe I won't do that again this year. But that's the beauty of doing things like this, right? Having this discussion, and listening to what everybody has to say, and we end up being the better for it. So, thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well said.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, what number are we at?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: 12.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 12.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: 12 million, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I don't think there's ever enough money. That's the scary part for me. And if it's something that it's a pot that we will have to, you know, do every year. I don't know if we want to open up that either. But...yes, Chair Lee.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I didn't have the opportunity to listen to that presentation. So, did you say this is recurring? This amount is recurring?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, no. I said, if it does become...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No. One-time...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No recurring.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: One-time...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No recurring.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: One-time grant.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes. One time. We're...we're compacting our disasters, Chair Lee. You know, we had the COVID, now the fires. In the State, the data sheet that should be on your guys' desks, I want to say 49 percent of ALICE households have considered to go to the mainland. That's gutting our population, right? So, that's...that's the thing. If...we don't have time to wait, you know, people are leaving these islands. The mental health is...is off the charts. People are...are . . . *(inaudible)*. . . their minds. So, this is something I think we can do. And that's why I'm willing to move...I certainly would ask for 15, but if 12 is what the body...if we can get that number that we can all agree on, hey, let's...I'm...I'm here for it. Let's do it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It...it includes food, drink--or I mean, not drinking--food, dental, gas, you know, school supplies. These are our...our families, right? Sorry, it's getting late, but my...you get the gist of what I'm trying to say, yeah, Chair, Councilmembers? I need a drink.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Drink milk.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Roll call.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Councilmember Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: This is for 12 million?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Paltin.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, excused.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember U'u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Committee Vice-Chair Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. MACDONALD: Committee Chair Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Mahalo, Members.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, that's seven "ayes," one "no," one excused, Councilmember Paltin.
The motion passes.

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

NOES: Chair Sugimura.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, that’s all for the revisits, right? Okay. I’m going to now go and continue on with Planning. So, Planning is in Bill 41, and on page 19. Anybody have any amendments? Planning on 19. Seeing none. All right. So, I have a question for Budget Director. Under item 3, grants for University of Hawai‘i Maui College, Sea Grant, West Maui Hospital. Should it say grant to University of Hawai‘i for Sea Grant in Maui County? Ms. Milner.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I can look into that. I know that’s the language we’ve used for the last several years and there have not been any issues, but I will confirm with the Department what the official name is, and if there need to be any edits.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, you’ll get back to us and then we can...yeah? Okay. Thanks. This Department does not have any CIPs. Appendix A, Part I (*echoing*) wow. Oh. Appendix A, Part I, Grants. It’s in Budget Bill page 44. Members, any amendments? Seeing no hands. Appendix A, Part II, Special Purpose Revenues. Special Management Area Revolving Fund is on page 56. And Landscape Planning and Beautification Revolving Fund is on page 60. Any amendments? No? Okay. Appendix B, Rates and Fees, page 32 to 36. Okay. Page 32 to 36. So, on this...that’s correct.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Chair? I...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I would imagine that Member Paltin would have a number of changes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you think so?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Well, we can come back and visit it.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Maybe Member Rawlins-Fernandez might like this question. So, you may wish to entertain a motion to amend page 34 of Appendix B to include 250 fee for Moloka'i Planning Commission Rules of Practice and Procedures based on PL-2, page 16 of PDF. Does that sound of interest? Page 32 to 36. Oh, but this is referencing page 34.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You said the rates and fees under Planning?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I don't know what section you're talking about.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, I don't see it either. Staff, can you...

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moloka'i Planning Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, \$828.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair. So, yes, on page 34 of the...of Appendix B under Department of Planning, General Fund --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MR. KRUEGER: -- there's fees relating to the adoption, amendment, or appeal of Planning Commission rules and regulations. There's charges...there's a \$250 fee for the Maui Planning Commission, and a \$250 fee for the Lāna'i Planning Commission, but no fee is identified for the Moloka'i Planning Commission. And so, I believe in...in one of the letters that we've received, the body could consider inserting an equivalent \$250 fee for Moloka'i. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I see the section that he's referring to. I...I don't know why it's that way. What letter are you referring to, Mr. Krueger?

MR. KRUEGER: It's under Fees, Department of Planning, 1. It's...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: What letter are you talking about? Are you talking about a letter that we received from the Department responding to our questions? What Granicus number is that Department response on?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes. Sorry, just one moment.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Was that a response from the Planning Department, or...

MR. KRUEGER: It's number 85 on Granicus. The PL-2. PL-2.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And then, do you have the question number?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes. Let me pull up the letter real quick.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Great. Thanks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: What number again?

MR. KRUEGER: 85 on Granicus. It's letter PL-2.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, I think it's page...it's appendix B12. Explain why the Department is proposing no fee for the Moloka'i Planning Commission Rules of Practice and Procedures. There should be a fee provided, and it should...it said the fee should be 250 to match the other planning commissions. Do you know if...Budget Director, do you know if past budget rates and fees included this 250, or has it always been missing? Or does the Planning Department in practice charge the 250, it's just not reflected on the rates and fees?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director...oh, there.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I'm pulling up the FY '25 Budget right now, but my...my understanding would be that they do charge the 250, and that that omission was just a typo. But I will let you know as soon as I get to the page that Planning is on.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, if it's just a typo, you mean it's...it's not going to generate new...new revenue for us? Just kidding.

MS. MILNER: Correct. Yeah, it looks like it was the same way last year, so I think it's just a typo. Another option would be if the body wants to do it the same as number 2 on the petition to intervene, and just do 250 at the top, and list the three underneath. That would also accomplish the same thing. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I would be supportive of doing that instead, since it's all the same. If they were different amounts, then perhaps.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, that would be an insert of 250 right there?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, it would be...I move to amend Rates and Fees to add the 250 after the adoption, amendment, or repeal of the Planning Commission rules and regulations, and to delete the 250 for the Maui and Lāna'i commissions.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

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COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, you got that? Okay. Any discussion? All in favor, say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Motion carries. That’s...

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. KRUEGER: Could we...could we just clarify who the second was? We heard multiple seconds.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, sorry. Member U‘u-Hodgins.

MR. KRUEGER: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Did you get the vote? Yeah, unanimous without Member...

MR. KRUEGER: Our...our understanding of the vote was eight ayes, one excused --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. One excused.

MR. KRUEGER: -- Councilmember Paltin.

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

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **Councilmember Paltin.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Good. Okay. That was it. Do we have any Member priorities? We do have one for Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. I would like to...first of all, on page 56 for the Special Management Area Revolving Fund, I would like to condition...here we go...condition \$700,000 for Maui Nui...I'm sorry, Maui Nui Resiliency Hui for Cut Mountain Restoration and Beautification Project. I will also add the same condition I asked Member Sinenci to add, conditional on an ROE on County property.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member U'u-Hodgins and second by Chair Lee. Discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you all. Members, we heard from Ms. Nishiki and all the work they plan to do. This money was bought with...I'm sorry, this property was bought with Open Space land and they hope to restore it to some of its more natural conditions. And they're going to be doing a lot of cleanup and removal of vehicles and debris. As somebody who used to do SMA permitting, it's kind of ironic to see some of the things that are happening there when you couldn't even permit it legally, and it's happening illegally. So, I wish them a speedy cleanup process. Thanks, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That was pretty amazing. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I see on the conditions it has Kapū'ali. I was hoping that we could strike Cut Mountain from the motion and then just keep Kapū'ali.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Happy to do that.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Agree.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good. All right. Members, any more discussion? If not, all in favor say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, it is eight "ayes" and one excused.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Pretty amazing, right, when you think about this particular project. Now we have Prosecuting Attorney. Anybody...this is on budget bill, page 19 for Prosecuting Attorney. 17, 18, 19. Anybody have any amendments? Seeing none. Okay. No A and B Account. CIP is none. Appendix A, Part I, Grants, page 45. Does anybody have anything, amendment for that? Looks like none. Appendix A, Part II, Special Purpose Revenue. I see there's none. Appendix B, Rates and Fees, none. Prosecutor...Prosecutor's Member priorities, page 21 of matrix, Member U‘u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Yes. Thank you, Chair. I would like to add an increase to their General Prosecution Program in Category B for the amount of \$26,000 for the Maui Summit Criminal Justice Diversion Workshop Program.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Who did the second?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Member Sinenci.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member...motion made by Member U‘u-Hodgins, and Member Sinenci made the second. Discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. I've been working with the Prosecutor's Office, as well as Human Concerns, as well as the CORE Program with the MPD. We attempted to get a State grant, which didn't go through, but what this will be is a summit. We'll probably have it later this year, probably at like MCC or something, where we will bring Miami-Dade and some of their judges there who has helped with a diversion program from prison. They provide better mental health assistance, and we're going to gather all the people that provide all of this assistance, and figure out where the pukas are, and intend to fill it.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, cool. Sounds good. Is that enough money?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: This is the numbers that the Prosecutors gave us, so this money is going to be used for rental space to create a program and bring people here that need to be here. For the most part, they’re all here. Hopefully we can fly in the judge that I met from Miami-Dade. I will pull a Member Johnson right now because in the future, when this hopefully goes through, I will then have some big asks. Most likely, we will have to create a facility and create the physical space after finding the emotional space and how to make this happen. But for right now, I think 26,000 should cover it, and if we need any more, then I’ll work with our Budget Department to bring this up again.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very exciting.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson has his hand up.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Johnson, can hardly see you. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sorry, Chair. I’ll...I’ll...I’ll unmute myself if I need to, but...Councilmember U‘u-Hodgins, I’m wondering why you chose Miami-Dade. I was born in Miami. I know Miami well. It’s kind of a rough town, and it’s not really known for prison reform or...I mean, there’s some tough prisons down there. It’s the South.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: I didn’t choose that, but what Miami-Dade has done with some of their diversion program, they call it a...I want to say specifically, it’s like a 15-year overnight success program. And so, O‘ahu has something similar, but they’re still working on the details. We don’t have it yet, but it’s...it provides better assistance for people who . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, that was from...that was from the Prosecutor’s Office? They have a relationship with Miami-Dade --

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- Dade County?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Yeah. And the...and our State has a relationship with Miami-Dade as it relates to this specific program. But I’m happy to get you more information because I can honestly tell you I’m not doing this justice right now. But it’s...it’s a pretty interesting program. It provides better health, and better services, and plugs the holes so that we don’t see people going to prison for things that are relatively preventable.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Interesting. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Yeah. But I can get you more information.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Sounds like a great thing. All right. If no other questions, then we’re ready to vote. Members, all in favor, raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good. Okay. That’s eight “ayes,” one excused.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And that is the end of Prosecuting Attorneys. Staff, after this, what departments? That’s the end of my list, but can...can you say what we’re going to take up for tomorrow? I don’t have my list.

MS. SZABO: Thank you, Chair. What we show is the Department of Management; the Office of the Mayor; Department of Parks and Recreation, or representatives, Parks and Rec; Personnel Services; Public Works; Police Department; Transportation; and the Department of Water Supply.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow, that’s a lot. Yeah. I hope we get done, right? Then Friday...Friday’s going to be our balancing. Anybody want to try to pick up another department? Do you have any of the...the write-ups, that it has all the different sections? I don’t have it. Wait, let me take a two-minute recess. Three...I mean, 8:34, 8:35. . . .(gavel). . .

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RECESS: 8:32 p.m.

RECONVENE: 8:43 p.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Thank you for the recess. It's now 8:43, and what we're going to do is we scribble, scabbled, and we made notes for two departments. We're going to take up Transportation and Water. And Nohe...there's...well, for Water, Nohe will help Member Paltin on that. Okay. So I'm going to take up Transportation, and if you could look on Budget Bill page 21, does anybody have any amendments for Transportation?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh, we're doing Transportation first?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, just page 21.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. I move for B20, Category A, paragraph A, a reduction of 29,184 [*sic*].

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Why, who's calling me?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's a potential spam, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Member Sinenci. Unless it's a spam musubi calling you, don't answer, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So, Member Sinenci second it, and --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- it...this number comes from the spreadsheet that we got from our BFED meeting on April 24...21st, 2025, and this is a similar reduction to what we did in salaries for budget cuts last year. Thanks, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, this is \$29,148, and for Transportation. Member U'u-Hodgins, and was it Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yes.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Members, any discussion? All in favor, raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, this will be eight “ayes,” and Member Paltin and...oh no, Johnson’s here. So, eight “ayes” and one excused.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U’u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That’s that. And CIPs are on page 28 to 29, and I would like to have somebody make a motion to have two CIPs turn from...oh, to be from cash to bonds. So, it’s CBS 1039, which is a bus stop, and...where’s the other sheet?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So move, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Page 28. Page 28.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: CBS 1039, I don’t have my...I gave my letter to somebody else.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, thank you. Does anybody have that letter? It’s the...it’s the CIP letter that says what projects can be converted from cash to...

COUNCILMEMBER U’U-HODGINS: Oh, Member Sinenci, do you have that letter that Member Sugimura is talking about?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: I gave mine to somebody as we were talking about, let's do this.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes?

MR. KRUEGER: The letter, it's BD-18 on Granicus, it's number 172.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Do you have the CBS numbers?

MR. KRUEGER: Yeah. So, for Department of Transportation, they have one listed, it's CBS 1039, Bus Stops and Shelters.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Oh, okay. There's only one. All right. Sorry. All right. I need a motion for converting that from cash to bond.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Member Sinenci moved, I second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Sinenci, and you second. Okay. Member Sinenci and second by Member U'u-Hodgins. All right. Then for Revolving Fund...oh, we didn't vote.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, we didn't vote --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- and I have discussion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Proceed.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I know this is on the...the letter, Granicus number 172. But usually, when we bond things, it's for things that last for like 30 years. I don't understand why we're bonding a bus stop. Budget Director?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Budget Director...oh, there you are.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Isn't the policy generally to bond things when they have a shelf life of at least 30 years?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez. Generally, we try and bond things that last for the life of the bond, which is approximately 20 years. But these bus stops and shelters, they're permanent, they're not removable, so we felt comfortable proposing to move these to bond.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo for this response.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. KRUEGER: Just for Staff's clarification, does the motion also include adding the bill...adding this project to the Bond Authorization Bill? That's Bill 43.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes, please.

MR. KRUEGER: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Got that, Member Sinenci? Yeah. Okay. All right. Thank you, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Good question. Anything else regarding this CIP? Okay. All in favor, say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, that's eight "ayes," one excused, Member Paltin.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Yeah. Member...you voted, Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes, I did.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Oh, you said aye. Very good. So, grants are on APA...Appendix A, Part I, page 46. Revolving funds are Part II on page 60. And Rates and Fees...I spoke to the Director and he said that if you look on Rates and Fees, which they're on pages 52 and 53, he said these fees are proposed by them, and that later they're going to come back with policy for Park Maui and the other fund that it impacts. But these...these fees, he said, this is correct. So, I need a motion to accept their rates and fees. Unless if anybody has any more questions. Member Kama...I mean, Member Cook, by...second by Member Sinenci. Let me just get it. Here it is. So, it is

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on...Transportation is on page 52 and 53. And there was a question, if we are going to be setting up rates and fees for the EV chargers? So, I guess that's a future discussion coming. There's a motion, right? Any discussion, Members? Rates and Fees? Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Will you please repeat the motion?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It is to accept the rates and fees for the Department of Transportation, which are on page 52, 53.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: To accept the rates and fees?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Because they have changes on here, you see it?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Because we haven't done that for any other rates and fees...departments for their rates and fees to accept it. We haven't been doing that at all this week.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. What is the right verbiage?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, we just haven't been doing any of that this week. We haven't done that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We are supposed to, as we go through the department.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, we've been doing the rates and fees for the departments.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, we've been reviewing it, but we have not been voting to accept it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, I'm asking to accept it. I'm asking to --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Why?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- approve it...approve it.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Why are we going to start doing that now with the Department of Transportation, and not do that with all the other departments?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Why not?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Consistency.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Or we just changed...

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COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I believe on the other ones, we basically asked if there was any comments or changes for rates and fees, and if there weren't, then we made...we voted to virtually accept them, but we didn't say accept.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Okay. I'll come back and...and do that then. The Department Director said...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: There's a live motion on the floor. We need to dispose of the motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You all don't want to vote on it, so you want to dispose it? Okay. Withdraw. Okay. Fine. Anything else for this Department? No? Okay. So, now we have Department of Water Supply and...Mr. Krueger?

MR. KRUEGER: Apologies, Chair. Sorry. There's just one thing, I think, that was noted in letter TD-2 for Transportation. It is regarding a couple of rates and fees. There's a couple of...there's one that's noted as account XXXX, but TD-2 notes that it's...maybe it should be account 3610. The body may want to consider updating that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Where is it?

MR. KRUEGER: Apologies. Just one sec, Chair. It's on page...it's on page 53 of Appendix B.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: It's the Wailuku Garage event permit. It says XXXX, but TD-2 notes that maybe it should be 3610. I don't know if the body wants to confirm that with Budget Director.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's on page 53. Budget Director Milner...Fees, Wailuku Garage for events. Is that what you're looking at?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: As well as fees for beaches and parks, parking pass. They're both labeled XXXX.

MR. KRUEGER: Oh, yes. That one too. Apologies.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Director...oh, there you are. Director Milner. Did you hear that?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Yes. As indicated in the Department's letter, the XXXX needs to be updated to 3610. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 3610. What about the beach parking?

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MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Same account, 3610.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Motion made by Member Sinenci, second by Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Any discussion? We got the correction directly from the Budget Director. All right. All in favor, say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Chair Lee is not here, Member Paltin. So, that's seven...yeah, my...yeah, so seven "ayes." [sic] And this motion carries.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: He...I don't know if he's frozen, Chair. Oh, did he vote?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, he's here.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I didn't see his hand go up.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. We got the glow from him. All right. So, anything else with Department of Transportation? Okay. So, we'll hear more from them.

MR. KRUEGER: Oh, Chair? I'm so sorry, Chair.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: Just to backtrack on one other thing to follow up on, it's for...it's related to something that was noted in TD-1. It's...it's one of the special...it's the Parking Revenue Fund on page 60. Under Appendix A, Part II. They noted that it was a...the proposal...the budget...the Mayor's Proposed Budget has 26,916 as estimated balance, but the current balance is now 42,308. So, I don't know if the body wants to consider updating that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: What page number?

MR. KRUEGER: Apologies, that's page 60 on Appendix A, Part II. It's letter EE, Parking Revenue Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, EE, Parking Revenue Fund. Okay. What was the amount again? The...the update?

MR. KRUEGER: The...the...the new amount would be 42,308. The current amount is 2...26,916.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow, big difference. Okay. So, 26,916 is amended.

MR. KRUEGER: It's...that's the current one in the proposed budget, but according to TD-1, the new amount would be 42,308.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right. Okay. Members, got that?

MS. MILNER: Chair? Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. MILNER: Apologies, this is Lesley. The Department actually would --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, we can't hear you.

MS. MILNER: -- would like to request increasing the estimated balance and the anticipated revenues to 45,000 each, for a new total of 90,000.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, you kind of broke up. The first two columns are 45,000?

MS. MILNER: Oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I'm sorry.

MS. MILNER: Yes.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. MILNER: So, change both 26,916s to 45,000, and then update the total to 90,000. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That's a nice change. Members, you got that? Okay. Motion...I need a motion.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So moved.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. Member...Member U'u-Hodgins and second by Member Kama, and is to change estimated balance of Fiscal Year '25 to 45,000 and then for 26. The same amount in total for Fiscal Year 2026 is 90,000. Okay. All in favor, say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. Okay. So, that is eight "ayes," and one excused, which is...two excused, Member Lee and Member Paltin, so seven [sic].

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Who made the second? I heard you asking that question.

MR. KRUEGER: Member Kama.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Kama. Okay. Okay. Anything else for Transportation? That's it...no. Riding along here. Okay. So, now we're at Department of Water Supply, and Member U'u-Hodgins is going to help with this for Member Paltin. But in...got to pull up...in terms of operations, it's 21...page 21 to 22. Okay. Department of Water Supply,

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any amendments? Anybody? Seeing none. All right. Next, we have to go to CIP, page 29 to 30. And do they have anything for Water? One moment. One moment. I don't see anything for Water on this list for CIP. Okay. Grants on page 46, any amendments? Appendix A, Part I. Appendix A, Part II, which is on page 55, Upcountry Water System Expansion Capital Improvement Reserve Fund. I always look at that every year. One day we'll do something with it. Okay. Rates and Fees, Appendix B, page 54 to 65. Rates and Fees. Any changes? And then we'll go to your matrix after that. Yeah, Water had...any amendments or any changes? Ms. Milner popped up. You have something?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to note for the body that in WS-4, I know there is consideration for a possible \$500,000 line item for watershed protection. The Department did propose a new E for a fifth residential tier to cover that 500,000, so I just wanted to point that out. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Did you get that?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: What...what number is their letter in Granicus? There's only so much space for so many binders, so I didn't bring everything down with me so that we can do that. Because that's Member Paltin's motion, so we'll need to increase...we'll need to add that so that we can do Member Paltin's priority.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 1...110.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. It's 110 in Granicus.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: 110. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. 110 in Granicus.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So, the Department estimated that they would generate enough revenue to fund the 500,000. I...I would rather increase the Hotel and Resorts, which was going to be my motion, but I don't know what the revenue would be if I added money there instead of putting it on our residents. Is that something that the Department could look into instead of adding a fifth tier?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director Milner.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Yes, I can speak to the Department about what increase would be needed in Hotel and Resort to support 500,000. I will say the fifth tier would start at 50,000 gallons, so it would be for our highest water users, but I will talk to the Department about Hotel and Resort. Thank you, Chair.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Budget Director.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we'll put that aside until we get more information. Probably tomorrow, then, Director? I know you popped out.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Yes, I would need to speak to a couple of different people in the Water Department. So, if we could delay until tomorrow, it would be really appreciated. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. And then we're going to wait on the priority, right, because it's tied together. All right. So, I think we're done then with Water. Staff, anything more?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, no. We...we only have the one priority from Councilmember Paltin noted for the Department of Water Supply.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And I think it's tied together, right?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I have one also.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you have one also. Oh, sorry. Okay. Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, mine's the GE Excise Tax Fund. Insert new condition to read up to \$10 million must be funded acquisition of private water systems and wells to align with the Department of Water Supply's vision to integrate public and private water systems, and develop a municipal water system. I realize they could possibly be someplace besides Water, but I wanted to bring it up because we're talking about Water.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. Member...made by Member Cook, second by Member Johnson. And I'm trying to find it on here.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's on page 20...27 of the matrix.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. So, Ms. Milner, the...are you there? I know there's a lot of use on the GET Fund, so is that fine? I know that we use it, Water, Wastewater, and for different projects going on, especially with things happening in West Maui.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. I'm running the calculation right now, and so I will get right back to you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Did Member Cook calculate the...that conditions, the total of the--what is that?--19 conditions to see what the remaining balance would be subtracted from the projected \$62.5 million? Okay. He said he believed his office did.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Do they have that information for us?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Milner is doing the calculation. Yes?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And this doesn't have...I mean, this would be out of the fund, and not the CDBG-DR funds, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I know they have so many projects here. Ms. Milner's doing the calculation.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. There are currently 56,569,964 appropriated, so there are 12,760,676 available.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. So, there's enough in the GET Fund. Member Rawlins-Fernandez, do you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Right. So, again, as we all know, these are just projections, yeah. We don't...we don't actually know how much GET will be collected, and what the half-percent surcharge will be. So...yeah. I mean, I'm supportive. I just don't want us to take it all the way to, you know, like the amount that they're projecting, unless they're...you know, the Members are okay with that being the...the last added, the first cut, if the projection is overestimated, and it's actually shorter than what we expected, like our RPT certification.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yep. Last in, first out.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, you're saying maybe the 10 million is too close to this, so...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, no, that's not what I was saying. I'm saying it's 10, but let's not keep going to...you said we have...yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, you're fine. Any other discussion? Okay. So, motion made by Member Cook, second by Member U'u-Hodgins. Any discussion?

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. All in favor...or any more discussion? All in favor, say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And who is not here is Chair Lee and Member Paltin, so that's seven "eyes" and two excused.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmembers Lee and Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. So, anymore? Are we done with Water and Transportation?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair, except for the exception of Councilmember Paltin's priority for Water, yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And we'll hear more back from the Department about Water. Okay. Hey, good job, everybody.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I'm sorry, what? What...what, Member Sinenci?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Okay. All right. So, this meeting...

MS. MILNER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes?

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MS. MILNER: Chair, I'm so sorry to interrupt. I apologize.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. MILNER: I found an error in my formula, so I just wanted to let the body know there isn't 10 million available. I'm very sorry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MS. MILNER: There's only 5.9 million available.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh, no.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Is that because of the calculation with the Hawaiian Homes percentage?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, no, that's separate.

MS. MILNER: The Hawaiian Homes is under a different line item.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's DD. Yeah, it's not...it's not together.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, I...I...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Well, we can't allocate money that doesn't exist.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We sure can't. When I asked earlier about the calculations, Member Cook said that his office had calculated to ensure that there was the 10 million. I don't know if you want to...if you have that calculation or...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Oh, I'm not...I'm not going to debate --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- the Budget Director.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director, what was the total amount? 5 million what?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 5.9.

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MS. MILNER: Yes, Chair is correct...5,960,676.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I suppose a modification. I mean, withdraw that?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You can withdraw if you want.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I withdraw my...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We voted.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, you would have to move for a reconsideration.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, we need to do a reconsideration.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Reconsideration motion made by Member Cook, second by Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Discussion? Member Cook?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Due to the fact that there isn't \$10 million in the fund, I'd like to propose \$5 million.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, we're not there yet.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We have to take the vote on the reconsideration first.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. So...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. So, reconsideration.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Call for the vote on reconsideration.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Johnson, can you hear?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson, reconsideration.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we have seven votes, two excused [*sic*]. All right. The motion carries.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: RECONSIDERATION.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Proceed.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I move.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, we’re at the motion right before we voted, so it’s on the 10 million, so you can friendly amend your 10 million down.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. I’d make a friendly amendment to change it from 10 million to 5 million.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Second.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .(*inaudible*). . .

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: No, you got to . . .(*inaudible*). . . Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Cook, second by Member U‘u-Hodgins. Discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: I have a discussion for Member...I’m sorry, Director Milner. Poor thing her, I don’t mean to downgrade her status. Where was the error in the calculation? I did a calculation too, and it...I mean, just on my phone, that was 56 million. So, did...is...is there something misprinted, or what’s happening?

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MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember U'u-Hodgins. No, the error was on my spreadsheet. So, the overall GET when I calculated the total for the projects, because of the way my formula was set up, it was grabbing some of those numbers that I entered and adding it to the overall total, so it gave me an inflated delta. So, all of the projects are correct.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That is it. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Discussion. Okay. I voted on 10, so I'll vote on the 5. Is...is this, Member Cook, something...so, I...I fully support the acquisition of private water systems, of all private water systems. Is...is this something that you discussed with the Department Director, and is...is there more...any other information that you can provide in a public meeting?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I discussed it with the...with the Director. Basically, it's a continuation of last year for their funding for getting private water systems, and having a municipal water system instead of fractured the way it is.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Any further discussion? All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And we're seven "ayes" and two excused, Member Lee and Paltin.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmembers Lee and Paltin.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. We're at the end of the agenda. We'll hear more from the Water Department with...about the rates and fees and the hotel, or whatever they want to share with us. We accomplished a lot today. I'm really grateful. Tomorrow is...is a big day. We're going to do Mayor and Managing Director, and Police. And what else do we have left over?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Parks, Public Works.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Public Works.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Personnel. Personnel. Go ahead.

MS. SZABO: Thank you, Members. We'll be going through the Department of Management, the Office of the Mayor, Parks and Rec, Personnel Services, Public Works, the Police Department, and that should be it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow. Oh, and one of the other things, if...if...the Members might have gotten it already, but the Excel spreadsheet to do the calculations for RPT calculations, I believe that the...well, maybe Finance sent it already, but they said they have a calculation...an Excel spreadsheet that they can share.

MR. KRUEGER: We can check and see what they're able to provide, Chair. Right. I do remember a call saying that they have...they had something.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, they did, and that they would share it with us. Okay. Members, any other questions?

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Can I also ask, Chair, if we're going to get the spreadsheet for the increase in the director and deputy director salary tomorrow so we can start doing that?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Is that going to be done?

MR. HANANO: Yes. Thank you, Chair. Okay. We are working on the spreadsheet and the proposed amendments to the A accounts.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. A accounts for all --

MR. HANANO: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- the different departments.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you.

MR. HANANO: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. HANANO: James is actually working on it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, James.

MR. HANANO: Thank you, James.

MR. KRUEGER: Oh...oh no, it's...it's a team effort. Lots of people pitched into this.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. And then, plus the departments that were not part of that March 28th meeting, whatever, the outcomes of that, too. Which was Mayor, Managing Director...

MR. KRUEGER: So, Chair, right now, the way that we're envisioning it, it would just include all of the departments that would need a transfer from Countywide. So, right now, the sheet does not have East Maui Water Authority or --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ag.

MR. KRUEGER: -- yes, or Ag, because our understanding is the Salary Commission has deferred action on those until May. And then I believe on the sheet, right now, we're also not including Liquor Control and Water Supply because those are self-funded. And...and currently, there...the Administration is indicating that both of those funds can just absorb.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Good.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson has his hand up.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Anything else? Oh, Councilmember Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Sorry, I didn't see you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's okay. I just have a friendly request for tomorrow's meeting, if we're going to go to the RPT. I really...if we can, not do it...I would prefer we don't do it so late at night because that's when the brain is not at its peak. We'll just leave it at that. So, maybe, if we could fit it in at some point where it's not late at night. I've been in budget sessions where it's been late, and it gets contentious. Maybe it's find it in the middle or...I don't know. Just make sure it's not so late. That's my only request, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, Members, this is what I'm envisioning, and you can tell me. So, I'm envisioning that we're going to do RPT rates on Friday. And tomorrow, I hope to do all of them.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Well, on Friday, not late at night.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. But the biggies, right? Because we have Mayor and we have Management, Office of Recovery, all of that, as well as all the P's, I guess, as everybody's saying. All right. Members, it is now 9:17. And this meeting is...oh, we're going to...we're going to defer taking up BFED-1, right, as we always do.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS (excused: AL, TP)

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: But this meeting is now adjourned, and it's now 9:17. . . .(gavel). . .

ADJOURN: 9:17 p.m.

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CERTIFICATION

I, Daniel Schoenbeck, hereby certify that pages 1 through 210 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 2nd day of June 2025, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Daniel Schoenbeck