

MINUTES

of the

REGULAR MEETING

and

PUBLIC HEARING

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

July 24, 2020

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI, STATE OF HAWAII, AND THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING TESTIMONY ON PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS FOR THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT, WERE HELD ONLINE ONLY VIA BLUEJEANS, ON FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2020, BEGINNING AT 9:03 A.M., WITH CHAIR ALICE L. LEE PRESIDING.

COUNCIL CHAIR ALICE L. LEE: Will the regular Council meeting of July 24, 2020, and the public hearing of July 24, 2020, please come to order?

Mr. Clerk, roll call.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS G. RIKI HOKAMA, NATALIE A. KAMA, KELLY T. KING, MICHAEL J. MOLINA, TAMARA A.M. PALTIN, SHANE M. SINENCI, YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, VICE-CHAIR KEANI N.W. RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ AND CHAIR ALICE L. LEE.

EXCUSED: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, Members, we know that Hurricane Douglas is coming, so we all have to prepare. So, when you go to Foodland and you're in the water section getting your water and all your supplies and you run into people from Taiwan, you tell them zao an; zao an.

So, welcome everyone and shall we get started, Mr. Clerk, with our meeting?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK JAMES G.M. KRUEGER: Yes, Madam Chair. There are nine Members present to conduct, a quorum is present to conduct the business of the Council.

CHAIR LEE: Now, we have opening remarks by Councilmember Riki Hokama.

OPENING REMARKS

The opening remarks were offered by Councilmember Riki Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair, you're muted.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Thank you for your recap of what happened at the annual conference. I'm sure it was very impressive. And also, we want to thank you for your tremendous service to NACo, our national organization, and for your past presidency. Thank you.

And now, I ask you to join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Members of the Council rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHAIR LEE: Alright. Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Chair, proceeding with the presentation of testimony on Council meeting and public hearing items. Members of the public may testify by connecting to the Council's online meeting by phone or video conference through the information posted on today's agendas.

Individuals connected to the Council's online meeting intending to testify should notify staff in the meeting chat. If you do not intend to testify, you can watch the meeting on Akaku, Channel 53 or on maucounty.us. Individuals connected by phone are currently on mute and will be unmuted when it is their time to testify. Individuals connected by video conference should keep both their video and microphones muted and should unmute them when it is their time to testify.

Testimony is limited to the items listed on today's agendas. Individuals may testify for three minutes per item. When testifying, please state your name and the name of any organization you represent, as well as the items on which you will be testifying. Please also identify to the Council if you are a paid lobbyist.

Chair, the first person we have signed up to testify is George Kaimiola. To be followed by Kai Duponte.

Yes, Madam Chair.

PRESENTATION OF WRITTEN OR ORAL TESTIMONY

MR. GEORGE KAIMIOLA (testifying on Committee Report 20-85):

Aloha.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Hello?

MR. KAIMIOLA: Aloha. The video is not working on my, on my phone. So, anyway, my name is George Manulani Kaimiola and I'm testifying on agenda item 20-85, a bill to establish a Commission on Healing Solutions for Homelessness. As much as I support Councilmember Rawlins' office introduced the bill, I cannot support this bill.

As a homeless outreach worker with Family Life Center and a member of the Maui Homeless Alliance, I do not speak on their behalf, but speak of my experiences as an outreach worker and a member of the Alliance. And as a patriarchal leader of a multi-generational household, I speak on behalf of myself and my ohana.

Fourteen years ago, I was the first homeless outreach worker hired at Family Life Center and most of my work was charitable engagements. The Maui Homeless Alliance was just a small group of people trying to figure out how to manage homelessness. After six years at Family Life Center, I left to become the office manager at another nonprofit, teaching leadership through Hawaiian rites and rituals to Hawaiian youth. When . . . started to move in a different direction, I told the State that the organization was not going to continue with the grant and asked for my old job back at Family Life Center.

A year before returning, the Director there, Maude Cumming, asked me to start coming to the Maui Homeless Alliance meetings, because things have changed. My first meeting back, oh, how things have changed. The Maui Homeless Alliance was a well-

organized group looking into ending homelessness. In one of those meetings I attended, there was a presentation by this woman from HUD. She was trying to get the Maui Homeless Alliance to start implementing a mandated quarterly entry system required by every continuum of care throughout the nation to end homelessness. I have to say poor thing this wahine; she seemed confused and seemed to be confusing everyone in the room. I know I was.

I then went to training by Iain De Jong of OrgCode. Iain is a Canadian who ended homelessness in his hometown. He and his company, OrgCode, assists HUD at the Federal level to write policies. A former director of HUD is one of his employees. In three years, I have attended over 200 hours of training from Iain and OrgCode.

To create a commission to advise the Administration on solutions concerning homelessness could be detrimental to the Maui Homeless Alliance. The Maui Homeless Alliance is made up of a diverse members of our community, healthcare providers, mental health providers, County government, and other nonprofits and individuals of the community concerned about the homelessness. I believe if there was a way for the Maui Homeless Alliance to be the advising body to the Administration would be better for Maui County. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura, do you have questions?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yea, I do. So, George, I wish I could see you. I would say nice seeing you again. Thank you for your good work. And I wonder, how often does the Homeless Alliance meet, this group that you just described?

MR. KAIMIOLA: The Maui Homeless Alliance meets every third Wednesday. We used to meet at the MEO conference room, but then we now meet through, through Zoom meetings.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And there's people in attendance from Administration also from the County, or is it only community?

MR. KAIMIOLA: Maui County is there. The homeless coordinator and his assistant usually attends. If possible, the Director of Housing and Human Concerns, Lori Tshako, attends as well.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. So, ideas that came from the Homeless Alliance then is being shared with the Administration. That's what I wanted to know. Thank you very much, Chair. Thank you very much, George.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair.

CHAIR LEE: I'm sorry. Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Kaimiola. Nice to hear from you. And mahalo--

MR. KAIMIOLA: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --for all your good work and for testifying this morning. So, I have two questions. One is, I, I, I guess I didn't fully understand why it is that you're opposing the creation of a homeless commission, or the Commission on Healing Solutions for Homelessness. And then, I think I may have heard you say that it could be detrimental to the homeless alliance, the Maui Homeless Alliance. So, if that's not correct, then if you could answer the first question and then clarify the second question.

MR. KAIMIOLA: So, on the first question on why I do not support this is I believe that the Maui Homeless Alliance is already doing a great job to end homelessness. The, the commission could suggest to managing homelessness, not just ending homelessness. So, the difference between managing homelessness, like I said, was I do a lot of charitable engagements and, and that really didn't do much to end someone's homelessness. It wasn't until one day I went to my director and said, I think I figured this out. I'd rather work one week with one person to move them beyond their current circumstances, than just continuing to put, just doing charitable engagements. So, that one person was this lady I helped to get into Ka Hale A Ke Ola, the shelter.

To continue to, with these charitable engagements is almost like enabling an alcoholic to continue to drink. You're just enabling people to go ahead and continue to remain homeless. I take them sheets. I take them towels, you know. So, I take them to food pantries. And so, that is how I think that this commission could be detrimental is this is, this is the direction they wanted to go.

I believe that in this bill, a kauhale system could work in certain communities. I mean, the State has established these, what do you call it, the aha moku. So, if the aha moku, if there were community leaders in that community that decided that, hey, listen, there's a homeless problem in our moku, let's go ahead and figure out how we can end this. And do people really want to live in this kind of environment, you know? But we have to remember, a kauhale, you had, you had the men's house, the mua, you had the hale pe'a, the women's menstrual house, you had, you know. So, that's what a kauhale really was. It wasn't just a group of people that would just kind of live in a, in a

community. It was a thriving community. And so, that is how I feel that this could be detrimental, is that if instead of ending homelessness they would want to manage it. And I think that by ending homelessness, we could be the first County in Hawaii to end homelessness here in this, in these islands.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo for your response. Okay, so you think that, okay, so one thing I wanted to share, that the aha moku system is designed to manage resources. So, that's, that's their subject matter, I guess. So, it's resource management, not, not so much, like governance and, you know, people in that way.

But the, the question I guess I, I'm, I'm not understanding is, with homelessness being as severe and of a problem and as important of an issue to the entire County, the thought was to do everything that we possibly can, but also to be able to give the community a voice. Because the Homeless Alliance is a group of service providers only, and not community members at large. And so, this homes commission would give a voice to those in the community who have directly experienced homelessness or houselessness, and give them somewhere to go to help provide ideas to solve this issue. So, you don't believe that a commission like this would be helpful in that way?

MR. KAIMIOLA: No, I don't. I think that anyone can join the Maui Homeless Alliance. Like I said in my testimony, a year before returning, I joined the Alliance because I was, I was a member of the community. I do not sit on the Maui Homeless Alliance as representing any organization. I, I'm there representing, like I said, myself and my family.

Anyone can join. It is mostly service providers. And yea, their voices can be heard. I experienced homelessness. My family lived at Ka Hale A Ke Ola for 45 days. It had emergency shelter and this was, shucks, almost, over 20 years ago, maybe. And yea, rents were cheap back then, \$750 for a one-bedroom condo in, in Kihei. So, that is how I ended my homelessness and my family's homelessness at the time. So, yea, anyone can join the Maui Homeless Alliance. I mean, we have a, we have a membership committee.

We try to reach out to different members of our community that, that work with people who are homeless, and they are more than welcome. We try to work with security guard companies, stores, businesses. If they, if they're concerned about homelessness around, in and around their businesses, they're more than welcome to join the Maui Homeless Alliance.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. And last question, Chair. It should be a quick one. Did you, yes or no, did you see that the bill also reserves a seat for someone from the Maui Homeless Alliance?

MR. KAIMIOLA: Yes, I did see that. So, I was talking--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MR. KAIMIOLA: --to someone before this, real quick, this I talked to someone. So, I'm, I think I'd be eligible on four different levels as a member of the Maui Homeless Alliance, as a member of the Hawaiian community that knows about cultural things, and as, and as my, appointed by my district. So, there's a good chance I would be sitting on this commission.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Mr. Kaimiola. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Are there any more questions?

Yes, Ms. Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Kaimiola for the work that you're doing and for being here to provide testimony. I just, some of the answer that you gave to Member Rawlins-Fernandez, I couldn't hear. But my question, if, if it was addressed in that portion that I couldn't hear, I apologize. You know, I think you said that the Maui Homeless Alliance is geared towards ending homelessness and putting people in homes rather than managing homelessness. And so, my question is we got so much homeless on, on my side of the island where I live, Lahaina side, and there isn't really homes available for them or jobs right now. And so, I mean, even if we want to end homelessness, how does the Maui Homeless Alliance accomplish that when, when there's not homes and there's not jobs?

MR. KAIMIOLA: Well, I think one of the things that we, we can do is to support bills or increase funding. I know Councilmember Rawlins, when I was speaking to her, once said that they are hiring more grant writers. I know Joe Pontanilla, when he was a part of FACE said that the County leaves so much money on the table when it comes to writing for Federal grants. So, I believe that subsidized housing or some sort of . . . is one of the many ways that we could end it.

And to ask the, the County Council and the Administration that, you know, maybe we should be going after a lot of, more of these fundings to, to increase it so that we could end homelessness. And so, that's, that's my personal opinion. One of the only ways that we can do it is by having some sort of subsidized housing or more HUD vouchers to help people subsidize their rent and things like that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then until we're able to do that, you don't think that it should be managed because of, you know, just they're living in the cemetery at Mala and all along Front Street right now. So, for me, I mean, of course I, I support ending homelessness, but between now and then for our community, kind of need it to be managed.

MR. KAIMIOLA: Well, right now, our outreach team went from Mala to Olowalu and, and offered services for some of the families that are staying there. And if you, I don't know, you know, if you, if you just manage it and continue to do these charitable engagements, I mean, I'm, they are necessary. That's not something that I think the Maui Homeless Alliance wants to continue to do. I mean, if other organizations that are part of the Homeless Alliance wants to continue to do that.

But there, there's data that shows that of the homeless populations, ten percent are chronically homeless. And HUD defines a chronically homeless person as a disabled individual who's been continually homeless for 12 consecutive months or has had four or more episodes over the last three years equaling up to 12 months. So, that is how we try to help those people first.

We have triage tools to do that in our outreach programs, called a VI-SPDAT, Vulnerability Index, Service Prioritization Determination Assistance Tool. That was a mouthful. That was developed by OrgCode and Iain De Jong and his team. And to get those chronically homeless people off the streets first, because they use up most of our resources. They use the emergency room as their primary care physician. There's, there's police contacts, there's court appearances, there's incarcerations, you know, there's cleanups, you know. And that, that drains a lot of our community's resources.

So, this Housing First concept that the State had embraced is put them in a house first, right, with the plan to work on their, their social ills and give support to that, and that might make them stay, stay housed, stay permanently house. And that's how I believe we can do it, is yes, it's necessary, but to end someone's homelessness first would be best, instead of just continuing to, to enable them to remain homeless.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you very much, Mr. Kaimiola.

CHAIR LEE: Are there any more questions? If not, Mr. Kaimiola, I have a question for you. It seems that you're very experienced and knowledgeable in this area of, of the homeless. However, I think at least some Members of the Council are concerned about, it, it, it just seems that the numbers are not going down. And although you have a particular, the Homeless Alliance has a particular philosophy that you're following,

which is good, you know, don't you think that perhaps it's time to grow the infrastructure for the homeless, grow capacity, grow resource development?

And you know, if you're going to just have the same people work on, you know, the same core group working on the homeless problem and the homeless numbers grow and the core group doesn't grow, you know, it doesn't seem logical that you would be making that many strides in, in terms of advancement and progress, even though you're doing good work. There's no question about that. But our concern, I suppose, is the fact that the numbers are not going down; they increase every year. Do you have any comments about that?

MR. KAIMIOLA: Yea. During the pandemic, we actually housed more people than before the shutdown. There's, there, you can go onto HMIS, my director did, and she shared this information with us on how we actually house more people from May, April to June than we did the months prior. So, the numbers are going down. I believe that what the people are seeing is that they're just more visible. There are people that, that we reach out to that refuses our services. And if they, they do that, we can't, we can't do anything about it.

The, Harold, from the homeless programs office with the State said that I know you can lead a horse to water and not make him drink, but it's your job, and he pointed at us, the Maui Homeless Alliance, and said it's your job to make them thirsty. And so, yea, when you see that the numbers are actually going up, I beg to differ because we are housing people. And we housed more people in the last three months than we did the three months prior. And I just believe that what's happening is that they're just more visible.

CHAIR LEE: Anymore questions? If not, thank you very much for your testimony. Appreciate you coming and participating today.

Mr. Clerk. Our next.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, the next person we have signed up to testify is Kai Duponte. To be followed by the individual calling from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 6721. Mr. Duponte, you're muted on your end. It is your time to testify, but you need to unmute yourself on your end.

MS. KAI DUPONTE (testifying on County Communication No. 20-385):

Thank you. I've done that. Can you hear me now? Okay. Thank you. Aloha.

CHAIR LEE: Aloha.

MS. DUPONTE: Aloha, Councilmembers. Aloha. I'm, please apologize, I'm not polished at all in this, it's the first time I've done this. I'm a part of a, I'm talking about the distance education 20-385 agenda item. I'm a part of a grassroots group that were called, we're called Hale Hawaii. And I'm very, very concerned about schools opening at a time of this, during this very dangerous pandemic. I, I believe that it is not safe. We're doing this by distance. It's not safe to have in-person school. Distance education is the way to go. We're not enforcing a quarantine and I'm very, very concerned about that. If we don't control the spread of COVID, we are not going to be able to open schools for our keiki.

The UH Public Policy Center in early or mid-July says eight out of ten residents are not ready for tourists to come back without an enforced quarantine. So, that means that residents are willing to, to deal with the financial burn, the financial destruction that is happening in order to protect our islands.

I personally was born and raised on Maui. And I remember when tourism was not, and I know many of you were, when tourism was not a big deal here and it did not take over our economy, it did not take over our people. And I really don't think that going back to that time would be a terrible thing. So, I would like to say that the only safe and realistic plan to open schools for in-person would be to control our, our quarantine that we, that we, we're not enforcing this. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Are there any questions?

Yes, Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Mahalo, Ms. Duponte for your testimony this morning. So, just for clarification, you do not support the opening of public schools on August 4?

MS. DUPONTE: I, I support the opening for distance, for distance learning only. Thank you for asking. I was not clear. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And not face to face, but just online.

MS. DUPONTE: Not face to face.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

MS. DUPONTE: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair.

MS. DUPONTE: Thank you very much for clarifying that.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair, you're muted.

CHAIR LEE: This happens so often. Thank you, Ms. Duponte, for your testimony this morning. Appreciate you joining us.

MS. DUPONTE: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

MS. DPUTONE: Thank you very much.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person we have signed up to testify is the individual calling in from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 6721. To be followed by Cara Flores.

MS. SARAH LOPEZ (testifying on County Communication No. 20-385):

Thank you so much for Hello there. My name is Sarah Lopez. Can everyone hear me okay?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Yes.

MS. LOPEZ: Okay. Thank you very much. I am also represent, is representing Hale Hawaii. As Kai Duponte, Hale Hawaii is a community-based group whose purpose for organizing is to keep COVID-19 out of Hawaii. We are passionate about protecting the most vulnerable and at risk in our community; our indigenous people of Hawaii and our kupuna. There's no Hawaii without Hawaiians. There's been many opportunities throughout distant and recent history for residents of these islands to use their voices to send one unified and clear message; people over profit.

The health and safety of our kupuna, keiki, loved ones and community is the priority. We cannot have a healthy economy if we have a sick community. Our teachers and children have a right to go to school safely. We cannot reopen schools safely without effective quarantine enforcement. Our teachers and children should not have to risk their life to teach and learn, nor should they have to risk their families becoming infected.

Our teachers deserve more support and more time to develop distance education curriculum. It is absurd to consider the reopening of tourism, while school is in session with a rise in COVID numbers. If this happens, virtual learning will be the new norm. We must make this a temporary solution to be in-person learning experience. If the State takes quarantine seriously, this is all possible. Until then, our teachers need time to put together quality distance learning curriculum.

The people of Hawaii, to include our group Hale Hawaii, have spent countless days, hours, weeks, on a realistic affordable quarantine enforcement sample plans to State leadership to review. We are coming together as a community to help leadership to partner with leadership, understanding fully that we are all in this together and that we all have a personal responsibility to protect and rebuild our community right now and post-COVID. One of so many aspects of this is to support our teachers and the distance learning programs, they will be and should be delivering to our children. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair did you call on me? You're muted.

MS. LOPEZ: No, it's not.

CHAIR LEE: I have a very frisky mouse. Yes. Yes, I did call on you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you. I appreciate it. And I've been kind of in and out too. I've been losing power, so I moved, I had to move closer to where my router is. Maybe that'll help.

Thank you for being here, Cara *[sic]*. And I just wanted to ask you if, so are you working with Kai Duponte then in the Hale Hawaii movement?

MS. LOPEZ: Yes, that is correct.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I didn't catch that, if she was with you. But, and were you, and I, and you know, our, I met, when I met with you a couple days ago, we talked about Hawaii having a pretty solid plan that you folks supported. Were you able to send that to all the Councilmembers?

MS. LOPEZ: Yea.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So, maybe we can take a look at that then. Thank you.

MS. LOPEZ: Perfect.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you for--

MS. LOPEZ: We will.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And thank you for, you know, thank you for organizing citizens and, and lending voice to the concerns that you, you both had. I thought that was very well-spoken.

MS. LOPEZ: Thank you very much. We'll re, we'll resend that document, as well as the petition that we put together. And it is, it is currently in circulation and it does both--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, you have a petition? Okay, great. Thank you.

MS. LOPEZ: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Alright, are there any other questions? If not, thank you very much for your testimony.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Apologies, Chair. Just before proceeding, can the caller repeat their name for the record?

CHAIR LEE: Is the testifier, the previous testifier still there on the call?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I think it was Cara *[sic]* Lopez.

CHAIR LEE: How do you spell the first name?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: C-A-R-A.

CHAIR LEE: D-A-R-A.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: "C" like--

CHAIR LEE: Lopez.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: "C".

CHAIR LEE: Oh, "C".

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The chat says, the chat says, Sarah Lopez; S-A-R-A-H, in the chat. The next person is Cara. This one is Sara.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Sarah Flo, I'm sorry, Cara Flores; F-L-O-R-E-S.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk, are you getting this?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, wait a minute.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, we're, wait, we're getting confused because we have two names that sound alike. So, that was Sarah Lopez. And now we have Cara Flores. Is that, that's what I'm reading in the chat. Sorry, I thought that was Cara.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So, Mr. Clerk, do you have the names now?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Yes, Madam Chair. So, the next person up to testify then is Cara Flores. To be followed by Sydney Smith.

MS. CARA FLORES (testifying on County Communication No. 20-385):

Aloha: Can you hear me?

CHAIR LEE: Yes. Aloha.

MS. FLORES: I'm Cara, that was Sarah. She's our partner in crime. And I'm also speaking to CC 20-385. At Hale Hawaii, we are promoting the Protect Hawaii Movement. And if you guys haven't heard about it, you soon will. We are getting, we are, the Protect Hawaii Movement is about getting and keeping Hawaii COVID-19 free right now. This is the only realistic plan to move forward, because this virus is too contagious and too dangerous to try and continually flatten the curve and live with it and expect to have a good or thriving future economy.

We cannot expect our teachers, our students, and the staff at the school to feel safe and be practically safe while we have community spread. As you guys know, we had over 50 cases yesterday in Hawaii and that is with a quarantine in place and without encouraging tourism to happen. All policies, plans, and ordinances in the immediate future should be made with the goal of stopping community spread. The best way to

do this right now is to have a more effective quarantine that's actually enforced. As you guys had heard and we'll be sending it again, I'll, I'll email the petition a group of doctors put together on Kauai. It is the best plan that we've seen put forward so far. So, we're promoting that that be implemented statewide.

We, I recently did a poll of over 1,000 Hawaii residents and found that 85 of them said that they feel we need a much better quarantine that is actively enforced. So, right now, we're depending on the community to enforce it. And we want children, and teachers, and staff to be safe. If there's community COVID spread, that's no safe way to have in-person learning. It's always going to be a risk, even with masks and six-foot distancing, it's just so contagious. So, it's necessary for right now that we have distant learning capabilities, but it is obviously not ideal for the future of our keiki.

And it does hurt the most disadvantaged students who depend on school lunch and have multi-generational homes and don't have technology or help with that technology. So, we do have to acknowledge that when we don't have in-person learning, we are disadvantaging some of the least privileged people in our community.

So, our goal should be to have in-person learning, but in order to reach that goal, we would like to see the Governor, Mayor, and all Councilmembers, with all actions moving forward begin with the goal of stopping community spread. And that would give us the ability to have in-person school safely. And that would be the safest thing for our kupuna, and all our keiki, and of course our teachers and their extended family.

What we're trying to do now, as a State, is actively keep flattening the curve and keep our cases manageable. But inevitably, this will get out of control, because it is so contagious, and people will get tired of the new normal. So, we have to stop making low cases our goal and start making no cases our goal. Where, when the virus comes into the State, where we have thousands of miles of ocean around us and we're the only State with that advantage, that we can catch it at the border and not have it come into our community and spread--

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Flores, can you please conclude? Can you please conclude?

MS. FLORES: Yes. So, the best plan for protecting Hawaii is the petition put out by the group of doctors in Kauai. We'd like to see the Council and Governor all adopt the goal of stopping COVID in Hawaii and protecting Hawaii.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Members, are there any questions? If not, thank you very much, Ms. Flores.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, the next person signed up to testify is Sydney Smith. To be followed by Pamela Tumpap.

MS. SYDNEY SMITH, AG WORKING GROUP (testifying on Resolution No. 20-102):

Good morning.

CHAIR LEE: Good morning.

MS. SMITH: My name is Sydney Smith. Hi. Nice to see you, Chair Lee and Councilmembers. I'm a coffee farmer in Makawao. I'm testifying today on behalf of the Ag Working Group. The Ag Working Group wishes to thank the Council and their staff for their support of 20-102, relating to establishing a Department of Agriculture.

In our role as neutral representatives of the ag community, we continue to reach out to producers and explain the purposes and intent of the Charter amendment. The Ag Working Group looks forward to being a resource for the Council if the Charter amendment is adopted and we get to help plan the Department. We would like to see reference to the Maui Island Plan and involvement from the whole agriculture community. Please don't hesitate to call upon us in the future to bridge the gaps between our ag community producers. That gap is not as wide and insurmountable as people think.

We all want a healthy and sustainable agriculture environment in our County, and together we can make it happen. If we, as citizens on Maui County, are serious about diversifying our economy, I urge you to allow the voters to decide if they want agriculture to be a growth industry here or continue to diminish as it has been these last 20 years.

If we intend to pass Maui County's great farming and ranching heritage to future generations, it'll take us all working together. As many of us plan for the succession of our farms and ranches, having a stable department within our County to help facilitate this will make a world of difference. Thank you for your time.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you, Sydney. Are there any questions?

Yes, Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Aloha, Sydney. Thank you for--

MS. SMITH: Hi, Kelly.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: It's been a while since I've been to one of your meetings, but I just wanted to, it used to be called the ag, the Upcountry Ag Working Group. And so, now I've been hearing the Ag Working Group. So, I just wondered, did, have you expanded geographically in your representation of that group?

MS. SMITH: Actually, we were never the Upcountry Ag Working Group.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh.

MS. SMITH: That's just something that we've heard recently. But we've always expanded, you know, to the whole County.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay.

MS. SMITH: It's just that, that our meetings are Upcountry. Sometimes people didn't want to drive all the way up there, so most of our active participants live nearby. But we've always included West Maui, East Maui, the whole, the whole entire County is always been a part of our Ag Working Group. We were established by Don Guzman during his Council . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right. I remember that. So, I apologize, because when, when I first started going to your meetings, it was presented to me as the Upcountry Ag Working Group. And maybe that was just the, geographically that's where you held your meetings, and so.

MS. SMITH: Yea, I think that's all.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So, so just to clarify, it's the Ag Working Group for the entire County?

MS. SMITH: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Great. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair Lee. Nice seeing you, Sydney. I--

MS. SMITH: Hi.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Hi. So, on the Department of Ag, just for clarification then, you support the department to be advocates for farming and agriculture, but not to create more regulations?

MS. SMITH: Yes, absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Anymore questions? If not, thank you very much, Sydney.

MS. SMITH: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, the next person signed up to testify is Pamela Tumpap. To be followed by the individual calling in from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 5483.

CHAIR LEE: Good morning, Pamela.

MS. PAMELA TUMPAP, MAUI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (testifying on Resolution Nos. 20-98, 20-99, 20-100, 20-101, and 20-102):

Good morning and Happy Birthday.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

MS. TUMPAP: Thank you for the opportunity to testify. We really appreciate that the Council did bifurcate the, deferred the Charter amendment to bifurcate the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, and to let that be taken up by the Charter Commission. You know, we're, as we're working with the community and people are already doing mail-in ballots and we're very rushed this election, as well as so many people are addressing and we've already heard people very concerned about reopening plans; Department of Education. There's so much on everybody's mind that we're very concerned with so many Charter amendments being proposed with very little time to educate the community and have concerns that we really need to be focused on bigger issues at the moment.

But we did want to say that, with respect to the two Charter amendments that address elections, moving forward, you know, we feel that would be a good time in the next

election for people to take that up. But also, we also feel that by . . . some of the ways, the language of the term limits reads it so that people who have served their term limit cannot come back. And we feel that should be the voter's choice. So, if people want to have returning elected officials come back, that should be at the choice of the voters. But we do definitely feel there should still be a hiatus period. However, we, beyond that comment, we leave that to the voters to make those determinations.

We do, we wanted to oppose Resolution 20-99, the, this Charter amendment because when we created, we understand that there's challenges between interpretations of law and our concern is though that by hiring a single party versus letting it go through a broader party system, ultimately, an individual is making a determination where two broader bodies could not come to resolution and where the law was created by a broader body. So, we're concerned about that resolution.

We're concerned with Resolution 20-100, to change the appointment structure of the Charter Commission. We feel the current structure is more fair and balanced. And the current structure allows the Council to approve or deny the Mayor's appointments already. So, we feel that there's a lot of balance right there.

And with respect to Resolution 20-102, you know, we feel this is not the time to establish another department. To create a Department of Agriculture comes at a large expense. This is the time when the community is saying, we're hurt and struggling, we want to protect our resources, we need help moving forward. You know, you know that we've been involved in the loan program and now there's grant programs. We're continuing to see a wave where additional resources are going to be needed.

We also feel that more time is needed to unify the agricultural groups in having more discussion. You know, the Farm Bureau was not as involved in this as I think they easily could have been. And since the process was meant to be open and an advocacy type of effort, we feel that that should have already been more underway before this Charter amendment moved forward. And further, we feel that the Councilmembers and their regions can be great advocates for farming.

We're concerned that this will create another layer of governance, which comes at an expense, but also tends to lead towards regulatory matters. While we're hearing it's not intended, but if it's not intended, we're questioning the insertion then of the word primary in the current version. So, if that means that there are other measures that are going to be taken up, and primary will be advocacy, that later on leaves room to open the door for more regulatory efforts. So, if it's going to move forward, at a minimum we ask for the word primary to be removed, so that if it's truly an advocacy group that that's clear. And appreciate your giving us this opportunity to testify on these matters and hear our concerns.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Thank you very much, Pam. Are there any questions? No questions, so thank you. Oh, wait a minute.

MS. TUMPAP: Thank you. Aloha.

CHAIR LEE: Ms., well, wait, wait. Pam, could you hold on?

Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, Pam, I just for clarification then on term limits for Councilmembers. I think what you, what you're saying is that you actually support the current system, right? Where did Pam go? Yea. Okay.

MS. TUMPAP: Hi. Sorry, I'm, yes, sorry, I was heading up the U.S. Chamber as, to hear their, their update.

You know, we feel that it's important to leave things to the voters. But we feel that the way that it is currently worded takes away a voter option, right? If the voters felt that the term limits were acceptable in the next election, you know, then they could not elect an individual to come back. So, what it does is it takes away a choice, because, you know, from time to time when we set these limits, and they were set a long time ago. But if we change it, you know, the voters always have the option of changing it. If somebody wanted to run, currently, if somebody wants to run again and they met their term limit at that point and they took their hiatus and they ran again, it's up to the voters. The voters can elect them or not elect them. But by changing the language now, you take that choice away from the voters.

And so, you never know when times, as you might have recognized in this current COVID situation, Mayor Victorino also brought in mayor, former Mayor Kimo Apana to help. Why? Because he had knowledge of dealing with a major disaster. And you want the right people in the right seats at a time when you're going through crisis. So, yes, I, I personally feel that, and the Chamber also recognizes that you're taking an option away in a, from the voters given the way this is written. And we don't see the need for it.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Tumpap for being here and giving us our, your testimony. I just was wondering if, to clarify, if we put it on the ballot

for the voters to decide, how are we the ones taking away their choice? Because they'll be deciding by voting on the ballot.

And my second question is, you know, I fully support Mayor Victorino bringing former Mayor Apana back, because of his experiences. But this Charter amendment has nothing to do with not allowing Mayor Victorino to bring mayor, former Mayor Apana back. And it wouldn't prevent any mayor from bringing any one of us on to help in any type of capacity; board or commission, EA, whatever it may be. So, those are my, my clarifying questions.

MS. TUMPAP: Thank you so much. And I'm glad you asked, because two points. On your first point about by putting it on the Charter, you know, by making the Charter amendment and putting it on the ballot; how are you taking away choices? My concern is that the general public, in talking to a lot of people, they don't understand the nuances of, they don't understand the nuance of what's being proposed. It's like adding the word primary to the ag Charter amendment and then, you know, it didn't include primary, now it includes primary and people want to take away the word primary. Every word makes a difference. And given how quickly this is moving forward, I don't see the education to really educate the public. And that may happen after this moves forward. But it's a lot of ramp up time to really educate on nuances of this and that's why we're concerned. And we're concerned overall because we have higher level things to focus on.

And the second point, it was, to mention Kimo Apana, I agree. This Charter amendment does not prohibit a Mayor or Council or others to get advice from former folks. But my point is really to use that as an example of how prohibited by the Charter, people who have extensive knowledge to come back and serve in a elected official role, I think can be detrimental. I know Kimo isn't asking for that. He's not seeking that. But it was just to use an example of the importance of those who have served before, given the knowledge they have in crucial times, I think that there are times in the future where we may want them to serve again. And if they have met their hiatus and have the ability to serve again, I think that could be beneficial.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you so much for the comments. I, I had thought that you made a point that they could still serve whether it's not in a elected official role. But thank you for clarifying.

CHAIR LEE: Alright, I, Mr. Sinenci, did you have your hand up? No?

Okay, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Tumpap. Mahalo for your testimony. So--

MS. TUMPAP: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. To, to, to clarify, at the last, so, yes or no. At the last meeting, you sent in testimony via Amber, I believe, and written, supporting the term limits?

MS. TUMPAP: No, we did not support the term limits. We said that we were not going to, we felt that we were not going to comment on those two items and let the voters take that up. Since then we've had continuing discussion whereas people read more and more and better understand what that meant, they've had additional concerns.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Any more questions? If not, thank you, Ms. Tumpap. Appreciate it.

MS. TUMPAP: Thank you. Aloha.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, the next persons we have up to testify is the individual calling in from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 5483. They will be followed by the individual calling in from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 6058.

MS. JANET ASHMAN (testifying on Resolution 20-102):

Can you hear me?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Yes, we can hear you.

MS. ASHMAN: Thank you. Good morning. My name is Janet Ashman and I'm testifying this morning for Teena Rasmussen, who is the volunteer president of Maui County Farm Bureau. Teena apologizes for not being able to testify this morning on Resolution 20-102. She's currently facilitating the food and farm sector group meeting of the Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force, so she sends her apologies.

Councilmembers, you know that the Maui County Farm Bureau is a nonprofit organization that represents hundreds of Maui farm families. Our volunteer farmers and ranchers who serve as our board of directors guide our work to advocate for farmers so they can produce food and other agricultural products for our communities.

We, on behalf of those hundreds of farmers and ranchers who will be impacted by this measure, we respectfully request one simple change to the resolution. Farmers are extremely concerned, as you've heard, about a new bureaucracy that has the power and authority to make regulations on them. We believe that every Councilmember supports the Maui farmers and ranchers. We believe that you did not mean to authorize more regulations for the farmers of Maui.

As the resolution introducer, Councilman Sinenci himself clarified the purpose of the resolution, at hour 6 minute 25, and I'm quoting him, "that the clear intent for advocacy for farmers, not additional regulations. We do not want to add more weight onto the backs of our farmers. We want to lift that burden off of our local mahi'ai". Over the last 15 minutes of the Council meeting that day, Councilmembers discussed and agreed that farmers should not face more regulations, with Councilmember King even mentioning that our egg farms and dairies were driven out of business because of regulations, and that she hoped the new department would reverse some of those regulations.

Please remove the word primary from the first sentence in Section 8-18.3. Powers, Duties, and Functions. The hasty addition of this word at the very last 10 minutes of the six plus hour Council meeting changed the intended meaning of that count of, that the Councilmembers sought. This one word nullifies what every Councilmember expressed during the meeting, because it provides that the intention and purpose of the department is to further regulate farmers. It may not be the primary purpose, but this wording clearly authorizes more regulations on our local farmers as a potential secondary purpose.

Removing this one word will clarify your intent and help to ensure that a future Administration or Council will not subvert the noble intent of this body. Thank you so much for your support of Maui's farmers and ranchers, and your understanding of the hard work they do to provide for our communities. I'm, I would be happy to answer any questions you might have. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Are there any questions, Members?

Ms. Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Ah, thank you, Ms. Ashman for your testimony--

MS. ASHMAN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: --and staying here today. You know, one of the things in our last meeting, I had asked somebody how come they were happy to have an inspector to their farm, and they were saying that, you know, there's certain like pests and things like that where they could help. And that was the reason that we were given. Like, it's not, there's some regulations that help farmers that they advocate for, like when it comes to, like, pests or disease.

Like, I remember, you know, we had the bunchy banana top, bunchy top disease or, you know, the coffee borer beetle, and things like that. So, I mean, I definitely agree that, you know, overburdensome regulatory things are not good, but they made the, some of the farmers that we spoke to made the point that, you know, when it comes to helping with regulations, they, they, they would appreciate that.

So, the, the difference, I think, is that we don't want regulatory barriers. We don't want to, we don't want to erect anymore regulatory barriers, but if there's regulations that could help farmers that are, that are advocating, I think it was that we didn't want to prevent that from happening, because, you know, there's all sorts of the whole spectrum. And that's kind of why it's kind of broad. And that's why it's kind of vague. Cause if it passes, then we need all, everybody to come to the table and, and define what it would look like. So, are you familiar with those types of regulations that help farmers when it comes to disease and pests and things like that?

MS. ASHMAN: Absolutely. And I'm really glad you asked that question, because that is my job. My job is helping farmers understand and comply with laws and regulations of the State. And I work with farmers. I, I live on Maui and I work with Maui farmers, but I've also for the past 30 years worked with farmers all over the islands. So, I do understand, and I appreciate that so much.

And what happened last time, and you were a part of that, is that you changed the language to do exactly what you were talking about and not create, quote, "additional regulatory barriers on matters related to agriculture". So, you did that, and that clarified the language so well, that you can send inspectors and, and help farmers with the, the regulations, but that you're not creating additional regulatory barriers for them. And so, that was perfect.

The only problem was the word primary, because that just opens the door to everything. And, and really, it negates everything else in that sentence. So, I agree with you a hundred percent on what you're saying, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And to clarify, you said that's your job as in that's your paying day job to do those types of visits and work with Maui farmers, or that's your role within the organization?

MS. ASHMAN: I am a volunteer with Maui County Farm Bureau. I, I don't work for Maui County Farm Bureau. But my regular job is helping farmers understand and comply with, you know, all the different, there's so many laws and regulations; Department of Health, Department of Agriculture, DLNR. I mean, there's so many, so that's what I do, yes. And, I'm--

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Could--

MS. ASHMAN: . . . I'm also a farmer myself, and a mom, and a linguist, and a lawyer.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And, and what was the title of the job where you help farmers, if you don't mind?

MS. ASHMAN: The title? I, I'm a consultant.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. Alright. Thank you so much.

MS. ASHMAN: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Anymore questions?

Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yea, thank you. So, just kind of tying into what Ms. Paltin has just stated or the question. So, Janet, then, the coffee borer, whatever those insects and, and different pests that are currently of, of concern for farmers, are there organizations or agencies that already help farmers with it, like Federal or State funding? I think when I worked for Mazie Hirono, we were trying to get the funding for, to help farmers here on Maui with the coffee berry borer, I think it was. So, are you saying that there are existing Federal and State regulations that exist?

MS. ASHMAN: There, there are, and there are also agencies that, that help and do provide funding and other assistance. So, for example, all the invasive species, Council, we have for example MISC on this island, and . . . and TISC. And I'm a member of the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species, and so that is a group that consists of all the State agencies working together with stakeholders to try to stop some invasive species and it's very hard, you know, once they come in. So, yes, there is, there are

a lot of other agencies that do a lot of the work that this proposed DOA would do. And hopefully if this passes, everyone can work together, cause it would be a shame if we duplicated the efforts of those agencies.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay, so the terminology then that you're questioning is the word primary?

MS. ASHMAN: That's all. It's one simple fix and it doesn't change. Actually, the word primary changes the intent that everyone discussed in the last part and throughout the, the last Council meeting. So, yea, the removal of that word just clarifies what you've all already agreed to. And, and it does not restrict inspectors from coming out on the farm and helping farmers and ranchers at all, because of course that's what we, we want.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much.

MS. ASHMAN: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Anyone else? If not, thank you, Ms. Ashman.

Mr. Clerk.

MS. ASHMAN: Thank you.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, the next person signed up to testify is Maude Cummings *[sic]*. To be followed by the individual calling from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 0980.

CHAIR LEE: Maude, are you there? If not, move on, Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Okay. So, the next person up to testify--

MS. MAUDE CUMMING, FAMILY LIFE CENTER (testifying on Committee Report 20-85):

Hello? This is Maude. I, I'll turn off my phone. Hello, can you hear me?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Yes. Please proceed with your testimony.

MS. CUMMING: Okay, hi. My name is Maude Cumming, I'm the director of Family Life Center, an organization dedicated to ending homelessness. And I agree with you, Council. I'm testifying on item number CR 20-85. So, I agree with you Council Chair; the more people who join the effort, the better. And I'm encouraged that others are

interested in finding solutions. But I don't think we need to create a commission to do this.

So, I'm not opposed to new ideas. In fact, we welcome them. But if there, there are alternate solutions, I believe that individuals, entities, whoever it is, should pursue it, work on it, find a way to establish it. But I don't think we need a commission to do this. I have data to show what our current efforts are doing. I believe we're on the right track. And I know George Kaimiola alluded to this earlier.

You know, in, in, so I did a review of our data from January through May. January, we had 66 people either into permanent housing or off of the streets into emergency or transitional shelter. February, we had 56. March, it jumped to 90. I believe it really doubled down on our efforts. April is 77. May is 69. And we don't have the data out for June yet, but it is higher than that. So, I believe that we're on the right track. We are working on housing individuals and I know we talked about the numbers not going down. They have not been going up.

But as, as quick as, as, as much as we're placing people into housing, we also have to work on the inflow. So, we have a strategy in place to look at the data, see how many people are coming into the system and how many are moving out by being placed into permanent housing and ending. We want our efforts to be non-recurring, so people don't, there is, there is reduced recidivism, people don't fall back into homelessness.

We're looking at things like length of stay, how long does it take us to move someone out of homelessness into housing? Can we reduce that length? Can we do, we, if, if the time is 100 days, we need to reduce it to 60 days, and then to 45 days, and then 30 days? So, that in, when we say we want to end homelessness, we want to create a system where within 30 days anyone is homeless, we have the resources in terms of shelter or permanent housing to move them out of that system so it's quick.

You know, we have been finding housing. What we need are long-term subsidies for people with fixed incomes. So, and, just a point of clarification, when we're talking about managing homelessness, what we consider managing this homelessness is providing services that allow someone to manage their ability to live homeless. So, that would be what we consider charitable engagements; the food, the clothing. For a long time, we did that. And then we really changed our strategy and realized that the only way to end homelessness is by putting them into housing.

So, I suggest that rather than creating a new commission, that we use what's in place, review current data and strategies already in place. I'm willing and interested in providing the Council with timely data to show the efforts of our efforts to this day. And

I've invited Councilmember Tasha Kama to have one of her staff join the data committee, so that they can get real time information. And so, once again, I'm not opposed to more people joining the effort, in fact, I welcome it. And I'm encouraged that other people, I just don't think that we need a commission to do this. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Are there any questions? Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Aloha, Maude. Thank you, Chair. Do you have a video on? I see a square with your name; see people's faces if possible. If not, that's okay. But thank you for being here. Thank you for your testimony. One of my concerns is not so much the numbers as some of the issues that I, I think we need more advocacy for.

So, can you speak to the, the ability of the Homeless Alliance, since you're saying that should cover everything? To, you know, in the face of, of COVID, one, one of the first things that happened here in South Maui was, you know, with all the restroom shutdowns in the park, the park shutdowns was we had this real crisis of where the homeless people were going to be able to use the restroom and that happened almost immediately.

But there was, I didn't see any advocacy except from the public. And then they, you know, people from the public got together and organized and created this rapid response. But they didn't feel, you know, what I was hearing was they didn't feel connected with the Homeless Alliance. So, to me, the, the, the commission would be able to address specific issues like that, and also looking at issues like the sleeping in the parking lots, in your car, you know, helping us, helping us advocate for solutions, not just getting the numbers down, which I think you guys are probably focused on and I think that's great.

But there's so many issues that are community by community not being addressed. And, you know, you guys are a small group of, of, of sort of vendor alliance, but the general public, I think is what, is what is not included in that alliance. And if you don't have open, I don't think you have open meetings, do you? Do you have--

MS. CUMMING: Yes, we do.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, you have meetings like--

MS. CUMMING: Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings. Anyone is welcome to come.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, cause I don't--

MS. CUMMING: Anyone is welcome to--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I don't hear, I don't see the notices to the general public. But if you do, that's great. But how, are you addressing some of these other issues that people bring up?

MS. CUMMING: Hello?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Are you there?

MS. CUMMING: I'm sorry. I'm listening over the phone, and it's, I'm having to switch back and forth.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay.

MS. CUMMING: Can you hear me?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yea.

MS. CUMMING: Okay. So, the Homeless Alliance is not just service providers. In fact, the structures of it is such that we have to reach out and make sure that it is available to anyone in the community, and we welcome anyone in the community. We do have people that are homeless or formerly homeless. That is one of the requirements. And so, we welcome anybody to join.

What, and I, so I hear what you're saying. I just don't understand, and it wasn't clear to me that that is what the commission would be doing. What I was really concerned about is it seemed to give the commission broad powers to advise and recommend. And I did not understand what the scope of that authority was going to be. Was it going to be, was it non, non-binding recommendations? So, so there are, you know, homelessness has so many issues.

There are more things to address than, than any one group can, can do. So, I don't understand why we would need to create a commission that includes powers that, I guess, that's what I testified about earlier in the Committee meeting; that I didn't understand what those powers were going to be.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Well, you know, the, all our commissions have advisory authority and can do reports and make, and make advisory. But they can also bring issues to light that aren't being addressed. And so, you know, I think you guys are doing, especially, you know, the, your organization, Maude, is doing great work. And the couple, when I first got on the Council, I had a couple of community meetings that

you attended. And you were actually able to house a couple of the homeless people in those meetings. So, you know, kudos to you.

But the other issues that were brought up were things like families that had, didn't have a place to spend the night, because it's illegal to park overnight in public spaces, so we were trying to work on that. We were trying to work on bringing resources into the community. We created a volunteer working group that actually was able to instigate a mobile hygiene unit, and that never even happened. I mean, they, they, they created it, it never even got commissioned in Kihei, and then it got sent off to another area.

So, you know, there's no place for the public to go to say, why is this happening? And we have a resource that was supposed to be for South Maui taken away from us. The public has no voice in those kinds of issues. So, that's kind of what I see, you know, this, this commission being kind of more responsible in a broad sense for homeless issues across the County. I don't know if we lost her.

CHAIR LEE: Maude, are you there?

MS. CUMMING: Yes. I'm sorry. I, I hear you, what you're saying, Councilman King. What I, what I am concerned about is that sometimes there's an impression that nothing is going on about these issues. But individually, as we work with people, we cannot share with the public, actually what we've done. We cannot share with, what details. And so--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: You know, I'm not asking for--

MS. CUMMING: --sometimes without needing to.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yea, I'm not asking for details about individuals. I'm just talking about broad strokes and some of the solutions that the public is coming up with that are not being, there's no, there's no avenue for them to, you know, to be heard, so, you know, and, and get that information to the Council and the Administration. So, that's, that's the main thing is, you know, we, we feel like our efforts, you know, went somewhere and then that was cut short and there was no advocacy for, for those solutions.

So, no I appreciate, I don't, and I don't, I don't want you to feel like you're being usurped, because I think you guys are doing excellent work. It's just limited to one, you know, to exactly what your mission is. And we have some broader issues that we, you know, especially in South Maui while we have no resources right now.

MS. CUMMING: So, is this--

CHAIR LEE: Are there any more questions?

MS. CUMMING: Is there a, a way for us to understand exactly what power the commission will have? That, that I think is one of the big concerns, that it might run contrary to evidence-based practices. And if so, then we would be in conflict and I really wouldn't want that to happen, because we need to be all moving in the same direction.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right. And I think that was in the intent of having a member from your Alliance on the commission, so that the recommendations would be coherent.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

MS. CUMMING: I meant prior to getting this passing.

CHAIR LEE: We have another, Maude. Maude.

MS. CUMMING: It's just not clear.

CHAIR LEE: We have another. Okay. Maude, we have another person asking. Ms. King, are you done?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yes. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Maude; appreciate you being here.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Cumming. Mahalo for your testimony this morning. So, I, I heard your concern about what the power of this commission would be. And when I had introduced it, I really didn't expect this to be a controversial thing. I really thought that this would be something that the community would easily get in, on board with. So, it's, it's really shocking to me to, to have such pushback by what seemingly would be allies.

So, I, your, the, the Maui Homeless Commission would basically have the same power as this commission. So, the Alliance would have the same advisory kind of role. You are, the Alliance is welcome to propose policy recommendations to the Council. We have community groups propose policy recommendations all the time.

Chair Lee proposed a whole bunch from the Maui Ag Working Group, you know, just last Council meeting. So, this, this commission is to help the community have a voice and have a venue to talk about this very multi-faceted issue and help the community

and help the Alliance. So, that was the intent of the commission. So, has the Alliance proposed policy recommendations to the Council before?

MS. CUMMING: I don't believe we have. And that is not my--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is that something that you would like to?

MS. CUMMING: I'm sorry, what is the question?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is that something that the Alliance would like to do, propose policy recommendations for the Council to consider?

MS. CUMMING: Perhaps. But right now, the, the system that we are following is something that we are statewide through our continuum of care, which includes all the neighbor-islands. We come together and we develop policies and strategies. The department is not, or the Council is not, we find that our funding sources often dictate the, the ways in which services are delivered and the, the strategies are to be used. So, we don't find any conflict right now. There is, so there is nothing to recommend in terms of the way our services are delivered. So, I think maybe--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. So, the Alliance is focused on services? And this commission would, which would have a seat for the Alliance to sit on, would do this work of recommending policies for the Council to consider to help in this area?

MS. CUMMING: I guess my concern is that the policies that may be suggested may not be helpful.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Even with someone from the Alliance sitting on this commission?

MS. CUMMING: You know, there are, from what I see, 11 people, each Councilperson would, somebody plus one person from the Alliance. I tell you, I've been doing this for 20 years. I have attended so many community meetings. Generally, recommendations that community members have made, we have already tried. We have already, and, and it gets very frustrating, because it's, a lot of it runs counter to what is evidence-based practices. And, and so, a lot of your time gets sucked up by following, actually money trails that go nowhere. So, it really, there's a lot of research, education that needs to happen. And, and I know it's difficult because we've had a difficult time over the years understanding. And, and I think we finally got to where we do see a way out of this. We do see a way.

And so, I'm concerned that we'll continue to go down the same, same tracks that we have over the years and not yield results. And I think we are seeing results being yielded. And, and this comes from not only research, but also boots on the ground. I mean, I can't tell you, just this last week how many individuals we've encountered and encouraged. And, but there's also personal choice. There is also things like that, which understandably we, we get calls about people all the time that we just called, got called last week. I know that we have put probably 50-60 hours of assistance into this person. And, but the public continues to call us and say why aren't you helping them? So, I believe that we are on the right track. I would hate to get distracted from that and lose momentum.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, this commission would be a distraction to your work? And that's a, that the community's ideas have already been tried by Family Life Center and the Alliance, and that there wouldn't be, so what you're saying is there wouldn't be any new ideas that you haven't tried already and what you're doing now is the most efficient and effective way to handle what we are experiencing now?

MS. CUMMING: No, I didn't say there wouldn't be any new ideas. I, I . . . but again, go back to the fact that the way the resolution is written, it appears that the commission has a lot of power to determine the track of funding, and policy, and the way things should go. And I'm saying that there is a lot of education to be had out there. And so, to recreate the wheel, to re-educate, I would not be in favor of that.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, Family Life Center is worried about the funding they've received from the County?

MS. CUMMING: No, I'm not worried about the funding.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MS. CUMMING: I would gladly retire. I've been doing this a long time. I don't, you know, I tell my staff your job is to work yourself out of a job. Because if you end homelessness, anybody should want to hire you. There's always the next step. There always, once you get people into housing, now you have to help stay into housing, in housing. So, I'm not concerned about the funding.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, last question, Chair.

MS. CUMMING: If we lose all our funding, I, I'm not concerned about that.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Cumming. So, you said that we need to put everyone in housing. When you come across those who are unsheltered in our community and they refuse to go into housing, then what happens with that person who, these people who are refusing to go into a house, four walls and a roof?

MS. CUMMING: If they refuse, that is their choice. It is--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, they would remain houseless?

MS. CUMMING: As, as George was saying before, our job is to make them thirsty. And so, that is why we keep going back and offering services to the same people, cause we don't give up on anybody. We just continue to make them aware that we are available when they choose to request the services. So, we will keep going back and going back. But we will focus on those that want housing immediately, and then we just keep going back.

So, honestly, you know, I don't think there's ever going to be a time when you don't walk out your door and you don't see homeless individuals. When we talk about ending homelessness, we're talking about developing a system wherein 30 days anyone who becomes homeless and wants housing, that we can provide that either by shelter or moving them into permanent housing. So, there will always be people out there who are homeless. I don't think that's going to end. It's a matter of whether a system has the capacity to address it quickly.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that clarification. I didn't realize that the goal of ending homelessness was that they would still be houseless people on the streets. Mahalo, Ms. Cumming. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: I saw some hands up. Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: And Ms. Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. So, I was just wondering, you know, when I, when we deal with our unsheltered population, there's three, I classify them because I don't know what else to do about them because I don't know what the terminology is. But there seems to be three different classifications. There are those who want help, and need help, and are able to be helped. And so, those are the ones that I guess you usher along and you get them into something.

And then there's those who just are so dogmatic that they just love living out there in the outdoors and, and they don't want to follow the rules, and they can't seem to find a place that will take their dog. So, therefore, you know, they want to stay outside for whatever reasons.

And then we have those that are mentally incapacitated, I say, that don't have the wherewithal to decide for themselves that defecating on somebody's doorway, urinating in the streets, walking around town talking to somebody, or nobody, or everybody.

So, those are those people that I think about most of the time, because I think those who want to live out there will do that no matter what we try to do, because they've already made a choice. And maybe the time will come in their lifetime when they are too tired to, to live the hard life and they're ready to go into shelter. So, those will be taken care of eventually.

My concern, Maude, is how do you or, or the agencies, or even the, the Maui Alliance, how do you handle those who are unsheltered with mental health issues? And not only mental health issues, but have physical ailments, like if they're ill, they have sores on their bodies and, and the police calls you to come and pick them up, and what do you do with people like that? Can you share that? Can you explain that?

MS. CUMMING: We have responded over and over. I cannot tell you how many hours I have spent, personally, in the emergency room, with someone who can't speak for themselves. Late into the night, I can tell you about those instances when we pick people off of the streets, brought them into showers, because they're burning up with fever. And I have personally showered them and then transported them to the emergency room. I tell you about people that we have put into a sheet and lifted into our vans because the, the paramedics have had such a time with the person and brought them into our shower. And some of our staff has personally showered them, gone in there, watched somebody's toes fall, and then advocated for them to get into the right maybe care home or some place, some situation like that. Ultimately, it is their decision. We need some laws that will allow decisions to be made on behalf of a person who is incapacitated. It is very difficult to do so.

We try as much as possible to use our permanent supportive housing program to, those are, that's a program that works with people who are chronically homeless, who have a disability. We place them into regular housing and then our case managers visit them and make sure that they can sustain the housing, connect them to medical services. We work with Ohana Care, United Health Care, all the different health providers to ensure that whatever services they can offer are provided to them. We

have used up all our funding for permanent supportive housing. We need more funding. We need subsidies, long-term subsidies.

So, there's a lot of effort. There's laws that need to be enacted. We advocate for assessments to be done. There's a lot of coordination that needs to happen. And you know, for those that refuse our services, we find that at some point or another, unfortunately when their situation gets really bad is when they will reach out and say, okay, I accept your help. And there's really not much we can do about making a person thirsty or encouraging them to seek help. And I think that's, that's the population that the public sees the most. So, there is a lot of effort and work and a strategy.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, another, my last question then is, so how much funding do you, does it take for you to, to do all of this?

MS. CUMMING: So, we have a half a million dollars from HUD to run the permanent supportive housing. None of that goes to staff cost. All of that pays rent. The County gives us \$140,000 to provide case management for that. We have another 600,000 from the State of Hawaii to provide permanent supportive housing. We pay people's rent, as well as pay for staff time. And then we have three other contracts from the State. In total, we have about \$5 million.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Point of order, Chair. Point of order. We're--

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yes. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I feel like we're getting into deliberations on this issue. And you know, I'd be happy to, for us to invite Ms. Cumming to be a resource when we get to this item. But we're getting into the weeds here and beyond just clarification.

CHAIR LEE: Yea. I realize that, but we were already in the weeds. And, and Ms. Kama didn't have a chance to jump in the weeds too, so I just trying to be fair with everybody.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: And then, one, one more person. Mr. Molina, you can jump in the weeds too.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you, Madam Chair. That was kind of where I was going at too. It's starting to becoming like a Committee meeting at this point. And I think we should focus more on the merits or demerits of this proposed commission

versus, you know, you know, Family Life Center's wonderful service to the community. But we're kind of straying a little bit.

And just for our information, how much more testifiers are waiting in line to give testimony?

CHAIR LEE: Fifteen.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Fifteen. Yea, and already we spent an hour and a half on the first seven or eight. And we got a Chair's meeting at 1:30. So, anyway, if the Members would as much as possible, myself included, keep our questions confined to clarifying testimony so we can move things along, hear from everybody, and then get to our matters on the agenda. So, thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Mr. Molina. I concur.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. He was, he's our sergeant at arms keeping order. Thank you, Mr. Molina.

Any, any other questions? Alright. Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yea, it's not a question. I just want to thank Ms. Cumming for her hard work and education, really, for all that she's shared. And congratulations on having George Kamio, Ka, Ka, sorry, I can't say his last name, but your, our first testifier. I met him through the years, and boy, has he evolved into an advocate for all this. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. I just have one quick question. Maude, just, you know, how, how many people would you be able to help with long-term housing support with \$500,000?

MS. CUMMING: Currently, we have 42 households. That's about 82 people, but it's 42 households.

CHAIR LEE: 42 households, 82 people. Okay. Thank you. Alright, appreciate you coming.

Next testifier, Mr., and then, then we'll take our morning break, okay?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, the next person we have up to testify is Gabe Johnson. To be followed by Lisa Darcy.

CHAIR LEE: Gabe.

MR. GABE JOHNSON (testifying on Resolution No. 20-102):

Aloha. I'm Gabe Johnson and I'm testifying on Resolution 20-102. And I would just like to take this chance to thank all the Councilmembers for their hard work on allowing the citizens of Maui County to decide about the future of farming in the County. I know that putting amendments on the ballot can be a monumental task and I applaud your hard work. Change isn't easy, but sometimes it's necessary. So, from a small farmer, like myself, I would just like to say from my heart, thank you.

And I'm also very proud of our Councilmembers' work. I would also like to thank, personally, my Councilmember Riki Hokama, who's been helpful with his institutional knowledge that has helped steer the, the Committee, the Council to make the right choice. So, thank you very much. Aloha.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you, Gabe. Any questions? If not, we'll take Lisa Darcy and then, then we'll take our break.

We have a question, Ms. King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Quick question. Yea, I have a quick question for Mr. Johnson. Thank you for calling in. So, you're calling in from Lanai?

MR. JOHNSON: Actually, I'm on Maui today.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: But you're a farmer on Lanai?

MR. JOHNSON: Oh, yes. Yes, I'm a farmer on Lanai.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. And I just wanted to ask, you said you were a small farmer. What's, what do you have, can you just, I don't want to phrase it like how small are you, but what's the size of your farm and how many employees do you have?

MR. JOHNSON: Certainly. So, I, I'm on a two-acre farm. It started seven years ago by David Embrey, and some other folks. And basically, it, one, one person can run the farm. And you can make a livable wage off of doing it. So, but unfortunately, he had to go and get, take a second job to get his health insurance, so he hired me. And I think that a two-acre farm with one person working about 30-40 hours a week, in this day and age, you can, you can make a comfortable, and it's definitely more than the hotels

would pay and any of the other kind of industries. So, I think it's, it's really important that you can really diversify the economy by just having smaller farmers like that.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. And you see the department, potential department as being supportive of your efforts?

MR. JOHNSON: Yes, most definitely. You know, as a small farmer, I don't have the budget to have a grant writer, or I can't afford the inspectors. I, I need government to help me in, in those kinds of issues. I know I can farm, I can plant from seed to, to harvest, but I don't have the, the budgets to cover all of the, the things that government needs to help small farmers with. So, I, I'm not afraid to have the government come help me. That's in fact what I pay my taxes for. So, I'm for a department of ag for the County to help out us small guys, you know. That's really important.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you.

MR. JOHNSON: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Anymore questions? If not, thank you, Gabe.

Let's call Ms. Lisa Darcy, and then take a short break, maybe 15 minutes, after her testimony.

MS. LISA DARCY, SHARE YOUR MANA (testifying on Committee Report 20-85):

Good morning--

CHAIR LEE: Good morning.

MS. DARCY --Council and Committee. Hi. Nice to see you. I don't know how to condense this into three minutes. In the amount of discrepancies and misinformation that has already been shared this morning based on, my name is Lisa Darcy, I'm the founder of Share Your Mana. And I have been activated for about 18 years on Maui working with all the groups who are in need.

The commission on, I would like to testify on CR 20-85. I believe the commission would review the unbelievable barriers for those to participate in all of these systems. It took over two and a half hours for me to prep and get people together to do the, the advocacy that we did on the last meeting, the individuals. Many people want to testify. They don't have the resources. A commission would be able to identify this.

I would like, there, there's so much that was already been spoken that I would like the platform to be able to talk about. If this island is looking for everything to run nicely and comfortably, we are very well mistaken. I leave the Maui Homeless Alliance in conflict continuously. My voice is not heard. Every recommendation that I bring forward is been, is not been accepted. When COVID--

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Are we talking about the Homeless Alliance, or we talking about the--

MS. DARCY: I, I'm going to finish my testimony please. And I would like to say that, on March 13, I sent an email to the Maui Homeless Alliance and it requested activating, regarding who was going to be assisting under the shelter in place. I got one reply back from the Chair of the Homeless Alliance, Monique Yamashita. Hi Lisa, I spoke with Thelma today regarding the MHA and meeting about your inquiry. Thank you for asking us if the MHA plans to assist the unsheltered more in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Maui Homeless Alliance does not have a plan of action to address this issue that you've brought up. The Maui Homeless Alliance is not set up to design, gather resources, and implement crisis response. To undertake this type of project to help is enormous and it would require a team to plan, or a commission I would say, operating management, funding, manning, insurance. . . . these are agencies that are already going to do the work to assist the un-shelters in the community.

I was out for weeks and weeks before agencies showed up. I would like to say, this commission, it is well past time for this commission to be brought forward. I would like to say that there was a quote said, "make them thirsty". People are beyond thirsty. I bring gallons of water every day. I am taking two and a half hours out of a day that I am usually helping now people prepare for the hurricane. And there is no clear plan, okay. And you want to say make people thirsty? I totally think it is so far past us needing a commission to have another point of view on this, to bring the community in. The reason Share Your Mana is alive and active is because the community has supported this. And it needs to continue. I, I--

CHAIR LEE: Lisa, we realize you're very passionate about this, this subject, but we need you to conclude in a minute please.

MS. DARCY: Okay. Other people had quite a bit of time. I just need you to know, Housing First does work. I don't know anybody who doesn't think Housing First works. It addresses the 10 percent. The community needs an opportunity to address the other 90 percent. That's where the commission would be so effective, is to bring in community resources into the other 90 percent. And the fact that this is not being supported by the Homeless Alliance and by the Family Life Center is absolutely shocking. It's shocking. This isn't passion.

I can sit with you and give you facts, I can give you reports, I can show you the data on the, on the point and time count. I can give you all of that. I need a place to do it where it will be able to be brought in and that we can work together, that we can work together.

CHAIR LEE: I know it seems like people, other testifiers have spoken for a lengthy amount of time, but that's cause they were asked a lot of questions.

Ms. Kama, you had a question?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes. I just wanted to ask if Ms. Darcy is still employed by Councilmember King?

MS. DARCY: No.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. Sugimura. Unmute yourself. Unmute yourself.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, the, hi, Lisa. So, I just wanted to gather data, you said you would share, on, on the 90 percent.

MS. DARCY: So, just to, the information that was put forward by a Councilmember stating the different categories of need. There are three categories of need, yes. There is the chronic. And those, that's the, that's the group that Housing First focuses on. Then there is cyclical. Those are people that have jobs that are maybe for seasonal. Or there maybe people who have addiction issues that go in and out of sobriety and can remain in housing for a little while and then maybe they slip. Then there is the transitional, and that is the group that maybe it was a hurricane or a flood. We may have a whole lot of those in another couple of days. That's the group that the Red Cross helps that gets moved out. If you want data like this and you want to see how it applies to Maui, we need a commission.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Well, I, you said you had, you want us to talk about the 90 percent. So, if you could share that data with my office, I would appreciate it. Thank you.

MS. DARCY: I will share, yes, and I hope that I get responses back.

CHAIR LEE: Any other questions? If not, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I have a question. I have a question.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, Ms. King. Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, Lisa. And, can you, is Share Your Mana still involved in, you know, reaching out, like boots on the ground with the homeless situations in the, in various communities? Or are you, I mean, I know you're small, you're a small effort there, but what communities are you in right now?

MS. DARCY: In, since COVID-19 and the Shelter in Place, Share Your Mana has focused primarily on Kahului. I was absolutely shocked at the, at the unbelievable squalor people are living in. And so, I had to make a decision whether I was going to go, cause I've spent quite a bit of time in Kihei, I've spent quite a bit of time Upcountry, I haven't even gotten to Lahaina. I had to make a decision whether I was going to spread myself out, because I have had minimum 8 to 16-hour days since this started, maybe taking five days to only do emails and, and rest, okay. But that's, I'm still working. I've been out there every single day. I continue to be out there.

In fact, the fact that I'm here in my, in this room because I didn't want to lose my connection, I didn't know if my data would last out there. The cars going by, when we sit outside to give testimony, you can't hear people. There's no way to get this community involved, and they want to be involved. And so, I had to make a decision to sit here this morning now and now go out in, when it's absolutely blistering heat. But there are people counting on the resources that I am bringing them today. I, I literally fill people's water jugs up.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I really appreciate that. And I appreciate the time. It was a short period of time that you were working for my office to help advise us on, you know, our recommendations with COVID-19 response on the houseless issues, and the, what was going on with the, the parks issues and the restrooms being, the restrooms being closed and the resource, the limited resources. So, just to make that clear to the public that that was a six-week period of time and you worked for me part-time to advise and actually make that connection. So, it was really helpful in, in advising on this issue as well.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Any more questions? If not, thank you very much, Lisa, for coming. And appreciate your participation.

Mr. Clerk, how many do we have left? Twelve? Okay. It is about six minutes to 11. So, how about 11:10? 11:10? Alright. Meeting is in recess till 11:10.

(THE MEETING WAS RECESSED BY THE CHAIR AT 10:55 A.M., AND WAS RECONVENED AT 11:16 A.M., WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT, EXCEPT COUNCILMEMBER KING, EXCUSED.)

CHAIR LEE: Will the regular Council meeting of July 24 and public hearing of July 24, 2020, please come, reconvene.

Mr. Clerk, shall we continue with testimony?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, the next person we have signed up to testify is the individual calling from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 0376. To be followed by the individual calling in from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 6659. The individual calling from 0376, your mic is unmuted. You may begin your testimony.

MS. LESLIE WILKINS, MAUI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD (testifying on County Communication No. 20-385):

Aloha. This is Leslie Wilkins calling from Maui Economic Development Board. Can you hear me?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

MS. WILKINS: Hello? Thank you. Thank you very much, Council Chair Lee and Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, and Members. Thank you. I am here to testify on the resolution that you're entertaining today referenced 20-385. We are very much in support of that at Maui Economic Development Board, because we have been working on creating equity of access to digital tools and STEM education for more than 20 years to make sure that all of our young people have opportunities for education in STEM and digital literacy.

COVID-19 absolutely exacerbated what is the reality of the digital divide and that we are not mere equity of access. So, we are in favor of this resolution. As we know that this fall semester, which is a, probably a hybrid semester with some of the schools, yes, coming back face to face, several of them. But most of them, because of the social distancing requirement, are having flex schedules. So, much of the content will likely be delivered digitally and online. So, we feel that the education of our children is, is the old African proverb, "it takes a village".

So, all of us investing together, Federal resources, State resources, County resources, and private sector resources are exactly what will take to overcome the digital divide and make sure that all of our children and homes have access to technology. We really believe in the opportunity to refurbish devices to help build the inventory that can be deployed out to homes and households. But we also know that that's only one step to making sure that everyone has access, increasing our bandwidth, particularly in our rural communities is equally as important. So, we also look for future efforts that we can have innovations and investments in the bandwidth infrastructure.

Again, thank you for this resolution, which says that, yes, we all must invest, invest together, blend all of our resources for this top priority to make sure that our young people have access to every educational platform available to them.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you, Leslie. Are there any questions?

Yes, Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Aloha, Leslie. Thanks for being here. And of course, you would support this because you guys are doing a great job in the STEM Program. And I'm just hoping, I just wanted to ask you--

MS. WILKINS: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: --you know, will you be also involved in helping to develop distance learning, not just the, the methodologies but curriculum?

MS. WILKINS: Absolutely. Thank you very much for that question. Since fourth quarter of last year, when, you know, the rest of the school year was only online, we have been trying to help our teachers, support our teachers, get them tools, get them training, get them curriculum. We just finished a next cohort of training teachers through a five-day digital training on computer science and so that they can teach computer science and understand it themselves. We will continue to do that. We're looking at all the Federal resources we can bring in to augment our programs to help get more training, more curriculum, more guidance, and more access. And we'll use our existing funding for that high priority as well.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Great. Thank you so much. We appreciate all your efforts.

MS. WILKINS: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Are there any other questions? If not, thank you, Leslie, for coming.

MS. WILKINS: Absolutely. Thank you for this resolution.

CHAIR LEE: You're welcome.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person we have up to testify is the individual calling from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 6659. To be followed by Kamana Beamer.

MS. ROBIN KNOX (testifying on Committee Reports 20-85, 20-86, 20-88, and 20-93, and Resolution Nos. 20-98, 20-101, and 20-102):

Aloha. My name is Robin Knox and I am testifying on a number of items; 20-85, 20-88, 20-93, 20-86, 20-98, 20-101, and 20-102.

20-85, the Commission on Healing Solutions for Homeless. I support the establishment of the commission. When I see the suffering of fellow human beings who are homeless on Maui, I feel deep pain and heartbreak. Our collective treatment of them is cruel and unusual punishment. When I read about or hear the experts testify about homelessness on Maui, if I believed what I hear, I would think that it is the fault of these people for being poor, or disabled, or sick, or addicted, or owning a dog.

I do not mean to take away from the good work that is being done by the agencies and nonprofits that are already engaged. They have helped me, my family, and other families I know, yet, there are pukas and many of us remain homeless or on the edge of homelessness through no fault of our own.

Homelessness can happen to any of us, and this is certainly something COVID has brought to light. There are a multitude of causes, and there are gaps or obstacles to assisting, assisting people to return to homes. Even as I struggle with keeping a roof over my head, I have personally felt morally obligated and compelled to help Lisa Darcy with Share Your Mana. I have bought water and water bottles because people are literally thirsty. They were dying. They were becoming dehydrated, which is a serious medical condition, because the County of Maui turned off the water to them. We have to do better than this.

I am part of the community experiencing this and not being heard. And my career as an environmental scientist, I am known as a problem solver. I know to solve a problem you have to properly define the problem and invite the stakeholders in to craft a solution. This is what the Commission on Healing Solutions for Homelessness will do for Maui County; open the doors to the stakeholders to improve solutions for our homeless problem. We need this commission urgently, because obviously what we are doing is not working.

With regard to item 20-93, the monkeypods not being classified as exceptional trees, I am not familiar with all the ins and outs of that. But I do support whatever it takes to keep those monkeypods on the highway going to Wailuku. It's one of Maui's treasures.

On 20-86, I support the climate, the climate initiative.

On 20-98 and 20-101, I support term limits stricter for the Council and the Mayor.

On 20-102, Department of Agriculture, I strongly support this. I think that Maui County residents' definitions of agriculture do not always jive with what comes from the State level or from the Farm Bureau. And again, I think it's a, a case of if we're not defining problems correctly and inviting the stakeholders in, then we're not going to get solutions that really work for our community. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Are there any questions for the testifier? If not, thank you, Robin.

MS. KNOX: Okay. Aloha.

CHAIR LEE: Aloha.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person signed up to testify is Kamana Beamer. To be followed by the individual calling in from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 0496.

MR. KAMANA BEAMER (testifying on Committee Report 20-86):

Aloha mai kakou.

CHAIR LEE: Hi.

MR. BEAMER: To briefly testify my support for 20-86, the `Aina Aloha Economic Futures and transition to a circular economy. And want to thank you folks for the work and efforts on this resolution. That's all. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Oh. Okay. Thank you. Are there any questions?

Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez, are you waving? Oh, you're just waving. Okay. Thank you again. Nice seeing you.

MR. BEAMER: Mahalo.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person we have signed up to testify is the individual calling in from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 0496. To be followed by Albert Perez.

MS. JENNY PELL (testifying on County Communication No. 20-385):

Aloha. This is Jenny Pell.

CHAIR LEE: Hello.

MS. PELL: And I'm call, I'm here to testify on the COVID-free Maui and distance learning 20-385. We're experiencing an instance of a COVID exposure here in Haiku that's going out, for example, at the gathering at Baldwin Beach on Friday night at a hot yoga center. And I know that we're trying very quickly to track all those individuals from somebody who skipped out on their quarantine requirements on the first night that they arrived.

We're learning now that people are coming into Oahu and getting on interisland flights from other parts of the country who are potential dangerous vectors for our community. I think Maui needs to get really serious about having one centralized government managed COVID facility for all arrivals.

We are having record COVID cases every day now in Hawaii and we're trying to open our schools. It's not acceptable when we have solutions that are proven in other parts of the world. We could have, in a few short weeks, the ability to open all our schools without fear, protect our teachers, and protect the staff at the, at all the schools, and protect the children and the families that they go home to everyday.

If we had a shuttle at the airport that took people directly to a government managed facility where they were going to get tested and either quarantined for their full 14 days or get retested after the requisite number of days. We would then be confident that every single arrival and every single tourist has run through the proper channels and we don't have to be suspicious of them. We don't have to be afraid of them. We don't have to worry about them.

I'm monitoring several different channels on Facebook of people that are reporting in, for example, you can pick up your friend who arrived from Florida at the airport and drive them home to your bare bedroom. And you, the person who picked him up, you have no requirements to quarantine; zero. You have zero requirements to quarantine after picking up people from infected areas and other parts of this country. That's unacceptable.

If we look at how other places around the world are managing their COVID cases and dropping those numbers down to zero, such as New Zealand, we could do the exact same thing. It's not hard. Tourists pay full . . . there's a shuttle that takes them from the airport, directly to the government-managed facility. They have takeout menus. Staff at those hotels do not change their sheets. And if you're a local returning resident, your families can drop off things at the front desk. And I think that local returning residents should get to be subsidized and stay for free. And all people arriving anywhere else, and we should immediately stop interisland travel from Oahu in particular.

We have the opportunity to have local commerce, local schools, no fear, and no more COVID, and we're not getting it. This carries over to the school level clearly. Many people I know are not going to let their childrens go, children go back to school. We're all scrambling--

CHAIR LEE: Can we, could you--

MS. PELL: --to come up with solutions.

CHAIR LEE: Excuse me? Could you conclude--

MS. PELL: Yea.

CHAIR LEE: --in a minute? Thank you.

MS. PELL: Yea, I'm just about done. So, you know, I'm watching here in my community in Haiku. We know that there's a, a, been a big COVID exposure. I hope that the Department of Health has testing facilities at Baldwin Beach tonight. They're going to

hand out free masks and they're going to do contact tracing interviews. Many people who were at the Baldwin event last Friday likely do not know they were exposed to this person from New Orleans. And for all we know last Friday, they went to that beach and drove over to Hana. So, we're not taking it seriously enough. We're not having the proper measures to protect people coming interisland or from the mainland. Too many people are skipping out on quarantine and it's impacted our ability to open our schools. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Are there any questions?

If not, Mr. Clerk. Thank you to the testifier.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair, I have a question, quick question.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, Ms., Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yea, thank you. So, hi, Jenny. Thanks for your testimony.

MS. PELL: Hi, Kelly.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I just wondered if you were working with the Hale Hawaii folks on their recommendations?

MS. PELL: That's where I got the link to this meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So, you're working with them, you know, your recommendations are kind of coming from the group that's, that's . . .

MS. PELL: Well, I'm look, I'm on the COVID, you know, COVID fact site, I'm on the Hale site, I'm on a, several different sites--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay.

MS. PELL: --that are tracking COVID things and so we share information back and forth. And I've been posting since before we had even one case on Maui, because I have family at the epicenter in Italy. I've been posting suggestions and recommendations about how to keep it from coming here, and how to mitigate it now that it is here.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MS. PELL: And there's lots of examples to follow now.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Yea, no, I think, you know, I, I think the really interesting and some very doable things cause it's certainly a lot cheaper for the Federal government to even help us do your suggestions, rather than sending in the, a military unidentified and rounding up protestors and putting them in vans. So, thank you for that recommendation.

And then, my other question is, you've given us some information about an event at Baldwin Beach. Are you hearing anything other than your own experiences? Cause I hear nothing on the news when they tell us that we have one case, or two cases on Maui, you know, and they give these numbers that are largely on Oahu.

But they never say where the Maui ones are, you know, like we had two cases in Haiku, or we had, you know, so we wouldn't even know like for our people that are in this specific community in trying to stay sequestered to that community. We wouldn't even know where these cases were. But they are telling us on Oahu. You know, they'll say a Kailua man or, you know, they'll, they'll kind of give us some geographic information. Are you hearing any geographic information of the, the actual cases that we have on Maui through the news?

MS. PELL: Yes. So, the Coconut Wireless via Facebook and Instagram . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, no, no, not that. I know, I know that's, that's, that's kind of happening. But are you hearing any of that, like on the news or, you know in the--

MS. PELL: No. No. And we, we're angry. Citizens are really angry about that, you know. We need to know, for example, if the County has information that somebody was at a beach party in Lahaina, that skipped out on quarantine from New Orleans, and has been to several parties. They need to announce it right away so that we can go make sure that we weren't there, that our teenager wasn't there, that our other friend didn't go and bring it home. You know, it's like there's, there's a huge lag time of information so that people can act swiftly and--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yea, I, I totally agree, because all we're hearing is another case on Maui. But we don't know where it came from.

MS. PELL: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And we're not asking for names. We just want some more specific information, so we can one, you know, we can start researching ourselves if we have anybody in our circle of, of contact who have been in those areas. So, anyway, thank you for bringing that up, you know, and, and for that information about the Baldwin Beach event.

MS. PELL: Yes, I think that you need to have somebody on site this evening, because a lot of those young folks are not paying attention to this stuff, and they're not wearing masks, and they're not social distancing. And they're having a great time at the beach, and then off they go around the island to do what they do. And they, they go home, or they go to their younger siblings who are going to go to school next week. Or they go out to Hana like I said. It's like it's not, we're not ready for this. And the County is not enforcing it.

CHAIR LEE: Excuse me. You have one more--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: You have one more question.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Sinenci. Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo, Ms. Pell, for your testimony this morning. Just a clarification. You mentioned a traveler from New Orleans.

MS. PELL: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Do you know if that person was tested? Had tested?

MS. PELL: What we know is that the person who was infected at the yoga studio in Makawao, who has now closed their studio, the Mangala Studio, he has been tested positive. He is, has put it out there, he's cooperating very thoroughly with the Department of Health. And it looks likely, not 100 percent, that the person, Jill, from New Orleans who arrived from the mainland, left her quarantine on the first evening. She went to the Baldwin Beach party, she went to a Lahaina beach party, she went to a birthday party, and she took hot yoga classes.

We don't know where she is. She hasn't turned herself in. We don't know if she is the vector definitively. But it would be really important to take this as a lesson that we're not getting good enough quarantine from our visitors. And if it is her, she either is a vector with asymptomatic spread or she's sick somewhere, or someone's housing her, or she's camping, or she's at Red Sands Beach for all we know.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Pell. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Any other questions? If not, thank you very much for your testimony.

Mr. Clerk.

MS. PELL: Thank you. And I've, I've also put a call into Department of Health, but I haven't had a call back about having someone at Baldwin Beach. I don't know how to follow through.

CHAIR LEE: Well, we wish we could help you, but I think the Mayor's Office is probably the better, the place to call.

MS. PELL: Yea, I think we more than . . . could help.

CHAIR LEE: They, they track this daily.

MS. PELL: This is a place where we can have stop community spread tonight. It's not wishing to help. It's doing something proactive. Send me the phone number, I'll call. Or somebody from your office can call. But we need someone to call. We need someone to be there tonight.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair. Chair, just if I could just suggest.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: There is like, there's a County, there's a number, I don't have it on me right now, but there's a number the Administration gives out to call for, for information or suggestions on the Coronavirus crisis. Do you have, do we have that number that we can?

CHAIR LEE: Maybe we can--

MS. PELL: I've called.

CHAIR LEE: Go ahead. Go ahead.

MS. PELL: You should post it on your Facebook page. I'll call.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I'll get that number and post it again.

MS. PELL: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thanks.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

MS. PELL: Okay. Bye-bye.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, the next person we have signed up to testify is Albert Perez. To be followed by Sherry Kupau.

CHAIR LEE: Albert.

MR. ALBERT PEREZ, MAUI TOMORROW FOUNDATION (testifying on Resolution No. 20-102):

Good morning. Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Good morning.

MR. PEREZ: Aloha, Councilmembers. Albert Perez, Maui Tomorrow Foundation, and I'm testifying in strong support of Resolution 20-102, to move to the Charter, move to the ballot a proposed Charter amendment establishing a Department of Agriculture. And I'll summarize relative to last time.

Our existing agricultural system, for all its merits, is not providing enough locally grown food, and there are many reasons for that. But the bottom line is that if imports stop, we will be out of food in just a matter of days. We all know when a hurricane comes, like we're about to experience, how quickly the shelves empty. So, it's a dire situation and we need to remedy it as soon as possible.

A County of Maui Department of Agriculture can be a facilitator to help farmers access the programs that are out there. Farmers don't have time to be filling out paperwork to apply for grants or file grant reports when their crops need attention. The County could help make this easy for farmers, so that they can farm. On growing, growing food locally will provide jobs locally, and money will stay in the County economy that is currently being lost to outside interests. We can grow enough food to feed ourselves locally, but the current system isn't making that happen.

Now, I've been listening to some of the testimony earlier, and there is nothing in the proposed Charter amendment that would require the Department of Agriculture to create burdensome new regulations on farmers. On the contrary, the, the resolution states that the primary purpose and intent of the creation of the Department of Agriculture is to provide advocacy and not create additional regulatory barriers.

To claim that this wording leaves room for the department to do other things, like create regulation, is to ignore the fact that such an action would conflict with the primary purpose of advocacy and would therefore not be allowed. It also ignores the wording in the last part of that sentence, which says, "not create additional regulatory barriers". So, when taking it as a complete sentence, the intent is very clear and unambiguous.

And the Maui County Council, through its approval authority, can make sure that any director who's confirmed is going to concentrate on helping farmers to do what they do best. So, I urge you to approve this resolution and forward it onto the people of Maui County to make this decision. Mahalo.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you, Albert. Next. Are there any questions? If not, thank you.

MR. PEREZ: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person we have signed up to testify is Sherry Kupau to be followed by Paul Doty.

MS. SHERRY KUPAU (testifying on Committee Report 20-85):

Hello?

CHAIR LEE: Hello?

MS. KUPAU: Hi. Can you hear me?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

MS. KUPAU: Okay. Hi. I'm Sherry Kupau. Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Councilmembers. I work with the chronically homeless members through permanent supportive housing, and I'm speaking to CR 20-85. I do not support the creation of the commission. I would second what Maude has said, is that, you know, we welcome more people to join the efforts, but we don't need another commission to accomplish this.

I feel the commission would, could add another layer to the already complicated HUD, Federal and State of Hawaii rules and regulations to organizations that provide services to our homeless population. And if this body is not in agreement with the Federal and State policies, that could risk the loss of services provided by organizations and a loss of funding to the County of Maui.

For example, many of our homeless service providers are funded via multiple sources; Federal, State, and County. If proposed, the commission, the proposed commission does not understand how services are organized into the system of care and makes recommendations for funding that run counter to the system. Many of the agencies would be at grave risk.

As being part of the Homeless Alliance member for the past three years, I feel like this would, that would be like a great place to offer, you know, recommendations and collaborate as many of the members within the room are, you know, either boots on the ground or doing the service in the community and collaboration. I would say key to that would be consistency to the meetings, to be educated to know what's going forward and how the agencies are moving together, and what's coming up and what's added and, and those types of things. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

Ms. Paltin. Ms., Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Kupau, for your testimony. I just had a question about when you mention about the service providers and the Maui Homeless Alliance. Like, it seems to me like a big problem that we're seeing is there aren't service providers available to provide the service, like for the Waiale folks.

And in my speaking with the Deputy Managing Director to address homeless issues in Lahaina, there's no service providers stepping up to take on that role. And so, I mean, like, Lahaina, I think somebody else mentioned the cemetery all the way through Ukumehame is, is such a problem and, and we don't have service providers that can be found to address this. And, and so, you know, folks are coming to us like we're sitting on our hands. So, I was wondering how, how we can address the situation if it's not through doing things like this?

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Kupau.

MS. KUPAU: Hello? Yes. Can you hear me?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

MS. KUPAU: Okay. So--

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Now, I can't hear you. I heard you when you said, can you hear me? But after that, I didn't hear anything. Are you muted? Did you mute yourself?

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk, do you see her on the, on the call?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Yes, Madam Chair. Ms. Kupau is still connected to the call, and her number 0880 is unmuted. Ms. Kupau, if you're talking, we still do not hear you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I guess it wasn't that important maybe. I can't hear you either, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. I must be with her. Okay. So, if she comes back, we'll ask her, okay?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thanks.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, the next person we have to testify is Paul Doty. To be followed by Juliet Doty.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, we see them.

MR. PAUL DOTY (testifying on Committee Report 20-85):

We're here.

CHAIR LEE: We see you.

MR. DOTY: Thank you. Thank you, Chairman Lee. My wife and I have been working with Share Your Mana for over a year now. And we definitely sense Lisa's passion just like you, and I know she's, heart's in the right place and really has been working so hard for the homeless.

We believe the Commission on Healing Solutions is a, is a very good thing and, and we want to broaden the abilities. And what Tamara just mentioned, I think those are some of the solutions that could definitely help. And I, and I just want to say that any society or any government is really judged by how they deal with and help those that are the most vulnerable. And solutions need to come for everywhere to help these people, cause they are really suffering down there. And I'll turn this over to my wife. Thank you.

MS. JULIET DOTY (testifying on Committee Report 20-85):

Hi. Good, I think it's still morning, good morning, Chairman Lee and all of you Council people there. Thank you for all that you do. I fully support CR 20-85. I've been involved with Lisa in and out over the last year, but much more since COVID happened with the shutdown.

And I've been very much a part of a sandwich hui that is involving many of the local residents here where we are running a 50 to 80 sandwiches five days a week made by households with love. And these sandwiches are handed out personally by Lisa. And each sandwich is, they just love them because that's all they get to eat most of the time, some of them not; they have other avenues for food but not much.

We also collect donations. Just this morning, we went out to get a stalk of bananas and a ham that's donated, money. I had to catch up with another lady who's donating a little bit of money that she's collected at a market with her young living oils.

But down there at Kanaha and also Y. Hata, there's about 50 to 80 residents that just so on the edge made, made their quite creative hovels out of whatever's available literally, you know, the wood that comes up with the ocean waves. And it's quite deplorable.

We've also connected with a dry cleaner who's donating her machines once a week to wash the blankets, and the sheets, and the towels. We've got another hui that we're trying to create with laundry to wash their really dirty clothes. But at least they get washed for them.

I'm trying to pull up, and over the, over the time we've created 1500 sandwiches, we also created first-aid care packages, just basic toothbrushes, toothpaste, band-aids, you know, Neosporin, basic needs, and handed out. Lisa's created them and put shampoos, and conditioners, and combs, and whatever the needs are, you know, tampax for the women, just basic needs that we don't even think about. And Lisa has prepared these packs and handed them out, along with other volunteers.

So, Lisa carries her passion. She also takes people to the ER. She also, I remember last week when I was with her, she was organizing to take one lady, Margie, to get some psychology help because she was very confused and troubled.

And it's really not even scratching the surface of the help that's needed. So, I really back this, this Healing Commission so that we can help the homeless and really come together with some really practical solutions and create a foundational structure that can hold these people from falling through cracks that we can't even yet see. So, thank you so much for your time.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you very much. Are there any questions? If not, thank you again for coming and joining us.

MS. DOTY: Aloha. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, before proceeding, I do want to let the body know that it looks like Sherry Kupau is back in the meeting.

CHAIR LEE: Oh. Well, let's call her up again.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Ms. Kupau, you've been unmuted so that Councilmember Paltin could proceed with her questions.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Kupau, are you there? We can barely hear her.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: We see her numbers, but perhaps she's still experiencing technical difficulties.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Let's proceed with the next person.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Yes, Madam Chair. The next person up to testify then is Faith Chase. To be followed by Jill Paresa Rogoff.

MS. FAITH CHASE (testifying on Committee Report 20-85):

Aloha, Chair Lee. Aloha, Council. I'm, I'm testifying in support of the Commission on Healing Solutions for the Homelessness. I, to answer Tasha's question, this wasn't going to be part of my testimony, but after I listened to her question, what do you do

when you see an injured, you know, houseless person with an open wound? Let me tell you what you do, you go to Alive & Well and you buy the big bottle for \$20 of eucalyptus oil, because they can sprinkle that eucalyptus oil all around where they are and it helps keep the flies off of the open wounds. This is just one thing that I've learned working and watching Lisa Darcy with Share Your Mana.

I know I've testified in every Committee meeting up until now. I agree with the founda, foundational structure points that people have made, the Doty couple before me. That's what it's really about. I told you early on that I went to a meeting with the Housing and Human Concerns. And at the meeting's end, I, everybody got up and I refused to get up, because there was no direct action step to be taken. And I had to hold that Department's hand in what, how to deal with me, and Lisa, and her other guest that was with us to, to provide solutions, like to, to, to segway to, to, to keep those conversations going.

I stayed seated while everybody else was in that room. I said, how about this? How about I send you an email, thank you for this meeting today. This is what we have in mind, and we can start dialogue that way? And then Ms. Tshako went to go get her business card and hand it to me.

There is no mechanism for people who have great ideas. Not just in this area, I've heard other people come to your County Council and say, I'd do it for free, I'd do this and that. There's no, every department needs some sort of mechanism to take creative ideas and certainly volunteer community time. So, I'm really, really, to me, there is no choice. If you have bifurcating the Department of Housing and Human Concerns on the same, within the same timeframe, that is, should be a, a loud enough alarm that something has to be done.

This, I'm very excited that this is on the table. I plan on making sure that I put in an application to perhaps be on this commission or at least watch these if they're public meetings. I, it's been horrendous and hard to sit through the Maui Homeless Alliance meetings. I, if, if, if they're, if they're overworked and overburdened, and they can't, don't even have time to be on this commission, then that's just another telltale sign that they need help of any fashion. We should throw everything we got at it, especially with this, this storm around the corner. It's just disastrous.

And thank you for everybody for putting up with me in all the Committee meetings and listening. You know, I, this is new to me, but I have intrinsically think I've, like, developed an opinion around it, having stared at it for four months straight, because my issues have been dormant. So, it's, I don't want to believe that it was in vain. So, please, thank you for pushing this commission forward. I don't see any other option. Mahalo.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Are there any questions? If not, Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person up to testify is Jill Paresa Rogoff. To be followed by Lisa Kahaleauki.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

MS. JILL PARESA ROGOFF (testifying on Committee Report 20-102):

Aloha. This is Jill Paresa Rogoff. Can you hear me?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

MS. ROGOFF: Okay. I'm calling to testify on behalf of the Department of Agriculture. I currently am a grandmother, a mother, I work as a kupuna in the school. But mostly, I've become a small farmer with my son and, and a friend. And we have found that this endeavor has been, although it's been a lot of work, it's also been quite rewarding in that we're, we're having quite a bit of food, more than we expected actually, to share with those around us. So, as we go along, we're learning this is a, it's not totally brand new to me. My husband, who passed away 13 years ago was a farmer. He was, specifically a Native Hawaiian plants and a kalo farmer, so I do have a background in this, but I haven't done it for quite a while. I will be 70 years old in two years and I'm hoping that when I retire from being a kupuna that I can be a full-time farmer.

The reason I'm in support of this is, number one, I believe we really, really need all of this because with all that is going on, on our islands, in our islands, in the world, the cost of living in our home is getting kind of outrageous. And me, just like everybody, I'm grateful I have family, I have people around me. I don't think my kids would let anything happen to me. But nevertheless, it, I have so many friends who struggle just to put food on the table. And so, I, I really feel that I hope that this Department of Agriculture would be a tool that would help small farmers, or big farmers, all farmers.

It is, seems to me very ridiculous that we cannot provide food locally at a price that doesn't break anyone's bank. And especially our taro, because we, who doesn't like to eat, you know, Hawaiian food and you can't have Hawaiian food without poi. And just to feed my small family of six, if everyone is here, if I had to buy the poi, you're looking at about \$100, because we all love poi. That's kind of ridiculous. In our own land, where this place use to provide enough food for the whole State, you know, way back when. It's just kind of ridiculous that we have to rely on the boats. We shouldn't have to.

But then, the farmers need more help. So, I'm calling on behalf of that. We need help with materials, with, you know, we have a, a tiller that recently went down. We're trying to fix it; those kinds of things. And even information and help getting us, you know, together with other farmers and ways to distribute our food, you know. Basically, we're doing it to, to give to our families, but our first plot of kalo, we're looking at 400 huge kalo plants; that's a lot of kalo. We will not be able to eat all of that. To distribute that.

CHAIR LEE: Can you please, can you please conclude your testimony?

MS. ROGOFF: Yes.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

MS. ROGOFF: Also, we have more space up on the farm that we are, we're leasing this land, we don't own it, and it's been very reasonable; it's a friend of mine. So, we're looking at growing other vegetables and things which we have started. But we'd also like more learning, more teaching, more advice. We are doing completely organic whole farming. It's really awesome. We also have a couple, some sheep up there. We've been able to make an area for sheep. So, there's so much possibility because we do have so much land here.

And I think, if I can do it at 68 years old, I know there are other people who can do it. And there's such a joy in it. So, that's all, that's all I have to say. I support this Department of Agriculture, so that they can support us, I hope.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo, Aunty Jill Paresa for, for waiting all this time to, to tell us your testimony. I just had a quick question for you. With your surplus, has it, I know that you guys mahele to, to immediate family. Has there, has there been any problems to getting your surplus to market, those types of things?

MS. ROGOFF: Actually, so far, we really haven't, no, we haven't had a surplus because you, we're, I'm, I'm working with three Hawaiian families; myself, my son, and his friend. We're all Hawaiian families and we all have large families. So, you know, even though we've had 80 pounds of taro at one point, you know, at one, one harvesting, that went so quickly just between the families.

But I'm looking at our first plot, which is, it's going to be close to, yea, maybe 800 pounds of taro or 1,000 pounds of taro. I don't think we're going to harvest it all at once for that very reason; it's so much. But I honestly don't think there's going to be,

hard getting rid of it, cause who doesn't want poi? You know, and certainly, even if we sell it, which we haven't even thought about doing yet, it's not going to be at \$9 a pound, which is currently what it is in the store.

So, no, we need suggestions on all of that, you know. I, I'm thinking of, you know, helping the kupuna organizations, and maybe going to the schools, but school isn't open yet and things like this. So many possibilities that we're, we're just young, we're just starting. So, we're open. We're open to help, we're open to suggestions, we're open to learning. I, I'd like to look into hydroponics or aquaponics. That seems to be very, very eco-friendly and not that hard to do. So, I hope I answered your question.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes, you have. Mahalo, Aunty Jill. Thank you for being here. Be safe.

MS. ROGOFF: Oh, we will. You too, Shane. Thank you, Councilmembers.

CHAIR LEE: One more question.

Ms. King

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Rogoff. I know you've been here since the beginning of the meeting today. I saw your picture come up briefly, so thanks for waiting for so long and for your input. I'm, I'll, I, I might be the only one on this Council that actually is farming as well. And I just wanted to, two things, one, I wanted to mention the Maui Hub, which is a place that could help you with food distribution if we get to the point where you have excess. But the question I had for you, and thank you for your support of putting the issue of the Department of Agriculture on the ballot, have you ever tried to access the State Department of Agriculture for assistance?

MS. ROGOFF: I'm so new to this that really most of my time is spent over there on the farm. Just like a gentleman said earlier, you know, my forte is not all the paperwork and all that stuff. I like going out on the land and digging, and propagating and, and getting dirty. But it's, there's so much that we have to learn. We're learning this together. It's my son, his girlfriend, his, his best friend, and his girl. They're all young. I'm the only old foggy here. And we're learning as we're going and, and I have to say we're doing a really, really, really good job, but it would be really nice to hook up with anybody . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, yea. There's a lot, you know, there are local grants available. And there's some Federal and State grants available--

MS. ROGOFF: . . . that too. We would . . . get some help getting our--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, congratulations on, on where you're at today. It's not, farming is not easy, as you know. And, and, but I, I'm, it really makes me so hopeful when I hear people like you who, who see the joy in it. And so, I just really wanted to give you that contact to mauihub.org.

MS. ROGOFF: Thank you. Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Sure. Alright, thank you. Aloha. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you for being so helpful. Are there any other questions? You know, we do have some other farmers, you know, on, on the team; the one on Molokai and I don't know if Mr. Sinenci has farming going there also?

Mr. Clerk, anybody else? I think we're down to about two or three people?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, we currently have, yes, four people left to testify, signed in. The next testifier is Zhan Lindo. To be followed by Thelma Akita Kealoha.

MS. ZHAN LINDO (testifying on Committee Report 20-85):

Aloha, Council. Thank you so much for this opportunity. I would just like to disclose that I was one of the authors of the resolution for CR 20-85. And I want to make clear that there's some confusion about why that resolution came up. And it was really a personal thing. I've been dealing with the homeless over here on Molokai for the last five And the Councilmember and I were continuing to see the lack of representation and really taking our suggestions for how to handle and mitigate the homeless problem on our community, seriously.

And, and I also want to disclose that I had a wonderful relationship with Lisa and the people at Family Life Center. So, everything I'm going to testify about has to do directly minus emotions or personal feelings of how things are done, but strictly according to what I heard through testimony and feedback. Cause I did reach back personally with a total of three direct emails and 11 conversations over a period of about a month and a half between all major stakeholders that were available to talk about this homeless issue, including the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, the Family Life Center, and the Homeless Alliance heads.

So, first thing is the concern about the commission role being a duplication of current, the current Maui Homeless Alliance and what the role would be. To me, the Alliance is comprised of a current service providers with a single goal and mission. The

commission would be compromised of various stakeholders and direct representation from every district offering a documented and intentful policy of community input and engagement, and in, and fostering the empowerment of the community to be involved in solutions.

The Homeless Alliance is a group of individuals and an organization that operates outside of the County's direct involvement or safety controls and benefits. And the commission would be created as a direct benefit to all residents and districts of Maui County with standard commission safeguards, legal representation, and beneficial resources as a legal obligation to transparency through community public process and notifications.

The, the other concern was that the commission would have too much power to make recommendations on fundings. The commission would make recommendations based on predetermined benchmarks. The current method of dealing with homelessness does not have an obligation to audit or the success or failure of funding programs and initiatives, and thus, the County continues to fund programs and support current directives because it's still looking at the overwhelming problem, rather than the efficiency of the plan.

The commission gives the community the direct opportunity to see where government supports, and monies are being spent. Rural districts like Molokai and Lanai are left out of the current discussion and, regarding to homelessness or sitting at the table with the current Maui Homeless Alliance. None of the organization's policies designate a seat to ensure that our island is included.

There is a current system in place that is not, the concern was that there is a current system in place and it's not a time to establish the commu, the commission. The current system, though it is intended for good, and Family Life Center does their best at their specific area of service, it is not enough.

The commission is a new and innovative approach to safely proactively move forward with innovative and out of the box solutions that are not or cannot currently be addressed. Molokai, for example, does not want to have a shelter. That should be our prerogative, but it absolutely should not be a reason for no help or limited services. Our residents should not have to comply to one approach or house, for housing or homelessness that is agreed on by one specific group.

The commission offers a venue for comprehensive, collaborative, and transparent engagement of all the affective areas and people within a community. And the resolution specifically gives a seat to the Alliance, so the intent was never to duplicate or exclude them, but rather to include them as a more efficient collaboration.

The major differences I see between the current system and the group is that the Alliance focuses on services, and the commission would focus on holistic approach to dealing with homelessness and poverty, and intentfully seek a relationship and resources to achieve that holistic focus instead of just focusing on houses. The Alliance is a membership organization and limited to the extent of public engagement or representation. And the commission offers inclusion of all districts and sectors of the homeless community, and it gives maximum opportunity for community engagement.

The Alliance does not have or propose any policy or funding initiatives to the Council. And the commission, from its inception, is focused on improving and supporting policies and funding that effectively address ending homelessness in Maui County. Perhaps the most biggest difference I see is that the current system does not believe or see an end to homelessness to Maui County. And the commission is dedicated to the in, and intended to end homelessness and poverty in Molokai. The commission is an attempt to approach this homeless issue from a place of opportunity rather than fear. And it is also a positive way for us to be engaged, where we are not otherwise allowed to be engaged.

I wanted also address lastly, the last testifier's comment about risk of losing funding. I totally disagree that a commission would have that effect. In fact, on the contrary, the better more efficient plan, or the things that work, would foster more support from funders. That's just a commonsense approach to, to everything. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Are there any questions for Ms. Lindo?

Yes, Ms. Tamara Paltin, and then Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha, Ms. Lindo. Thank you for being here and for your work and testimony. I just was wondering, if you had wanted to join the Homeless Alliance, is there opportunity to do so from Molokai?

MS. LINDO: So, I, I, I actually was trying to get a hold of them. And I went to the website trying to find how to get in touch with them. It gave an email address and then I reached out to Lisa from Family Life, because that was my connection to any of the resources for homelessness from the County. She was so helpful. She gave me some names of two people who were heading the Homeless Alliance. I emailed them a total of 11 different conversations and three direct approaches and never got any response back. Everything I read on their website does elude to the fact that they are not exclusive and that they do include. But I will say that it took much effort, as a

community member when I was trying to do this, to get any kind of a response, which I haven't up until now, or to say that there was an effort made to engage the community.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And you were speaking of Lisa Kahaleauki?

MS. LINDO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

MS. LINDO: Who is wonderful, by the way. I love her.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I agree. I agree totally. Okay. Thank you for clarifying that for me.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Lindo. Mahalo for your testimony and for your work on this bill. So, you talked about holistic and I just, I wanted, I was hoping you would be able to elaborate on what that means. And in your experience what that means for individuals and the regulations that are currently in place restricting unsheltered individuals from keeping emotional support with them?

MS. LINDO: Sure. Thanks for the question. So, one of the comments I heard from Maude was that people refuse the service and then, you know, the, the Council asked what happens. And, and basically is nothing happens. And so, my view and approach on that when we started to put this resolution together and this approach was that people are going to refuse service based on a number of different things. Either you mentally or emotionally inept, or not able to make a good decision for yourself. Or the solution that is being given to you is not something that is your desire. It's not the way you want to live, so, so just because somebody doesn't want to live in a home doesn't mean they don't, that they want to be homeless.

And so, one of the things this resolution does is give an opportunity to look at the kauhale, the kauhale method of lifestyle which our Hawaiian people used. And it addressed not just having a community of people with the same sort of problems and concerns, but that we have the emotional supports of people who understand our plight. And so, we don't have to tax the system by saying, you know, individually and fragmented going around trying to get help.

But as opposed to just having a house where you're left alone, this commission is able to address when we put in a home, are you in the place that best and most efficiently helps you to cure the homelessness that is within you. And that's the part that we

missing. You can put sick people or people who are, are less than and they've struggling and they feeling all these things into a home. But if you don't doctor them and there's no healing approach to that, then we've failed.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Lindo. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Any other questions? If not, thank you, Ms. Lindo.

MS. LINDO: Thank you. Mahalo.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person we have signed up to testify is Thelma Kealoha. To be followed by Trinette Furtado.

CHAIR LEE: Thelma, are you there? Do you see her there?

MS. THELMA AKITA-KEALOHA, MAUI HOMELESS ALLIANCE (testifying on Committee Report 20-85):

Aloha. Good afternoon.

CHAIR LEE: Oh.

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: Oh, okay, great. I'm glad to be unmuted. But thank you for letting me take the time to voice the opinion of, I'm representing the Maui Homeless Alliance, regarding the formation of this commission. So, this is in regards to CR 20-85. And I appreciate being given the time to provide testimony. I kind of messed up my written testimony, sent it in late, and I got on this, this call late. And I already disconnected once so, you know, I apologize. I'm having some issues with technology here, obviously. So, I did send in a written testimony, however, and I will be reading from that. And I'll try to read as quickly as I can, cause I know there's time constraints.

So, we do appreciate all your work with, to help us serve our homeless population on Maui. The Maui Homeless Alliance really believes that getting people into housing, wrapping around services that maintain, keep them housed and identify other needed services is the compassionate response for our homeless population. We are agreeable to share information, data, statistics and information about Housing First, the Continuums of Care in Hawaii, homeless services and outreach programs in our County. We appreciate being asked to participate in providing solutions to end

homelessness and want to work together with Maui County, the County Council, the Mayor, and the community, definitely, to find solutions.

So, we do have concerns about the forming of the commission, and I will tell you what they are. We did question what the holistic approaches to homelessness and mental health were. In the past, getting chronically homeless folks into housing was on the backburner and many providers were providing charitable responses to people's needs but this was not getting it, them into housing or finding ways to house chronically homeless individuals and families. In fact, what most of these organizations discovered is that the charitable giving enabled people to remain in their comfort zones and therefore, many of them refused services or available housing that was offered to them.

Currently, services offered to the unsheltered population are based on national best practices and regulated by HUD and the State of Hawaii. Some dollars are also provided by the County of Maui, as you well know. HUD mandates policies and guidelines for the requirements and function and funding of programs within the two Continuums of Care, which Oahu is one and the Balance of State is Hawaii Island, Kauai, and Maui. Knowing that the proposed commission could make funding or programmatic recommendations may jeopardize funding we receive from HUD and the State of Hawaii and could put our organizations that work with this population at risk.

Maui is in alignment with many States, HUD, Oahu, Hawaii Island, and Kauai in the Housing First approach of providing services to our homeless population. Maui does an annual Point in Time Count of homeless individuals/families that has shown a steady decrease in unsheltered homeless for at least two years in a row. And we have guests--

CHAIR LEE: Thelma, can you, Thelma, can you conclude your testimony please?

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: Sure.

CHAIR LEE: Just some . . .

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: We are also, yea. We're concerned about the, the layering, because we already have to follow HUD and Federal, State of Hawaii rules and regulations. And we're concerned that if the commission is not in agreement with this that it will jeopardize the programs.

And I guess, you know, we just, the Maui Homeless Alliance is not just service providers. I don't get any County funding for the organization I work with. But we do have an interest in homelessness, obviously, otherwise I wouldn't be part of the

Homeless Alliance. And although we provide homeless services on different islands, we still don't get County funding and we have limited State funding. We don't, you know, we don't get HUD funding.

There's a lot, lot of members that are not service providers, but are interested people to the issue of homelessness. And my apologies to folks who haven't been getting the information that they can apply for membership and get a waived fee to become a member. We do have a membership committee and they, they sent out the applications for that.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Well, thank you.

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: And I do apologize. Sure. Thank, thank you for, for you know, allowing me to come in at this late time. We should have responded earlier.

CHAIR LEE: No, no, that's fine. That's fine. Are there any questions?

Ms. King and then Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Just real quickly. Yea, thank you for your testimony today. I, no, you're not late. We're still on testimony, so we appreciate you showing up. Appreciate all the voices. I just, I, I heard you say something about the waived fee. So, you have a fee to join the Homeless Alliance?

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: It is a member, it's a member organization. So, a lot of the organi, you know, people who are representing organizations sometimes do pay a fee; Catholic Charities pays a fee, several of the larger organizations do pay a fee. But for smaller agencies, we are able to waive. Like, we invite Veteran Services. They do outreach and they, you know, they work with getting their clients, their homeless veterans into housing. We have waived the fee for them. All they'd have to do was apply for membership and requested a waiver. And so, the membership committee looks at that and, and approves the waiver so, so these folks can be actual members, not just attend meetings.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So, can individuals become members--

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: --if they don't have a agency?

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And how much does that cost?

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: They can ask for a waive, they can, they can be a non-voting member, or they can ask for a waiver to vote.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. But what is the fee for individuals to become members?

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: I, I don't have that in front of me. But I can get you that answer certainly.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Yea, I, I'd be interested in that. Okay.

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: Individuals members.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yea.

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And how you participate. And then, you know, I'm assuming that there's a way to participate in your meetings without paying a fee or being a member?

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: Right, right. Yes. We have a--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Where the meetings are a bunch of public--

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: We have a bunch of people, you know, from different areas that do participate--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: --in the meetings. And all us, as well, have been doing the Zoom meetings, just because we can't be meeting face to face. And so, you know, people who want to join in, we can send links to, to the meetings.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Alright. Thank you for that.

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: You're welcome.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Akita-Kealoha. Mahalo for your testimony today.

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: Hi.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, in, in response to Member King's question, you said that the general public would be able to be voting or non-voting members?

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: Yes. People can join as a voting or non-voting member. Cause, so we have, we have right now 14 individuals and organizations that are voting members and a group of people who are members but, you know, they, they don't have voting privileges and they choose not to. And then when we have people who attend the meetings to get more information, participate, know what's going on because they're, they're partner organizations. So, they may not provide direct services, but they're really interested in what's going on in this arena.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. Okay and then to clarify, I heard your concerns are about the Continuum of Care and jeopardizing funding. But overall, you are supportive of establishing a Commission on Healing Solutions for Homelessness?

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: I, I personally am not. But as the Homeless Alliance, we didn't talk about whether we were going to oppose verbally, but that we had these concerns before we could say whether we thought it would be a good idea or not. Because, you know, we've moved forward together with the State and with the Federal government and HUD, and we don't want, you know, we don't want to be backtracking.

We do have data and statistics for you folks, and I believe Joyce Kawakami had an, had an article in the paper today with some of those statistics and how Housing First has helped chronically homeless get into housing. And, and even for Housing First, one of the things that they, they do is they put people into housing, and they maintain them in the housing, and they provide wrap-around services for those folks. And we also do have outreach services. But you know, I, I agree, there is a mental health problem on the island, there is substance abuse on the island that does need to be addressed.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, you, Ms. Akita-Kealoha, in your personal capacity, do not support the homeless commission. But the Maui Homeless Alliance does not take a position, nor does the--

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: Not the--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --Catholic Charities, which is the organization you're with? Clarify.

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: You're asking about Catholic Charities Hawaii, which is a private nonprofit organization. I speak on behalf of my organization when I--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, what organization?

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: --also, for Catholic Charities Hawaii. We would, on Maui, we would not support the commission. And I personally also would not support the commission.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then--

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: But, you're right, we haven't taken that, right. We haven't taken that stand as the Homeless Alliance, but we did have concerns to the forming of the commission.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo.

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

MS. AKITA-KEALOHA: Thanks.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Thank you very much.

Mr. Clerk, how many testifiers do we have left?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, we currently have six more individuals signed up to testify. The next person up to testify is Trinette Furtado. To be followed by Rynette Ipo Keen.

CHAIR LEE: Trinette.

MS. TRINETTE FURTADO (testifying on County Communication No. 20-385; Committee Reports 20-85 and 20-86; and Resolution No. 20-102):

Aloha mai. Can you hear me, Councilmembers?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

MS. FURTADO: Aloha, Alice. Hauoli la hanau. I just wanted to say that before I get into my testimony.

CHAIR LEE: Aloha.

MS. FURTADO: My name is Trinette Furtado. I, I'm a resident of Kula and I mahalo all of you for the opportunity to testify. I know this agenda is very packed and this will be a long meeting for you all, so I'm really appreciative that you're taking on all of these issues.

The first one that I'm going to be testifying on is CC 20-385, on student distant learning. And I fully support the passage of this resolution, because as I know for just my daughter's school, there are many students who do not have access to computers let alone the internet. And not just in rural areas that already have bad cell service or no wireless service, but even those that are clustered in town and in Hawaiian Homelands.

So, I full support the County, you know, assisting our schools, possibly looking at refurbishing any old or unused inventory perhaps that we have on both the administrative and executive sides that we might be able to offer schools to supply students.

I know that we have a Wi-Fi bus that went out to East Maui and, you know, I'm hoping perhaps we may be able to furnish more of those and work in partnership with the schools or to assist the schools in offering hotspots. Which is something that King Kekaulike, last night in a Zoom parent meeting, had suggested could be given to students that needed that assistance.

Especially with this quarantine, I do know that a lot of parents are quite concerned about close contact and having that kind of thing especially for younger students in school. And so, any way that we can keep our keiki from being disrupted in their education is, is of utmost importance, I think, during this quarantine, you know, when thinking about ourselves holistically. So, I fully support that resolution.

The next item I'm testifying on is CR 20-85, the houseless commission. And I've been hearing a lot of testimony. And in my na'au, I, I've been hearing that there is anxiety and there is fear around funding and either the decrease of it or the, the, the utter removal of it. A lot of the people and the organizations that testified would still be able to do so even if we had a commission. They'd still be able to be part of the commission, have a seat and be crafting policies that advocate and help to solve and implement some of the actions and the ideas.

I've heard that we've tried everything and, and we're, we're managing it, that we're trying to get people thirsty. And for me, people are already thirsty. We, we don't want to keep them thirsty. We, we want to give them sustenance. We want to give them

wai. I mean, the same like we would to our children, to our extended families. You know, for individuals, the idea that individual choose to be houseless. If it is a choice, it's one that they don't come to easily.

For many who have pets that have tried our rental housing market and have found that they cannot take them, for many of them these pets not only provide security, but companionship that assists their overall mental health. They become integral parts of that family unit. And, you know, to ask a person to separate from a being that has been that comfort and that security not only mentally but physically, to keep other people, other bad people away from wherever they're camping is very important. And, and we need to look at that and include those kinds of ideas.

Yes, there are some people that don't want to live in four walls and a roof. They shouldn't be penalized for that. You know, we should have a kauhale. We should have spaces at Pu'uohonua. This is the way we used to live before in wa'a kahiko. And, you know, these kinds of ways encourage more social, more socializing, more help between each other rather than separating and taking things for only me and hoarding them. And that's what I'm seeing is happening a lot here. You know, there's, the, the numbers are rising. It's not that we, well, we're seeing more of it because there is more of it. More people are losing--

CHAIR LEE: Trinette. Trinette, can you conclude please?

MS. FURTADO: Oh, on this item. I have several more items.

CHAIR LEE: Yea. Okay.

MS. FURTADO: I'll conclude on the homeless item.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

MS. FURTADO: There, you know, not having discussions, you know, is based on keeping status quo, you know, with the people that are in the current conversations now, you know, is, is the doing the same things, expecting different results. And it's obvious just that's not working. We know nothing is done in a vacuum here. There will be opportunities for testifying. They'll still exist. For everyone that is worried or concerned, there are seats at this particular table and voices for this commission.

Okay, so CR 20-86, the 'Aina Aloha Economic Futures. Really quickly, we are in a time of crisis. We do need to look at something that is more aina-based, more locally based and produces a more circular economy for us. This is how we're going to thrive.

The last one is Resolution 20-102, the Department of Agriculture. As a kanaka, for me, the pa'i'ai issue, making that legal through the State took an awfully long time. And I believe, I feel that if we had a local department of ag here, we could have had an entity to strongly advocate on behalf of kalo farmers here in the County for that pa'i'ai issue to have possibly, you know, been passed quicker. That's just one.

There will be more issues that come up in the future that, you know, kanaka farmers, when providing food, providing mea 'ai, 'ai pono to, to everyone, to our lahui. We need some, we need an entity that is comprised of the other smaller entities that provides that advocating voice as a, you know, as a home rule for us. Because we do see that, with the Jones Act, with imports and shipping, and these kinds of things that are already a worry during pandemics and during natural disasters and big events, that we do need to focus on how we as a three-island community, and then within each island, are able to supply and sustain ourselves, our, our food resources to make sure that what we're putting into our aina and to our bodies is pono and is healthy.

This isn't for further regulation. In fact, I believe that a department here is an extended arm of the Department of Agriculture, the State Department. We've seen and heard a lot of times how they're beleaguered; they need more assistance; they need more staff. A department based here, within Maui County, knows firsthand all of the issues, because they've included all of the stakeholders to get a better idea. They're out in the fields; they are our farmers; they are the people that supply our food.

And I think it's very important that we have something like that that we can provide, again, continued advocacy. And we can look at policies on the State level and see how are they going to affect our County farmers. So, I wholeheartedly support that Department of Ag. That's the last item I have. Thank you so much for the opportunity and the time to testify on all of those. And I hope the rest of the meeting flows smoothly.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Are there any questions for Trinette? Apparently not, so thank you, Trinette.

MS. FURTADO: Thank you, Alice.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk. Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Chair, the next person we have signed up to testify is Rynette Ipo Keen. To be followed by Jen.

MS. RYNETTE IPO KEEN (testifying on Committee Report 20-85 and Resolution No. 20-102):

Aloha mai. My name is Rynette Ipo Keen. I'm calling to just tell you that as a person who has experienced being unhoused, being able to afford my own place for eight and a half years, these, this commission is a light of hope.

Listen, I have worked diligently with our community, with the homeless population, and many of them still feel disenfranchised with the agencies that are available. You know, we're forcing people into homes, one they cannot really afford, and after a while the support stops as was the case in my particular case. And I lived off of one dollar a month. I live on social security disability. I am in school fulltime to, to learn a new skill so that I can get back in the workforce with the disabilities that I have. And it's not easy, it's not easy. The Ross parking lot was my home for months. And now that's not even available as a safe place for our unhoused.

I ask you please support this commission to allow people that are truly experienced in homelessness to have a voice at the table. I appreciate all the homeless coalitions, or, you know, all these agencies coming together. But, you know, the real thing is self-determination, yea? Allowing people to live in, in the environment that they are comfortable with.

I am entitled to a service animal, but I can't have one because I am in a group home. And this is hard, because my animals are on Molokai, where I lived for five years, five years in a house. Molokai needs help. This is one of the great reasons I am going back to school for being a social worker, and another reason I'm running for office, because people are not listening to us, the people. We need help.

I also support the Department of Agriculture, because the current organizations are not supporting all farmers. We need more help for our farmers, our ranchers, and to be able to become self-sustainable.

I want to thank you for the time for allowing me to come forward and speak before you. I didn't get the notice till late, so I apologize for not having a, a prepared statement, but thank you. Thank you for all you do. And I ask that you please support these bills. We need them. The people of Hawaii deserve a voice at the table and not to pay a membership or having membership waived to be able to participate, because I was one of those applicants that went and searched to become a part of the homeless group that they have now. I can't afford it.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Thank you.

MS. KEEN: So, thank you very much. Have a blessed day.

CHAIR LEE: You too. Thank you. Are there any questions?

Ms. King.

MS. KEEN: Yes? Oh, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Hello, Ms. Keen. Thank you for your, your testimony and for sharing your story, you know, we appreciate it. I was, I'm going to ask you the question I was trying to get an answer to in the, with the previous testifiers. What were, what was the charge that you were being charged? We got a testifier on here that maybe can mute that person. Thank you. What was the charge that you were being charged to be a member of the Homeless Alliance?

MS. KEEN: I couldn't find that. But, I, I believe--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MS. KEEN: Yea, I, I did--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, when you said you couldn't--

MS. KEEN: --download their application.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MS. KEEN: No. Listen, my, I live on social security disability. One, I cannot find a single place to rent of my own. I'm 61 years old.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: But you said you couldn't afford to be a member of the Homeless Alliance. And so, just wondering what it was they were charge--

MS. KEEN: They had, they had memberships like \$200. They had a membership like \$150. They had membership like \$65, when I looked. Whether it's still that, I don't know. But I will tell you, even that in my budget, is beyond measure. And, you know, I should not be charged a membership fee to have a seat at the table. I'm a citizen. I am kanaka maoli. I am part of this island. I should have a free seat to be able to vote on measures, to be able to say this does not work. What works in the mainland doesn't work here. We, we, we grow up, grow up with different standards and different lifestyles. And we have to stop being forced to accept the American lifestyle. We are in Hawaii after all.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you.

MS. KEEN: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you for that answer. I appreciate it.

CHAIR LEE: Was there another question? If not, thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, that was it. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

MS. KEEN: Mahalo.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

MS. KEEN: A hui hou.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, the next person we have signed up to testify is Jen. To be followed by Thomas Croly.

MS. JENNIFER KARACA (testifying on Resolution No. 20-102):

Hi. My name is Jennifer Karaca. Sorry, not just Jen, but.

CHAIR LEE: Hi, Jen.

MS. KARACA: Hi. Happy Birthday, Alice.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

MS. KARACA: So, I just wanted to, to testify today, cause I heard some testimony earlier, and read some last night, that I shared with some of the groups that we've been working on for the Department of Ag resolution. And it seems like the groups that got testimony and provided it didn't get the newer version of the resolution. That was kind of a consensus that the groups that I talked to, because they were still citing regulation

as, you know, kind of the major reason why they didn't support, and like more hurdles for farmers, and that's clearly not the intent. So, that's one thing I wanted to kind of bring up.

And then, you know, taking out the word "primary" could, could really negatively impact the department, because we really don't know all of the things that this department needs to do. So, to pigeonhole them to say these are the only things that they can work on, might be kind of not a great thing to do with a beginning department that hasn't, like, fully established everything that they need to do in the beginning. It can also be changed later down the road if that needs to be taken out. But I don't see the, a reason that it needs to be taken out right now. And all the groups that we did work with don't really want it taken out. So, to listen to one group because they want it, but haven't really come with the table to meet with the other groups, I feel like it's kind of unfair.

I hope that the Council listens to the community and moves this forward. You know, we're willing and able to sit down with anybody that wants to sit down and has worries, or cares, or wants to express anything in that. We have the time. That's why we put the deadline out further than the other Charter amendments so that we have time to get that community feedback. So, that's just what I wanted to say.

And, you know, we've got a hurricane coming. We're looking at all of the chaos on the mainland. And I just want to say, like, there's a really good quote that says, you know, "change is inevitable and growth is optional". Right now, we're going to experience change no matter what. We have to decentralize things. We have to become self-sufficient. For us, growth is not really an option right now. We have to grow and start taking better care of ourselves and our islands and becoming more self-sufficient, because we don't know what's going to happen with the Federal government on the, you know, on the mainland side. Right now, it's looking very scary.

So, we need to start putting in place steps to be prepared if something should happen. So, that's what I want to say. Like, this is really eminent, and we need to start putting these steps forward. So, waiting another two years to talk it over could be really detrimental for community and all the residents that live here.

I also want to support the distance learning.

And I want to support the houseless commission too. I do work with houseless and food distribution and things. And, you know, I think there's a lot of amazing agencies out there, but there can be more. There's always more effort. And I think change is really scary for some people, and they feel like maybe they've been the ones doing the work for so long that if something else comes it's just going to add to their plate. But

we're really trying to expand the help for them and give them more opportunities to be supported.

And I think that, you know, looking at it from that perspective rather than like a threat to the current organizations that are operating, and they don't want new organizations or they didn't want more, you know, people talking about these issues. It's, it's kind of like a fear mindset and we, we kind of just need to push past that. We all need to work together.

We need to, you know, find new solutions, look for new and different technologies and, you know, and resolutions in, in both agriculture and homelessness because neither of those issues are getting better. They've continually gotten worse. So, it just shows that we need more help in those areas. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Are there any questions? If not, thank you, Jen.

MS. KARACA: Thanks. Bye.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person we have signed up to testify is Thomas Crolly. Followed by Leslee Matthews.

MR. THOMAS CROLY [testifying on Bill No. 77 (2020)]:

Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Hi.

MR. CROLY: And Happy Birthday to you and thank you for spending it serving the people of Maui. I just want to make a quick comment on Bill No. 77, the circuit breaker amendments that you're making. Again, I'll reiterate that I love this program. I think this program is great for helping people not be taxed out of their homes. And I agree with most of the amendments that have been made.

However, you did change "adjusted gross income" to "gross income" in the definition. And I, I understand the reason for that. But unfortunately, I think that may create a problem in that there is no such thing on a tax form as "gross income". There is only "total income" and "adjusted gross income". Those are two terms that are on the 1044. So, if you hand it to the department and say they're supposed to use "gross income", it may be unclear as to exactly what they, they, they should use. So, I might ask that

that when you go on break here, that you check with the property tax department and see if they would be able to administrate it the way that it's in here.

I support the idea, the intent, behind not using "adjusted gross income", because people can make adjustments to their income which make it seem lower than it really is. But the idea that you're saying "gross income" as defined by the IRS. There isn't such a definition in the current tax forms. So, I would kind of leave it the way it is. I think everything else in the bill works. So, just my, my comments on that.

And then, real briefly on the Department of Agriculture. I think I know where you're going on this. I see the support that you have from some members. I question, why does this department need a director, and a deputy director, and staff? Why can't this, if we're going to make a Charter amendment, be started with just a director and then staff as necessary? I think that that you could be making this a bigger department before they have quite figured out what it is they're going to do, and, and what the need is for people. So, that would be a suggestion that I would make if you're going to pass the Charter amendment to create this department. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you, Tom. Are there any questions? If not, thank you, again.

MR. CROLY: Thank you, Council.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk. Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: The next person we have signed up to testify is Leslee Matthews. To be followed by the individual calling in from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 5417.

CHAIR LEE: That's a familiar name.

MS. LESLEE MATTHEWS (testifying on Committee Report 20-85):

Aloha, Madam Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Hi.

MS. MATTHEWS: Happy Birthday. Happy Birthday.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, I just am on my break and I wanted to share support for committee resolution, Committee Report 20-85. In strong, strong, strong support of the Committee, the Commission on, on Healing Solutions for our homeless ohana. And I was reading an article from Civil Beat, and we have, for the first time in a long time, Hawaii is no longer number one for homelessness in the United States. We're now number two, behind New York.

This is an all hands on deck problem. I mahalo the, the Housing Alliance that has taken, the Homeless Alliance that's taking on this issue. Every day that I go to court as an attorney, I see people that are homeless, that are, are, are struggling and needing support. I recall one gentleman that's homeless that court has unfortunately been a . . . revolving door for him, yell out "I need IOP", desperately seeking intensive outpatient treatment for the issues that he's hand, that he's suffering from. This is an all hands on deck problem.

Scott Morishige, who is the coordinator on homelessness for the State says that we are making progress but there's still so much work to be done. We're looking at issues like 67 percent of our homeless youth are unsheltered. And this was before, this was pre-COVID. 72 percent of our homeless individuals are unsheltered. We have, Hawaii has one of the highest rates of veteran homelessness in the nation where, and 39 per 10,000 people are unsheltered.

And so, this is a, I mahalo the committee. I look at the Committee Report and saw that this was supported unanimously when this came out of Committee. And I think that this is such a, a prevalent issue that's happening here in Hawaii. This is our ohana. And I, I, I thank the people that spoke before this. And this is rite of self-determination. And whether people are making a conscious decision to be unsheltered or this is something that they've come on because of hard times, COVID, we're seeing 30 percent of people unemployed.

Homelessness is going to continue to get worse until we have a commission or something like this where, and thank you to the woman who shared her personal story to talk about how she was homeless and she said I want a seat at the table. I looked to see what the fees were; \$120, \$80 a year, \$20. For a person that's homeless, they can't afford it. They're just trying to get out of the park before it closes so they don't have to get a ticket and then have to come to court. They don't have \$20.

So, I think that having representation from all nine of the districts, having representation from the Alliance, having representation from Native Hawaiians; this was something that was obviously, carefully, and consciously thought out to remedy this issue of homelessness. And so, I think that this needs to happen.

I've been at, I'm also a social worker in addition to being an attorney. I've been working with people that are homeless for over a decade and I think that this is a problem that needs to be solved yesterday. This isn't how we want to be known. This is paradise. This isn't how we want to be known, is not taking care of our homeless individuals.

And so, thank you to all the Members for voting in strong support of this. Thank you to the people that are doing this work. I don't think by a commission happening that this takes away from anyone. If anything, this elevates their voices and they have a direct line to the Council and a direct line to the Administration, so I am strong support of this measure. And I, I just can't wait for this commission to happen. It's so important and so needed.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you, Leslee.

Yes, Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Mahalo, Ms. Matthews. Nice to see you today. I just had clarification question. So, you mentioned that for our houseless population that are being ticketed in the parks. So, if they are, they don't have the monies to pay the tickets. Are they and you, working in the Prosecuting Office, is there a problem them coming to, to court to face those charges?

MS. MATTHEWS: So, this is something that we see quite often under Maui County Code 13, it's the park regulation. And so, I brought that up in, in regards to like being able to prioritize whether you can pay this ticket. The mandatory minimum that's set by the County Code is \$150. And so, first, they have to just make the effort to show up to court. There is no wiggle room. It's set by the Council that they have to pay \$150. They don't have a home, they don't have food, they don't have medical care, and all those things. And so, sometimes they're offered to be able to do community service. I never reject if somebody wants to do community service.

This is a conversation for another time, but I would like to see that mandatory minimum gone, because it is super cost prohibitive. Additionally, if they don't show up, it's a crime, a failure to appear. Then they're put in jail. They can sit out their jail time, but then they still have to pay their \$150. So, if we have a commission like this one that's being proposed, we can be thinking about all of those different moving pieces to help people and help end homelessness.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Matthews. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha Ms. Matthews; really nice to see you. Mahalo for your testimony. So, I, you, you actually answered my question with your last statement. But basically, like, you see this commission as a way to address those types of policies that you just mentioned to Member Sinenci and other policies like that that could be suggested to the, the Council. For us to deep dive into this problem affecting our unsheltered community, our ohana. That we can better understand what, perhaps is an unintended consequence of this law when it was initially passed?

MS. MATTHEWS: Absolutely. I mean, I'm looking at the proposed 2.31.010 *[sic]*, the purpose statement; "to protect and promote public health, safety, welfare of residents and maintain a commitment of aloha 'aina". That's an advisory group to provide recommendations. I absolutely see that this is a voice for people at the table. You know, the, their voices have to be heard, because they are some of our most vulnerable people. They're just worried about where can I sleep safely.

And when I saw that 77 percent of our, of our homeless youth are unsheltered, that's heartbreaking. And so, when they're trying to prioritize different things like paying a fine for just sleeping, which actually the Ninth Circuit has said that you can't actually penalize people for homelessness because being homeless isn't a crime and if we can't provide beds to them.

And I think that this commission could work together when we have so many empty hotels and short-term rentals right now. And we're seeing a prevalence of homelessness to work together to house people in those empty places and also provide income for landlords that, you know, don't have income right now. There's, I see this as a solution finding commission rather than a don't take my funding away. We've been doing this for a really long time. I see this as everybody, this is a, this is a kakou thing. We, we have to be onboard for this.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

MS. MATTHEWS: And, . . . appreciate . . . this commission.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Matthew *[sic]*; absolutely.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. And good seeing you again.

Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Matthews, for being here. I was wondering that mandatory minimum fine, is that under the Parks and Recreation?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes. So, that's actually in the Code, and Title 13 of the Maui County Code. It's a minimum \$150 fine, maximum of \$500 fine. They, they can't afford it. They, they simply can't afford it. And that is under the Maui County Code. So, I think if we have a commission such as this, they could be looking at this data.

I have seen numerous people, just in the last week; one, one, one person thought they had court in Wailuku, took the bus, and I'm going to try to say this without crying cause it's so bad, took the bus all the way to Lahaina just for me to get there and say "I'm going to dismiss your case, thank you so much for coming". But we shouldn't be penalizing them because they don't have a place to stay.

And they shouldn't have to pay \$150 because \$150 is the same penalty that prior to July 1, 2019, that was given to people who committed a DUI. They're getting penalized the same way and they are people that are homeless that need our love and aloha.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you very much, Leslee. Any more questions? If not

MS. MATTHEWS: Bye.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Chair, the last person signed up to testify is the individual connected to the meeting from the phone number ending with these last four digits, 5417. If there's anyone who's in the meeting who has not testified yet, but wishes to do so, please inform us in the meeting chat now. 5417, you appear to be on mute. You may proceed with your testimony.

MR. BILL GREENLEAF (testifying on Resolution No. 20-102):

Thank you. Aloha, Council and Happy Birthday, Chair. Bill Greenleaf calling in support of the Department of Ag Charter amendment. I've been an ag advocate and farmer

for 15 years here on Maui. And you all know it's a full-time job. There are going to be a lot of opportunities coming forward. And I believe that the County has hired a group to re-write the Code that has to do with agriculture.

It's been my experience, as president of the Maui Farmers Union, which was preceded the Hawaii Farmers Union, and the Ag Working Group, and the FAM Program that the three departments that we deal with the most is Water, RPT, and Planning, and none of those departments really have any understanding of agriculture. And so, when we come to them with needs or requests, it's, it's almost like recreating the wheel. We really need a Department of Ag.

Farmers are at it dawn to dark and they need advocates. I know we all know the need for food in Hawaii, the need for locally grown food. And I also see it as careers, you know, and futures for the youth here on Maui. As I go to markets, I see a lot of new products emerging, very creative products, using medicinal products like crazy. And I can just see that as a industry not only in North America, but in the Pacific Rim. So, this has become a, a, this is a great opportunity. I would really love to see . . .

I remember when the Council got installed, and we, you all got together and said this is going to be a unity group. I think that this is a unity program. I'd love to see it passed unanimously. Just 10 percent of ag, if we could do that in 10 years, would change the course of history of the future of Maui. That would be a \$400 million industry. So, thank you all for hearing so much about this. And thank you for supporting it.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you, Bill.

MR. GREENLEAF: That's my testimony.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you very much.

Ms. King.

MR. GREENLEAF: Yea, and Happy Birthday, Alice.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Hi, Bill. Are you still there?

MR. GREENLEAF: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay, hey. I, I just wanted to, because I know you've been in farming for a long time and I really appreciate your input on this issue. Have you,

what, what has been your experience with the State Department of Ag in trying to get support?

MR. GREENLEAF: Oh. You know, I did get to know Scott Enright pretty well when I was president of Maui Farmers Union. And, and I don't, I don't think he has the funds to do what he'd like to do for local agriculture. And he, his, the budget is so small, and every island needs help. And he's very limited in what he can do. And certainly, he can't react to grant opportunities, he can't react to this new opportunity to supply kalo. It, it's, we're always behind the curve. We're, we're just kind of limping along in agriculture, as far as our relationship with government.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So, you don't, you don't see this as duplicative of a State Department?

MR. GREENLEAF: The State Department does almost nothing for us on a local level.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yea, and I don't, and I, and I know Scott as well. He's a great guy. But I do, I agree with you that his hands are tied because of limited resources, and also distance, you know. So, it's, it's difficult for us. He, he actually lives on the Big Island, so it's easier for people on the Big Island to access the State Department than it is for us. Anyway, thank you for your input. Thanks for being here. Hope you're doing well.

MR. GREENLEAF: For sure. Thank you. I wish you all well too. Stay safe.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. No other questions? Thank you, Bill. And you stay safe as well.

MR. GREENLEAF: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk, do we have anymore? Any more testifiers?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, there is no one else signed up to testify. If an individual connected to the meeting has not testified but would like to do so, please identify yourself now. I will be unmuting everyone on our end, in case there's anyone who wishes to indicate they want to testify.

CHAIR LEE: None?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Chair, this is our last call. You know, no one has noted in the chat either that they wish to testify.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Are there any objections to receiving written testimony into the record, and to closing public testimony?

MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTION.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, WRITTEN TESTIMONY RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING WERE MADE A PART OF THE RECORD OF THIS MEETING:

1. Cara Flores, HALE Hawai`i;
2. Sydney Smith, Ag Working Group;
3. Pamela Tumpap, Maui Chamber of Commerce;
4. Thelma Akita-Kealoha, Maui Homeless Alliance;
5. Rodrigo Balala;
6. Elisabeth Bluml;
7. Peter Fay;
8. James Gomes;
9. Geoffrey Haines;
10. Clark Hashimoto;
11. Paula Hegele;
12. Mark Hyde;
13. William G. Jacintho;
14. Lehua;
15. Sean Lester;
16. Lisa Lindsey-Kahaleauki;
17. Raphael Masters;
18. Vivienne Masters;
19. Teena Monden;
20. Teena Rasmussen, Maui County Farm Bureau;
21. Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser, State of Hawaii, Board of Agriculture;
22. Jamie Shishido;
23. Jeff Stark;
24. Jacky Takakura;
25. Howard and Sandy Takishita;
26. James Tavares; and
27. Faith Tuipulotu.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. No objections. So, ordered.

Shall we take our lunch break now?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair, are you going to gavel out of the public hearing, close the public hearing?

CHAIR LEE: Oh, I just, I just want to know if you want to--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh.

CHAIR LEE: What--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yea.

CHAIR LEE: What we're, everybody wants to have lunch. And what, 45 minutes, is that enough or what? How much time.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: One hour.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I'd like to have an hour.

CHAIR LEE: One hour?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: One hour.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, how about two o'clock then? Almost an hour. Okay?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No objections.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I don't know. Tasha might not be able to make her rice. She needs an extra ten minutes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: It's only 43 minutes. This is worse than the last time.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: At least the last time we were only four minutes short. Now you're shorting us seven.

CHAIR LEE: Shall we just close the public hearing? Close the public hearing? Okay, if there are no objections, we'll close the public hearing and take a one-hour lunch break. Okay?

MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTION.

ADJOURNMENT

The public hearing of July 24, 2020 was adjourned by the Chair at 1:07 p.m.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. And be back, almost one hour. Be back at 2:00. Okay? Thank you everybody. Recess.

(THE MEETING WAS RECESSED BY THE CHAIR AT 1:07 P.M., AND WAS RECONVENED AT 2:05 P.M., WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.)

CHAIR LEE: Will the Council meeting of July 24 please reconvene. Okay, let's get this show on the road.

Mr. Clerk, you want to talk about minutes?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Yes, Madam Chair. Proceeding with minutes.

MINUTES

The minutes of the Council of the County of Maui's public hearing of April 17, 2020; public hearing of April 29, 2020 (Real Property Tax); public hearing of May 15, 2020 (Fuel Tax); and public hearing of May 15, 2020 (Weight Tax), were presented at this time.

CHAIR LEE: Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

I MOVE TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS READ BY THE CLERK.

COUNCILMEMBER KING:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: It's been moved by Vice-Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, seconded by Member Kelly King, to approve the minutes as stated in the motion.

Any discussion? If not, all those in favor of approving the minutes, please say "aye", and raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Any opposed?

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: It's unanimous; motion carries 9-0.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, proceeding with county communications.

COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS

NO. 20-365 - TIVOLI S. FAAUMU, CHIEF OF POLICE,
(dated July 1, 2020)

Transmitting a copy of the grant agreement with the Office of National Drug Control Policy for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) grant for the period of January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021 in the amount of \$271,950.

CHAIR KING: Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. If there are no objections, may I request the Clerk also call up County Communication 20-366 and 20-367?

CHAIR LEE: Any objections?

MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTION.

CHAIR LEE: So, ordered. Mr. Clerk.

NO. 20-366 - TIVOLI S. FAAUMU, CHIEF OF POLICE,
(dated July 1, 2020)

Transmitting a copy of the grant agreement with the State of Hawaii, Department of Health for the Emergency Medical System grant for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$376,865.93.

NO. 20-367 - SCOTT K. TERUYA, FINANCE DIRECTOR,
(dated July 9, 2020)

Transmitting 123 contracts/grants for June 2020.

CHAIR LEE: Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

I MOVE TO FILE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS 20-365 THROUGH 20-3, 367, WITH ANY EXCEPTIONS THE COUNCILMEMBERS MAY ASK TO HAVE PULLED OUT FROM THE CONTRACTS AND GRANTS.

COUNCILMEMBER KING:

SECOND.

And I have grant, I have grants.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. It's been moved and seconded. Oh, wait a minute, so which one do you want to pull out?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I think, I think other mem, I think other mem--

CHAIR LEE: 367. 367?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I have, I have some grants and, under the contracts and grants to pull out of the report for review.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I think . . .

CHAIR LEE: So--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I think other Members do too.

SO, MINE WOULD BE C7106, C7117, AND C7138 TO PULL
OUT FOR, REFER TO CAR COMMITTEE. AND THEN, I'D
ALSO LIKE TO PULL OUT C7127 TO REFER TO PSLU.

CHAIR LEE: Alright, are, are you going to have more?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: That's, that's all for me, but I think other Members have.

CHAIR LEE: Yea, yea, I think there's a whole bunch more.

Okay, I was just wondering, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, if want to just to deal with
that one separately? So, you want to--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Well, well--

CHAIR LEE: --or take all these exceptions?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We usually just file, we file all the items and then with
the exceptions of all the items that--

CHAIR LEE: Oh, okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --the Members request to have pulled.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So, it was moved by you to do that.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yea.

CHAIR LEE: And seconded by Member King--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right.

CHAIR LEE: --to do that.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So, now we have other people who want to pull out.

Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

SO, IF I MAY HAVE CONTRACT C7108, C7112, AND C7114 REFERRED TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE UNDER ITEM AGENDA AH. AND MAY I ALSO HAVE CONTRACT C7112 REFERRED TO THE WATER, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE SUBJECT TO THE AGREEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIR.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Accept.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Is that all?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Alright. Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair.

MAY I REQUEST CONTRACT NO. C7095 TO BE REFERRED TO THE EACP COMMITTEE PLEASE?

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Hokama, did you have your hand up?

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Thank you, Chair. Yes, thank you, Chair.

I HAVE A REQUEST FOR THREE, THREE CONTRACTS FOR YOUR HEALTHY FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE; C6037-2, C66, EXCUSE ME, C6562-3, AND C6855-3.

Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Anyone else wishing to refer contracts?

Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA:

C6412-2 TO MY COMMITTEE WIT.

CHAIR LEE: 6-4, what did you say?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: 6412-2.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. King, or, no, no. Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

AND THEN I'LL REQUEST C6037.

Oh, that's dash 2. Member Hokama, asked for the dash 2 portion of that.

CHAIR LEE: And what are you asking for?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The Molokai.

CHAIR LEE: No, no just, the number, the letter and the number.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: 6037. I don't know if Member Hokama was requesting that for HFC.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Oh, yea. My fellow colleague for Molokai, yea, I just wanted to get one update for us, since I know it was a multi-agency effort. So, I just wanted to get one update so that you would be better prepared for next cycle.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Perfect, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: That's it.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then to HFC?

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yea, I was going to take it under parks. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Hokama. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So, we don't have to do anymore on that one. Alright, did everybody get all the numbers and the letters? Any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion to file, except for those noted, please say "aye", and raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND CHAIR
LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, 9-0, it's unanimous. Motion passes.

Mr. Clerk.

NO. 20-368 - LINDA K. FUJITANI, CHAIR, CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION,
(dated July 1, 2020)

Transmitting the performance evaluation of the Director of Personnel Services.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

I MOVE TO FILE COUNTY COMMUNICATION NO. 20-368.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: It's been moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez, to file County Communication 20-368.

Discussion. Any discussion, Mr. Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you, Madam Chair. In accordance with Charter Section 8-9.4, the Civil Service Commission is responsible for annually reviewing and evaluating the performance of the Director of Personnel Services and submitting a report to the Mayor and to the Council.

The Commission evaluated Director Underwood on the following: his reliability and achieving goals, his relationship with others; job knowledge; problem solving and decision making; along with planning, organizing, setting priorities; and leadership. And presents to the Council a very favorable review of Mr. Underwood's performance, so therefore, I ask for the Members full support. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Anymore discussion? If not, all those in favor of the motion, please say "aye" and raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. I see nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Clerk.

NO. 20-369 - KARLA H. PETERS, DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION,
(dated July 1, 2020)

Transmitting the quarterly report regarding Fiscal Year 2020 Countywide Park Facilities for the period of January 1, 2020 through March 31, 2020.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Chairman, thank you. I move, with no objections, that the Clerk also bring up Communication 20-370.

CHAIR LEE: Any, any objections?

MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTION.

CHAIR LEE: So, ordered. Mr. Clerk, can you bring up County Communication 20-370, as well?

NO. 20-370 - KARLA H. PETERS, DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION,
(dated July 1, 2020)

Transmitting the quarterly report regarding Fiscal Year 2020 Countywide Park Facilities for the period of April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

I MOVE THAT BOTH COMMUNICATIONS, AS READ BY THE CLERK, BE FILED.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: It's been moved by Mr. Hokama, seconded by Ms. Sugimura, to file County Communications 20-369, 20-370.

Discussion, Mr. Hokama?

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Chair, thank you very much. I've reviewed both reports by the Director and am recommending filing this, this afternoon. I would just ask the Members to take note that on 20-370, the County had, had to properly pay for a change order because SHPD delaying of approval costed our County \$123,000 for a change order, because that's how long it took to get the approval from the State. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Any further discussions? All those in favor of the motion, please say "aye" and raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: It's nine "ayes", no "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Clerk.

NO. 20-371 - SCOTT K. TERUYA, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE,
(dated July 6, 2020)

Informing of the acceptance of Sewerline Easement Lot 12, Haynes Subdivision,
Wailuku, TMK: (2) 3-4-003:054.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. If there are no objections, I'd also like to ask
the Clerk to call up County Communications 20-372 through 20-375.

CHAIR LEE: Any objections?

MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTION.

CHAIR LEE: If not, so, ordered.

Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, so is the Clerk? Okay. Great. May I ask the Clerk to
read those communications?

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

NO. 20-372 - SCOTT K. TERUYA, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE,
(dated July 6, 2020)

Informing of the acceptance of Drainage Easement Nos. 1, 8, 9, 102 and D-2, Pukalani
Terrace and Country Club Subdivision, TMK: (2) 2-3-061:114; (2) 2-3-057:138;
(2) 2-3-009:004; (2) 2-3-056:097; and (2) 2-3-008:036.

NO. 20-373 - SCOTT K. TERUYA, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE,
(dated July 10, 2020)

Informing of the acceptance of Sewerline Easement "S", Portion of Poalima 66 of
Grant 3343 to Claus Spreckles, Wailuku, TMK: (2) 3-4-033:007 POR.

NO. 20-374 - JEFFREY T. PEARSON, DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLY,
(dated July 7, 2020)

Transmitting the State of Hawaii Commission on Water Resource Management water use reports for May 2020 for all registered well reporters in the County of Maui.

NO. 20-375 - JEFFREY T. PEARSON, DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLY,
(dated July 8, 2020)

Transmitting the Department of Water Supply's Monthly Source Report and Groundwater Use Report for the month ending June 2020.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

I MOVE TO FILE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS 20-371
THROUGH 20-375.

CHAIR LEE: Second?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: We need a second.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ:

SECOND.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thanks.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Member Sugimura, seconded by Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, to file County Communications 20-371 through 20-375.

Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. The communications are informational, and no further action is required. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Any further discussion? If not, all those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand. Ms. Paltin?

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, there's nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Clerk.

NO. 20-376 - ALICE L. LEE, COUNCIL CHAIR,
(dated July 17, 2020)

Relating to a Councilmembers' report on the Waikapu Community Association meeting
held on July 13, 2020.

CHAIR LEE: Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, cannot hear.

CHAIR LEE: Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. I got it. I thought I was talking to everybody.

I MOVE TO FILE COUNTY COMMUNICATION 20-376.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Moved by Member Kama, seconded by Member Sugimura, to file County
Communication 20-376.

Member Kama, discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: County Chair Alice Lee, Councilmembers Mike Molina, Yuki Lei
Sugimura, and I attended a virtual meeting through Zoom, of the Waikapu Community
Association, General Membership, on Monday, July 13, 2020. State Representative
Troy Hashimoto, was also present at that meeting.

I am making this report pursuant to the State Sunshine Law, specifically Section 92-2.5(e) of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

President Travis Pulido called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Department of Hawaiian Homelands Chair William Aila, along with representatives of the Department, Stewart Matsunaga, Darren Okimoto, and Cedric Duarte, provided information on the Department's Pu'unani Homestead Project, located mauka of Honoapi'ilani Highway, and answered questions from participants.

Bill Frampton from Waikapu Development Venture presented an update on their workforce housing project on Waiale Road and answered questions from participants.

Troy Hashimoto commented on the schools that are needed, of the schools that are needed to support the area.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

The Waikapu Community Association meeting was not specifically and exclusively organized for or directed toward members of the Council, but was a public meeting of the Association.

No commitment relating to a vote on any Council business was made or sought at the meeting. Madam Chair, that concludes my report that you gave me. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Anymore discussions? If not, all those in favor of the motion, say "aye".

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Nine "ayes", no "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Clerk.

NO. 20-377 - ALICE L. LEE, COUNCIL CHAIR,
(dated July 17, 2020)

Relating to a Councilmembers' report on the blessing for the Huliau housing project, held on July 14, 2020, at the old University of Hawaii Maui College dormitories.

CHAIR LEE: Member Kama, do you happen to have this particular report?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes.

CHAIR LEE: You do?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, I do.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. I am recognizing you, then, Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

I MOVE TO FILE COUNTY COMMUNICATION 20-377.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Member Kama, seconded by Member Sugimura, to file County Communication 20-377.

Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Council Chair Alice Lee, Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura, and I attended the blessing for Huliau Housing Project on July 14, 2020 at the old University of Hawaii Maui College dormitories.

Aptly named "Huliau", which in Hawaiian means "turning point, a time of change", this housing project is designed to help families, homeless families transition into permanent housing.

The Huliau blessing was attended, was by invitation from Mayor Michael Victorino and by approximately 40 County of Maui department directors and staff, State legislators, college officials, contractors' staff, and Mayor's Office staff.

The blessing included remarks by the Mayor, Council Chair Lee, Representative Kyle Yamashita, Senator Gil Keith-Agaran, and Representative Troy Hashimoto, UH Maui Chancellor Lui Hokoana, Housing Director Lori Tshako, and a special ceremony offered by Kumu Kaponoai Molitau.

Housing Director Tshako noted that the dorm rehabilitation project is currently in Phase 1, and will provide 12 two-bedroom units and support services for homeless families. Work is being done by contractor Arisumi Brothers, Inc. with construction expected to be completed by the end of this year.

Funding for this first phase of the project included \$5 million in DURF funding, or the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund, and \$800,000 for management of the units. This level of funding was achieved through the vision, collaboration, and dedication of our State Legislators, the County Council, and Mayor Victorino and his Administration.

I'm making this report in accordance with the State Sunshine Law, specifically Section 92-2.5(e) of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

A quorum of the Council was not present at the meeting. The meeting was not specifically and exclusively organized for or directed toward Members of the Council.

No commitment relating to a vote on any Council business was made or sought at the meeting.

Chair Lee, that includes any, the any, this concludes my report. And I would suggest that other Councilmembers who attended comment if they so choose. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Member Kama, did you say that I said a few words that morning?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, you said a few words.

CHAIR LEE: No, I didn't say a few words.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: You didn't say a few words. Did you say a lot of words?

CHAIR LEE: I said, I said a few choice words as I was leaving, cause I bumped, I, I smashed my bumper, because somebody was blocking my car. That's the only words I said.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Okay?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Just to be clear. Alright.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: All those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

CHAIR LEE: Opposed, nay.

NOES: NONE.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Is this the motion as amended, Chair?

CHAIR LEE: Oh, I didn't amend it. I was just venting. Okay

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Did you get your car fixed?

CHAIR LEE: Nine, no, it's still pretty smashed. Okay. Nine, nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries. Thank you.

Thank you, Member Kama, for doing those reports. I really appreciate it.

Mr. Clerk.

NO. 20-378 - TAMARA PALTIN, COUNCILMEMBER,
(dated July 17, 2020)

Transmitting a proposed resolution entitled "URGING CONDOMINIUM, APARTMENT OWNERS', AND HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATIONS TO SUSPEND OR MODIFY RULES TO PROVIDE RESPITE TO RESIDENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE BROADER COMMUNITY WHO MAY BE STRUGGLING AS A RESULT OF THE EFFECTS OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC".

CHAIR LEE: Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair.

I MOVE TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION
ATTACHED TO COUNTY COMMUNICATION 20-378,
INCLUDING NONSUBSTANTIVE

CHAIR LEE: We hardly can hear you. Can't hear you too well.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you hear me now?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

I MOVE TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION
ATTACHED TO COUNTY COMMUNICATION 20-378,
INCLUDING ANY NONSUBSTANTIVE REVISIONS, AND TO
FILE COUNTY COMMUNICATION 20-378.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Who seconded it? I'm sorry. Okay. It's moved by Member Paltin,
seconded by Member Sinenci, to, did you say, I'm sorry, file this or adopt this?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Adopt the proposed resolution attached to County
Communication 20-378.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, okay. I'm sorry. I just didn't hear you in the beginning. Alright, any further
discussion on this?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I would like to read the resolution in its
entirety.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

(Councilmember Paltin read the resolution in part.)

COUNCILMEMBER KING: She's frozen.

CHAIR LEE: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you hear me?

CHAIR LEE: Now we can. You, we, there's a big gap that we didn't hear you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: The last--

CHAIR LEE: You don't have to repeat it.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Got it?

CHAIR LEE: We get the general idea.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

(Councilmember Paltin completed reading the resolution.)

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And--

CHAIR LEE: Any, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The, the reason I propose this is I've been getting requests from members in my district, you know, with electricity costs going up because people are home all day long; just every little thing that they can do to save on their electric bill.

Folks that were gardening, you know, outside of their condominium complex, I guess, because it was along the Kahoma Channel, got moved out of there and, and they had been providing a lot of food for the community through the things they were growing. So, this is just, you know, one little thing I can do to help my community and hopefully the broader County of Maui.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, very good. Are there--

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you very much, Madam Chair. I think it's well-intended but, you know, I have a number of questions. And I would feel more comfortable sending this to Committee, because if we're talking about countywide, all of the private property, homeowners' associations, apartments; that's a lot of folks.

And I think it's only fair for us that we get to hear from them as, as well. And, you know, just so this way we don't, there isn't that perception of government infringing on property owners' rights. Even though there's no force and effect of law, it could give off that perception that government's pressuring these homeowners' associations, whether we like them or not to make, to bend their rules or make modifications. And there could be some financial implications in this as well.

But my preference is I'd rather have a Committee discussion on this than acting on this matter on the floor today, so I will not be supporting the resolution. But I would like this, my preference is to have it go to Committee where we can have a full discussion where all the communities are involved in this. And I want to hear everybody's input. Plus, you know, I have some legal questions to ask about it as well. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Molina.

Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. I had some similar questions and concerns. And I understand the urgency of it, because we're in an urgent crisis right now. But I think the unintended consequences, when we're talking about setting aside rules, I'm assuming it's the CC&Rs. And there's other things in there, like no short-term rentals and things like that that may be set aside. So, I'm not sure if, if this wording would keep it specifically to those certain things that you mentioned or if it opens it up to broader rules being set aside. To me, it needs a little more spess, spess, specificity of what rules you're actually asking to set aside.

And I, you know, it's not, I'm not worried about legality cause I don't think it's force and effect, but I do think it, it's responsible to make sure that we know what we're asking of apartment owners and condo owners; which, which of their rules and CC&Rs to set aside. Because I would have issues, I would have issues of ones that are around me if they start bringing in, you know, temporary people to live there and I don't know who I'm living around.

My neighborhoods been, been, had a little bit of that, because if someone, we have a few short-term rentals in our area and we've been extremely careful about knowing who's there, making sure the new people come in, they stay in their place for two weeks and things like that. So, I wouldn't want to set aside any of those rules either.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yea, I don't support sending it to Committee. The financial ramifications are dire right now for my community. And, you know, CC&Rs doesn't necessarily stop short-term rentals as we see at the Spinnaker. There is short-term rental ordinance that allows that whether, regardless if the CC&Rs say yes or no; if they're legally allowed to have a short-term rental, they're legally allowed to have a short-term rental. Spinnaker in Lahaina doesn't allow short-term rental by their CC&Rs and people are all over the, the short-term rental because it's zoned for that.

So, you know, West Maui is hurting. I don't know if you guys ever come out here, but we need this. So, I'll go for the vote and if we don't got the numbers, we don't got the numbers.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else?

Member Rawlins-Fernandez, then Ms. Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo, Member Paltin, for introducing this resolution. I, I also support it. I have a number of questions though. Should I--

CHAIR LEE: Ask.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Should I just ask them? Okay. Okay. So, I guess along the lines, as the other Members; Member Paltin, do you know what kind of cost residents or members could save if just the activities suggested in this proposed resolution were allowed during the quarantine?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It varies. Different people have energy-efficient dryers, you know. And depending on how much redemption beverages they'll drink, or how much food they're able to grow, so it's, you know, and there, there's not a real way to quantify it. It depends on who's willing to take advantage of, of this suggestion. Because, like, everyone knows it doesn't have the force and effect of law. It could be an off-island managing company that doesn't realize the dire situation that we're in.

And if members of that particular homeowner association, we're not, we're not going around and collecting the addresses of all the homeowners' association. This is for the residents who would like this respite, to take this resolution to their homeowners' association and say, hey can you give us a break? And, and have a further discussion from there with their own homeowners' association. It's not something that we're going to look up every homeowner association or condo address; it's for the folks that have reached out and said, you know, this could help us out. And then they have something on paper to show their organization and they work it out there, from there.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Do you, do you know if, I, so I guess the next question as far as if there will be any additional cost to the condo association, AOA, or homeowners' association? Probably vary.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: . . . anticipating any additional cost.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And, are the suggested activities restricted in any of our affordable housing development projects?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I wouldn't know about our affordable housing development project.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then, do you, do you know if any of the entities receive any type of Coronavirus aid relief fund?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The homeowners' associations, or the condo apartment owners?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yea, any, any of--

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Not that I know of.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --that it would apply to.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I, I doubt it.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. Those are, those are my questions. Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo, Member Paltin.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And so--

CHAIR LEE: Oh, I'm sorry.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Real, really quickly. I'm, I just, this resolution is a suggestion to encourage the HOA's, AOA's to explore ways to help their residents to assist them. I--

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I would be supporting of passing it today. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Through the, I appreciate what Ms. Paltin is doing because you're hearing the anguish, I guess, of, of different needs of the community and I can understand that. I, I'm not, there's a homeowners' association club, which I was trying to look to see if I could find them; this organization that meets different homeowners', homeowner organizations throughout Maui. And I just thought they might be a good resource to reach out to them and find out what, what the impact of this would be, cause they would be on the management side.

But it sounds like to you want to give this to any resident so they can take it to their homeowner association. So, maybe a bigger discussion may need to happen. And if I can find the name of that person who was reaching out to me at one time for a speaker, I will pass it on to you. But at this time, I think, I think I'm, I'm hearing that we need to discuss it further. Although, it is a really good idea, because all of us know that there's big Coronavirus outcomes or impacts out there. So, thank you, Ms. Paltin, for bringing this forward.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else?

Ms., Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. And appreciate Member Paltin bringing this up, specifically for her community. She has a lot of condominium rental owners in her district. So, I understand that there is no reg, regular, regulation or legislation happening with this, and it's just urging to consider rules that they suspend that. So, I, I want to support that. I want to support those people that are unemployed, part of that 37,000 that is unemployed on our island. If they're specifically in these situations, I, I support that additional assistance for, for those families. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else?

Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. So, Ms. Paltin, what was meant by the broader community? Are we asking the, the condo owners and apartment owners to do something for folks outside their, their--

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If, so if they're allowed to garden, have communal gardens, and they have more than enough for their immediate. We have some small apartment

buildings and, and things like that. If they have more than enough, a lot of folks on the west side in the gardens, if they have more than enough, are donating the extra food from their gardens.

So, you know, with the \$600 a month ending, with the tourism not opening, time is really of the essence, you know. If we can give any small, be it a respite, I think the sooner the better. We can, we can talk about it and wait till after the Primary. And we have, you know, our next meeting isn't till August. And, you know, and meanwhile, people are--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, you answered, you answered my question. I was just, you know, cause I was, I was trying to envision what you meant by the broader communities. So, that's a good explanation. And the, and the, the thing, the thing about this is I, I support it and I support the urgency of doing this. And because it's not the force and effect of law, I'm going to support it.

But I think it's good to have this conversation so that people can refer back to the com, coun, the Committee or the Council report on this, see what the intention of. Because, you know, the bro, the, when you talk about broader community, that could be a lot of things; bringing people in to hang their laundry on your, your line. Or, I don't know what the, what the intent is in bringing people in to, to reside in areas where, you know, because they need a, I think that would, that would be something to explore deeper in a Committee. But I just wanted to have, to have an understanding of what the intent was.

And if it's, if it's opening up to community gardens, I'm all for that, you know. So, I do support that. But if it had bigger implications of, of additional, you know, rental situations that weren't currently in the rules, then I would want to explore that a little bit better because of safety reasons. So, thank you for that explanation. And I agree that if we sit on this, it's, by the time we get through Committee and back to Council, it may not matter, so.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. I'm just wondering if this particular discussion needs to have a Committee waiver?

CHAIR LEE: No, I don't think so.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair, it doesn't have the force and effect of law.

CHAIR LEE: Yea. No. The answer is no.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Everybody ready to vote?

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you, Madam Chair. For my second and last time. You know, certainly all of us empathize with what people are going through. And for all we know, discussions could be going on already amongst the homeowner's associations.

And, again, I have a number of questions; the, the legal aspects like is it appropriate to request suspension of private HOA rules where we have no jurisdiction as government? And could we be over-extending our boundaries by picking on HOA's? And, you know, if we're asking to suspend HOA rules, what, what in the rules are causing adversity and, and stress? So, these are just, I think some questions that need to be answered. And I think the appropriate place is Committee. And I know, I mean, is it going to matter whether it's two weeks or we do it today?

I mean, in general, I think the Council empathizes with, with what's going on. And so, what about business, commercial HOA's, you know? And, so these are some unanswered questions for me, so which is why, that's the purpose we have Committee. Now, I know, Madam Chair, you don't want to have a Committee meeting in Council, right? It's been stated throughout my career; all Council Chair's prefer not to have Committee meetings. But if we're going to take action on this today, then I got a ton of questions to ask, I mean, if you want that. But, you know, I think we got to hear back, from the, just to be fair, if we're going to be fair as government leaders, to hear from the other side about this too.

So, again, if it's the decision to have a vote taken on this, so be it. And, and that's, you know, and not have this matter go to Committee, I will vote "no" just on that, those principles; to have the discussion to hear from the other side. Cause, again, you know, I, I, I don't want to give off this perception that government's doing some overreach here. And, you know, we're already doing things to provide some, you know, help for those who are struggling.

Now, unless, if this is impacting only West Maui folks, then maybe we could amend the resolution to just West Maui. But, you know, I got apartment owners in my district too. And, you know, I'd like to hear from them on this, so, and just get more specifics. I think Member King had mentioned that about getting more specifics. So, I'll leave it at that and just go ahead with the vote. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair, for my second and final time. I'll echo what Member King said as far as the timing of this. And I want to show our community, cause the residents in West Maui are all of our constituents too, as well as those in South Maui and all throughout the County. And so, I, I want to help when I'm being asked to help. And again, this resolution is really just a suggestion. It doesn't have, it's not going to force any of the HOA's. This is, this isn't a law. It's, it doesn't have the force and effect of law, which is why we didn't need the waiver.

I, I, I agree with my colleagues, Member King and Member Molina, that I, I, I would like to have a fuller discussion. And perhaps we can send the subject matter to Committee, and that way we can hear from everyone. But, I, I would support taking action today to, to, to be in solidarity with, with our residents; to let them know that we hear them and that we are responsive to their needs. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Anyone else?

Before I call you, Ms. Kama. Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez, which Committee were you thinking of?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Whoever would like to take it, or I, I'm happy to take it.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I would suggest PSLU.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. I, looking at this and I'm saying we're trying to take care of our people who are struggling. And at the same time, we have a, an obligation to all of our people in this County. So, I'm not clear about what it is that we're wanting, what that respite would be looking like to our residents, or what, I mean, I live in an apartment building, right? So, and if I wanted respite, what would I be asking my, my landlord for in my apartment building? What would that look like? And even though we're struggling, I'm not sure if I have the courage to do that.

But nonetheless, I would rather that we took it to the, to a Committee and had a broader discussion about it, and then go for broke from there. But that's just my sense of things. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Alright. Anyone else?

Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I got the cursor to work. Yea, I just wanted to say that I understand the, the, the desire to have more information. But I'm, I'm clear on the intent of this, being the things that were mentioned here, you know, of possible recycling redemption, common areas, communal gardening, line-drying laundry. And I think what we're doing here, from my point of view, is not, we're not, we're not imposing anything on anybody.

What we're doing is, if there are any of the organizations out there, homeowners or HOA's or apartment buildings that want to do some of these things, I think we're, we're giving them some backing to do that. You know, if they want to open up some of these potential activities to help their residents save money in this time when everyone's struggling, then basically they can, they can say well, you know, the, the Council has recognized this need and they're, you know, not telling us what to do, but if we want to do it, this might be something that could help.

So, you know, I, I'm satisfied that it's not . . . anybody in one direction, or make them lose money or, or, or create an atmosphere that they're not comfortable with. But just, you know, recognizing the potential need and the support that we could give to, to not just the residents, but to the homeowner associations should they want to engage in these . . . for the rules. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Yea, and, you know, I just want to emphasize that this is meant to be a starting point for discussion with individuals own homeowners' associations. Like, Member Kama said, she's not sure she would have the courage. So, you know, with this document not having the force and effect of law, she could take it to her homeowners' association and say, can we have a conversation? I'm really struggling, you know. I, I'm afraid I'm not going to be able to pay my electric.

Or even for the folks that haven't been laid off. They're experiencing an, a rise in household costs. You know, when I was working out of my house, we were going through toilet paper way more fast than in normal circumstances. We're using electricity way more than normal circumstances, buying all these extra soap and sanitary things we're, that are costing more is going up. And, you know, it's not even

only for the laid off people, it's for the essential workers who don't get that respite of time. And they're having to pay more for their household expenses as well.

So, it's just, you know, it's a piece of paper that doesn't have any force and effect of law that's meant to start the discussion between residents and their association, so that, you know, that maybe they can come up with some solutions that we haven't even thought of; solutions that aren't even written there. Because nothing's going to happen without the conversation being started.

And, you know, if, if this drags on, I, I got a lot of items in my Committee. If it doesn't pass, it doesn't pass. But I would have known I tried for my community and I would sleep well at night. So, I got a lot of important things. We all do in our Committees. So, you know, I'm just going to go for broke right now. And, and if not, I'll tell my community, I, I'm sorry I tried. And here's my piece of paper that doesn't mean, means less than even a resolution, but you can take it to your homeowners' association.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Ready for the vote? Oh, by the way, is the, is the motion to include passing this resolution and referring the subject matter to your Committee?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No, it's adopt the proposed resolution and to file County Communication 20-378. I'm going all out. If not, they can have the paper for what it's worth.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So, so, I just wanted to make clear with Member Paltin. So, you're opposed to also sending, if this passes, to also sending the subject matter to your Committee for further discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If it passes, then we can send it for further discussion, sure.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, cause I think that was, that, that was what was discussed earlier. That if we could, I think Member Rawlins-Fernandez said if we could also send this on for further discussion on the subject matter.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

SO, THEN THE MOTION IS, I MOVE TO ADOPT THE RESO,
PROPOSED RESOLUTION ATTACHED TO COUNTY
COMMUNICATION 20-378, INCLUDING ANY
NONSUBSTANTIVE REVISIONS, AND TO REFER COUNTY
COMMUNICATION 20-378 TO PSLU COMMITTEE.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Correction. Refer the, the subject matter, not the,
not the county communication.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Not the resolution. The subject matter.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yea.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN:

OH, REFER THE SUBJECT MATTER TO PSLU.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yea.

CHAIR LEE: Anymore discussion? All those in favor of the motion, raise your hand, say
"aye".

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS KING, PALTIN, SINENCI,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

CHAIR LEE: One, two, three. One, two, three, four, five, six. Okay, it seems like there are
six "ayes".

Those opposed, raise your hand.

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, MOLINA,
AND SUGIMURA.

CHAIR LEE: Ah, okay. I change that. Mr. Hokama, how are you voting? Okay, so there
were five "ayes" and four "noes"; motion carries. Okay. Motion carries.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Apologies. Madam Chair, for the record, who, who's the "no" votes?

CHAIR LEE: Oh, I'm sorry. Mr. Molina, Ms. Kama, Mr. Hokama, and Ms. Sugimura.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, for the record, that is RESOLUTION 20-104.

NO. 20-379 - ALICE L. LEE, COUNCIL CHAIR,
(dated July 16, 2020)

Transmitting a proposed resolution entitled, "PRIORITIZING MAUI COUNTY BUSINESSES FOR PUBLICLY FUNDED JOBS AND PROJECTS".

CHAIR LEE: Members, if there are no objections, I'd like to defer this item until the next Council meeting. This is essentially a hire local resolution, okay. We have tremendous amount of construction jobs coming up in the next five to six years, and what we want to see, I'm hoping you agree, that these jobs go to primarily local people and not people on the mainland or some, someplace else.

However, I have been advised that I may need to include some kind of provision having to do with procurement relating to preferences of local businesses, so I'm going to need a little time to, to make that adjustment. So, if you don't mind, any objections to deferring this to the next Council meeting?

MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTION.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So, ordered.

Mr. Clerk.

NO. 20-380 - MOLINA J. MOLINA, CHAIR, GOVERNANCE, ETHICS, AND
TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE, (dated July 6, 2020)

Transmitting a proposed resolution entitled, "RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF HAROLEN KAIWI TO THE BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI".

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

MOVE TO DISCHARGE THE GET COMMITTEE FROM
FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED
RESOLUTION ATTACHED TO COUNTY COMMUNICATION
20-380.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Been moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Mr. Sinenci, to discharge this item from the Committee.

Any discussion, Mr. Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you, Madam Chair. The 60-day deadline for the Council to approve or disapprove the nomination of Harolen Kaiwi to the Board of Water Supply is August 11, 2020, and therefore, a discharge is needed to enable the Council to consider action today. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Any further discussion? Okay. All in favor of the--

Oh, Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yea, I would just like to--

CHAIR LEE: This is only to discharge. This is only to discharge.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh. Alright, go ahead.

CHAIR LEE: No discussion. Okay. All those in favor of the motion to discharge this item from the Committee, signify by saying "aye", raise your hand. I see, Ms. Paltin. Ms. Kama. Aye?

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Yea, nine "ayes" and zero "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Clerk. Or, Mr. Molina, I should say.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you, Madam Chair.

MOVE TO WAIVE THE REQUIREMENT OF COMMITTEE
REFERRAL AND REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 7.G.
OF THE RULES OF THE COUNCIL.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Mr. Sinenci, to waive the Rules of the Council. All those in favor, well, you have any discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No further discussion.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. No further discussion. All those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

CHAIR LEE: Opposed, "nay".

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

MOVE TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION
ATTACHED TO COUNTY COMMUNICATION 20-380, AND TO
FILE COUNTY COMMUNICATION 20-380.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. It's been moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Mr. Sinenci, to adopt the, the report in 20-380.

So, Mr. Sinenci, you had your hand up.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yea, thank you, Chair. I just speak in support of Ms. Kaiwi's appointment to the Board of Water Supply. Her extensive knowledge of, and past knowledge of working in the private sector with our water systems here at Hana Ranch, we feel that she is more than qualified for this appointment. And we look for Members support. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Anymore? Oh, I'm sorry. I thought you already said something already.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No. Thank you, Madam Chair. That was for the waiver to--

CHAIR LEE: Yea, right.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: --referral to, from Committee, yea. But anyway, just to add into what Member Sinenci had spoken of. The GET meeting took place on July 14 to discuss Ms. Kaiwi's nomination. And this will be for a term expiring on March 31, 2024 on the Board of Water Supply. And she is replacing Hanna Mounce. And I too strongly support Ms. Kaiwi's nomination. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. All those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, for the record, that is RESOLUTION 20-105.

NO. 20-381 - MOLINA J. MOLINA, CHAIR, GOVERNANCE, ETHICS, AND
TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE, (dated July 6, 2020)

Transmitting a proposed resolution entitled, "RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF SUSAN PU TO THE COST OF GOVERNMENT COMMISSION FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI".

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you, Madam Chair.

MOVE TO DISCHARGE THE GET COMMITTEE FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION ATTACHED TO COUNTY COMMUNICATION 20-381.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI:

SECOND.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Second.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Mr. Sinenci, to discharge 20-381 from the Committee.

Discussion, Mr. Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you, Madam Chair. Like the previous nominee, the 60-day deadline for the Council to approve or disapprove the nomination of Ms. Pu to the Cost of Government Commission is August 11, 2020, so therefore, discharge is needed for us to consider action today. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: All those in favor of the motion to discharge, raise your hand, say "aye".

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING, MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA, VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you, Madam Chair.

MOVE TO WAIVE THE REQUIREMENT OF COMMITTEE
REFERRAL AND REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 7.G.
OF THE RULES OF THE COUNCIL.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI:

SECOND.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Mr. Sinenci, to waive the Rules of the Council, regarding committee reports.

Any discussion, Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No additional discussion on this matter, Madam Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. All those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

MOVE TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION
ATTACHED TO COUNTY COMMUNICATION NO. 20-381, AND
TO FILE COUNTY COMMUNICATION 20-381.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Move, moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Mr. Sinenci, to adopt the resolution in County Communication 20-381.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. Your GET Committee met on July 14, 2020 to discuss Ms. Pu's nomination to the Cost of Government Commission. And this will be for a term expiring on March 31, 2024 to fill a vacancy replacing Barbara Mattson.

Your Committee met with Ms. Pu and then asked her a number of questions. And she is a resident of Hana for over 40 years and is the general manager at Hana Kai Maui. And prior to that, she was the owner and operator of Hana Tropicals for over 15 years. So, I would ask for the Members full support of her nomination. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Any other discussion?

Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to add a big mahalo to the Administration for considering a candidate from East Maui to serve on the Cost of Government Commission. Mahalo.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Any more discussion? All those in favor, say "aye", raise your hand, say "aye".

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, 9-0; motion carries. No zero, no "noes".

Okay. Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Chair, for the record, that is RESOLUTION 20-106.

Proceeding with county communications and general communication for referral. The following county communications and general communication are recommended for referral to the following committees as noted.

NO. 20-382 - LORI TSUHAKO, DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS, (dated July 10, 2020)

Transmitting a proposed bill entitled, "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE STATE LAND USE DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION FROM AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT TO URBAN DISTRICT (CONDITIONAL BOUNDARY AMENDMENT) FOR PROPERTY SITUATED AT OLOWALU, MAUI, HAWAII, TAX MAP KEY NOS. (2) 4-8-003:103 (POR.), CONTAINING A TOTAL OF 14.7 ACRES".

The recommended action is that County Communication No. 20-382 be referred to the Affordable Housing Committee.

NO. 20-383 - TAMARA M. PALTIN, COUNCILMEMBER, (dated July 16, 2020)

Transmitting a proposed bill entitled, "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING RESIDENTIAL WORKFORCE HOUSING POLICY TO MORE EFFECTIVELY PROMOTE THE AVAILABILITY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING".

The recommended action is that County Communication No. 20-383 be referred to the Affordable Housing Committee.

(See pages 129 through 131 for discussion.)

NO. 20-384 - YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, COUNCILMEMBER, (dated July 6, 2020)

Relating to Hawaiian Electric, Clean Energy Investment in Hawaii.

The recommended action is that County Communication No. 20-384 be referred to the Climate Action and Resilience Committee.

(COUNTY COMMUNICATION NO. 20-384 WAS LATER REFERRED TO THE WATER, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE. See pages 128 and 129 for discussion.)

NO. 20-385 - ALICE L. LEE, COUNCIL CHAIR,
(dated July 10, 2020)

Transmitting a proposed resolution entitled, "SUPPORTING MAUI COUNTY STUDENTS' DISTANCE LEARNING".

The recommended action is that County Communication No. 20-385 be referred to the Economic Development and Budget Committee.

NO. 20-386 - TASHA KAMA, PRESIDING OFFICER PRO TEMPORE,
(dated July 14, 2020)

Transmitting a proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 3, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO THE MAUI COUNTY GRANTS PROGRAM".

The recommended action is that County Communication No. 20-386 be referred to the Economic Development and Budget Committee.

NO. 20-387 - SCOTT K. TERUYA, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE,
(dated July 13, 2020)

Transmitting the Short-Term Investments Report as of June 30, 2020.

The recommended action is that County Communication No. 20-387 be referred to the Economic Development and Budget Committee.

NO. 20-388 - SANDY BAZ, MANAGING DIRECTOR,
(dated July 17, 2020)

Transmitting the Fiscal Year 2020 4th Quarter CIP Reports.

The recommended action is that County Communication No. 20-388 be referred to the Economic Development and Budget Committee.

NO. 20-389 - KEANI N.W. RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, COUNCIL VICE-CHAIR,
(dated July 15, 2020)

Transmitting a proposed bill entitled, "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1.16, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO PUBLIC INSPECTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES".

The recommended action is that County Communication No. 20-389 be referred to the Governance, Ethics, and Transparency Committee.

NO. 20-390 - ROWENA M. DAGDAG-ANDAYA, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS,
(dated July 1, 2020)

Transmitting a proposed bill entitled, "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 12.40, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO NAMES OF PUBLIC FACILITIES DESIGNATED".

The recommended action is that County Communication No. 20-390 be referred to the Water, Infrastructure, and Transportation Committee.

NO. 20-391 - RIKI HOKAMA, COUNCILMEMBER,
(dated July 15, 2020)

Relating to traffic flow and road connectivity.

The recommended action is that County Communication No. 20-391 be referred to the Water, Infrastructure, and Transportation Committee.

NO. 20-392 - TAMARA PALTIN, COUNCILMEMBER,
(dated July 16, 2020)

Relating to removing silt basin grates in Kahoma Stream.

The recommended action is that County Communication No. 20-392 be referred to the Water, Infrastructure, and Transportation Committee.

GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

NO. 20-4 - CAROL K. REIMANN, A&B PROPERTIES HAWAII, LLC,
(dated July 7, 2020)

Transmitting an annual compliance report in accordance with Condition 19 of Ordinance No. 3559, for Maui Business Park Phase II – Change in Zoning.

The recommended action is that General Communication No. 20-4 be referred to the Planning and Sustainable Land Use Committee.

CHAIR LEE: Any objections to the referrals as read by Mr. Clerk?

Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair, where did 20-383 go? I'm sorry, I missed that.

CHAIR LEE: What was the number?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: 20-383.

CHAIR LEE: Where did it go, or where is it going?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yea, who did it refer to?

CHAIR LEE: Affordable Housing Committee.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Alright, did I see other hands?

Ms. Sugimura.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION RELATING TO COUNTY COMMUNICATION NO. 20-384

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, the item that was 20-384 from me, regarding the Hawaiian Electric, Clean Energy Investment in Hawaii, was submitted. And I wanted

it to be referred to my Committee. Sorry about that. I, I see it's trying to get to the CAR Committee.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yea, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Actually, my office had called your office Ms. Sugimura and talked to, they talked to you about referring it.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yea, they said that you would be making a request to do that, so I, I'm asking that it go to my Committee.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Well, you could have just told me that before, that you didn't want it to.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I'll, I'll mention that.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Who made the, this referral in the first place?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I did.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. That's 384, 384. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Sorry about that, Ms. King.

CHAIR LEE: Alright. Change that referral to WIT. Alright, any other corrections or--
Yes, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

DISCUSSION RELATING TO
COUNTY COMMUNICATION NO. 20-383

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So, you said that item 20-383 is currently set to be referred to AH? I wanted to request for it to go to PSLU. It's part of the 2.96 that I talked about that I suggested amendments last year and it hasn't been scheduled. So, I'm just concerned that this one won't be scheduled either.

CHAIR LEE: Alright.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Kama, do you have any response? Yea.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right. Yea. So, the AH-10, the biennial review of the Residential Workforce Housing Policy, that's what we talked about way back in December. And that was just the biennial review. I was supposed to bring that back to have a more deeper dive into actually amending the policy itself. And that's what Member Rawlins-Fernandez, I think is talking about, correct?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: 2.96.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So I don't have a problem, I'm sorry.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yea, 2.96.

CHAIR LEE: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, I don't have a problem bringing that back sooner than later, because I know that's on my agenda, along with the DBA and all of the 201H programs, projects. So, I would like it to continue to be referred, yes, it's in my Committee already under AH-10. And like the last time when you wanted your, your, your homeless solutions, I told you, tell me when you want it and we'll get it in as soon as possible. So, that's not a problem. So, I've been more than happy to do that.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Councilmember Kama. Mahalo, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Alright.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Kama--

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --do you have an idea of when the biennial review and the, the current 20--

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Probably one of the, one of the two meetings probably in September, because the two meetings in October are probably dedicated to 201H projects, so yea.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Is that soon enough? Let me ask you, is that soon enough?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yea.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: That is? Okay. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, the 201H has a clock on it, so.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR LEE: So, just to reiterate, County Communications 20-383 will be referred to the Affordable Housing Committee?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yea. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Mr. Clerk.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Keani.

CHAIR LEE: Where did, where did we leave off.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Oh, Chair, just want to confirm with the body that there are no other objections to the referrals as read by the Clerk.

CHAIR LEE: Are there any other objections? No. No.

Okay, they're getting tired, so keep it going.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, proceeding with committee reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE REPORT
NO. 20-84 - AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE:

Recommending that Resolution 20-107, entitled "AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 18-150 TO ALLOW THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS TO EXTEND TIME DEADLINES FOR COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETION OF THE AFFORDABLE WORKFORCE HOUSING PROJECT BY WAIKAPU DEVELOPMENT VENTURE LLC," be ADOPTED.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, regarding 20-386, I would have like if it could be referred to HFC.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, I'm sorry. My, my fault. I jumped to the next page.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh. Am I on the right page, too, then?

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk, where did you, I thought we finished all the communications, our general communications? Yea, we did yea?

Okay, we, Ms. Kama, we finished all the general.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Affordable Housing?

CHAIR LEE: So, we're on committee reports.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Clerk, can you just repeat which report you just talked about?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Yes, Madam Chair. You have before you from your Affordable Housing Committee, Committee Report 20-84.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I'm sorry. Where are we at now, Chair?

CHAIR LEE: 20-84.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

I MOVE THAT THE RESOLUTION ATTACHED TO CR 20-84 ENTITLED "AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 18-150 TO ALLOW THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS TO EXTEND TIME DEADLINES FOR COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETION OF THE AFFORDABLE WORKFORCE HOUSING PROJECT BY WAIKAPU DEVELOPMENT VENTURE LLC," BE ADOPTED.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. It's been moved by Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Seconded by Member Molina, to adopt the resolution contained in Committee Report 20-84.

Any discussion, Ms. Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Yes, your Affordable Housing Committee met on July 6, 2020 to consider the request from Waikapu Development Venture LLC for an adjustment of the timeline that was placed in its workforce housing project in Resolution 18-150, adopted September 7, 2018.

The developer for this project of 80 residential workforce housing units has been delayed by the impacts of COVID-19 and State reviews, such as the review of the archaeological monitoring plan by the State Historic Preservation Division.

The original approval required construction to start no later than two years from approval, or by September 7, 2020 with completion by September 7, 2022. The developer indicated that they expect to start construction by mid-2020 and asked for a two-year extension. Your Committee found the request to extend the start and completion deadlines was reasonable.

A motion to recommend the adoption of the resolution was passed unanimously by Affordable Housing Committee. As such, I ask Members for your support of the motion to provide the requested time extensions.

CHAIR LEE: Any further discussion? If not, all those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, for the record, that is RESOLUTION 20-107.

COMMITTEE REPORT

NO. 20-85 - AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE:

Recommending that

1. That Bill 78 (2020), entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSION ON HEALING SOLUTIONS FOR HOMELESSNESS," be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT; and
2. That County Communication 20-313, from Council Vice-Chair Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, be FILED.

CHAIR LEE: Member Kama. No, I'm sorry. Yea, Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

I MOVE THAT THE BILL ATTACHED TO COMMITTEE REPORT 20-85, TO ESTABLISH A COMMISSION ON HEALING SOLUTIONS FOR HOMELESSNESS BE PASSED ON FIRST READING AND BE ORDERED TO PRINT, AND THE REFERENCED COMMUNICATION BE FILED.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Been moved by Member Kama, seconded by Member Molina, to pass the, the bill attached in 20-85 on first reading, and filing of the communication.

Discussion, Ms. Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: The Affordable Housing Committee met on July 6, 2020, and in a reconvened meeting on July 12, 2020 *[sic]*, to consider a proposed bill from Council Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 2 OF THE MAUI COUNTY CODE, PERTAINING TO ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSION ON HEALING SOLUTIONS FOR HOMELESSNESS", and a revised bill, "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSION ON HEALING SOLUTIONS FOR HOMELESSNESS". The latter bill offered only, offered no substantive revisions.

Your Committee discussed at length the nature, membership, duties, and purpose of the proposed commission. The Department of Housing and Human Concerns--

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: The Department of Housing and Human Concerns was expected to provide staff support for this new commission, along with four other advisory boards or commissions.

Conducting meetings remotely was expected to reduce the staff impact on supporting this new advisory body. The Department also cautioned that Federal funding for programs addressing the unsheltered rely to the County's adherence to the national guidelines of the Coordinated Entry System.

After considerable discussion, your Committee voted 8-0 to recommend passage of the revised proposed bill on first reading and filing of the communication. Committee Chair Kama; Vice-Chair Molina; Members King, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and Sugimura voted "aye". Councilmember Hokama was excused.

Attached, attached to Committee Report 20-85 is a further revised proposed bill approved as to form and legality by the Department of the Corp. Counsel incorporating your Committee's recommended revisions and nonsubstantive revisions. As such, I respectfully request the support of the Members for the bill as attached to Committee Report 20-85.

CHAIR LEE: Any further discussion? If not, all those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS KAMA, KING, MOLINA,
PALTIN, SINENCI, VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-
FERNANDEZ, AND CHAIR LEE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, so I see one, two, three, four, five, six, seven; Seven "ayes".

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I think Member Hokama had his hand up.

CHAIR LEE: Wait. Let's just check for "noes". How many "noes"?

NOES: COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA AND SUGIMURA.

CHAIR LEE: I see one.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Chair, this is on the Commission on, that we had this--

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: --a long discussion on the homelessness, right?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yea, I'm going to vote "no".

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Alright. So, we have seven "ayes" and two "noes"; motion carries.
The two "noes" are Mr. Hokama and Ms. Sugimura.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, for the record, that is BILL 78 (2020).

COMMITTEE REPORT

NO. 20-86 - CLIMATE ACTION AND RESILIENCE COMMITTEE:

Recommending the following:

1. That Resolution 20-108, entitled "SUPPORTING 'ĀINA ALOHA ECONOMIC FUTURES INITIATIVE AND TRANSITION TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY," be ADOPTED; and
2. That County Communication 20-333, from Councilmember Kelly Takaya King, be FILED.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair.

I MOVE TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN
COMMITTEE REPORT 20-86.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Member King, seconded by Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, to adopt the recommendation in Committee Report 20-86.

Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Your Committee, your Climate Action and Resilience Committee met on July 15, 2020 and discussed the proposed resolution referenced in CR 20-86.

Your Committee notes the intent of the resolution is to show the Council's support for the 'Āina Aloha Economic Futures Initiative and transition to a circular economy.

Your Committee received a presentation from Dr. Kamana Beamer, associate professor of the University of Hawaii's Center for Hawaiian Studies in the Hui 'Aina Momona Program. Dr. Beamer provided an overview of principles of a circular economy of the, and the 'Āina Aloha Economic Futures Declaration, which he co-authored.

He advised the transition to a circular economy would aid in the economic recovery from the COVID-19 crisis while preserving natural resources and combating climate change.

Dr. Beamer also shared the 'Āina Aloha Assessment Tool, which helps institutions, organizations, and individuals to make better decisions for the future of the 'āina and the community.

Your Committee reviewed correspondence from Mr. Keith Regan, the Chief Administrative Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, and notes the HTA expressed support for the resolution and has endorsed the Declaration themselves.

The Mayor is also one of the more than 2,300 supporters of the Declaration and that number continues to grow. The proposed resolution would officially add the Maui County Council to their list of supporters.

Your Committee revised the proposed resolution, expressed their support, and therefore, voted 6-0, with Councilmember Hokama being excused, to recommend the adoption of the revised proposed resolution incorporating any nonsubstantive changes and filing of the communication. I ask for the Members support of your Committee's recommendations.

And I, and I, I don't know if Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez has another amendment. That might be a new number today, for, of the added support. But we'll leave it at 2300 for now.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, anymore discussion? No?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I, I lend my strong support and I thank Member King for introducing this resolution. And again, to Member Sinenci for initiating the discussion in the EACP Committee. I, I think the discussion that we had in Committee covered a lot of really good topics and I, I look forward to the Council and the Administration, you know, the, the entire Maui County standing behind the 'Āina Aloha Economic Futures Initiative and effort and movement.

And other Councils are now looking at this resolution as a model and are looking at taking it up as well. So, again, Maui Council, you know, trailblazing and leading the way in very progressive, very commonsense and very community centered, culturally rooted initiatives. So, mahalo again.

And I will, I will see about getting an update for the petition number with Dr. Beamer, cause he's actually monitoring right now. So, I'll, I'll ask him for that number and see if we would like to amend the 2,300 to include the additional signatures they may have gotten from that, from the other week. Mahalo, Member King. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair, for the opportunity. I also speak in support of the 'Āina Aloha Economic Futures Initiative transition to a circular economy. You know, in our EACP Committee, we've spent many hours this last year and a half just thinking about visitor impacts and how we can help our communities, our, especially remote communities. So, I'm happy to hear that the Hawaii Tourism Authority has

pivoted on their mission and also accepted the circular economy initiative. So, again, mahalo for . . .

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else? If not, all those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. It looks like nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries. Congratulations.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And, Chair can I just . . .

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

Oh, Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yea, thank you. I just wanted to, again, thank Mr. Sinenci for also bringing this subject matter to his Committee.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Okay, let's keep it all short and sweet, heading down the homestretch, because we have Douglas on our heels, okay, the hurricane.

Mr. Clerk.

What I'm going to do, Members, is I'm going to open the Chair's meeting, and just cover the, the important things that you need to know from the County Clerk. And then we'll just reschedule the rest of it another day, cause you, you folks have to go home and take care of the, the yard, and the animals, and the family, and everybody.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, for the record, that is RESOLUTION 20-108.

COMMITTEE REPORT
NO. 20-87 - GOVERNANCE, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE:

Recommending the following:

1. That the proposed resolution, entitled "PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE REVISED CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI (1983), AS AMENDED, TO ALLOW ATTORNEYS WITHIN THE OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES TO SERVE AS LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS MEMBERS," be REFERRED to the Council Chair for the next Council term, for transmittal to the next Charter Commission; and
2. That the correspondence dated January 10, 2020, from Councilmember Kelly Takaya King, be FILED.

CHAIR LEE: Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. For the sake of expediency and the hurricane concerns, may we have the Clerk call up Committee Reports 20-88 and 20-89?

CHAIR LEE: Any objections?

MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTION.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Clerk.

COMMITTEE REPORT
NO. 20-88 - GOVERNANCE, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE:

Recommending that the proposed resolution, entitled "PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE REVISED CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI (1983), AS AMENDED, TO ALLOW THE COUNCIL TO APPOINT SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSIONS," be REFERRED to the Council Chair for the next Council term, for transmittal to the next Charter Commission.

COMMITTEE REPORT

NO. 20-89 - GOVERNANCE, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE:

Recommending that the proposed resolution, entitled "PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE REVISED CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI (1983), AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE CORPORATION COUNSEL," be REFERRED to the Council Chair for the next Council term, for transmittal to the next Charter Commission.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

MOVE TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN COMMITTEE REPORTS 20-87 THROUGH 20-89.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ:

SECOND.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez, to approve of the motion.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you, Madam Chair. Your GET Committee met on June 23 and June 30 to discuss these three matters. And your Committee agreed that these Charter proposals are worthy of consideration but requires further discussion and should be considered by the 2021-2022 Charter Commission. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Further discussion? If not, all those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS KAMA, KING, MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND CHAIR LEE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. All those opposed raise your hand.

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA AND SUGIMURA.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, look, it is eight "ayes", one "no"; Ms. Sugimura. Oh, two "noes", two "noes". Seven "ayes", two "noes"; Mr. Hokama and Ms. Sugimura. Motion carries.

Mr. Clerk.

COMMITTEE REPORT

NO. 20-90 - GOVERNANCE, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE:

Recommending that Resolution 20-109, entitled "AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF CLAIM NO. 30192754170-0001 OF BACON UNIVERSAL CO., INC.," be ADOPTED.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Molina. Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

MOVE TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 20-90.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ:

SECOND.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. It's been moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, to adopt the Committee Report 20-90.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Your GET Committee met on this matter on July 7, 2020. This case involves property damage to a dozer owned by Bacon Universal Company that was being rented by the County and used at the Central Maui Landfill on December 24, 2018.

Your Committee voted 9-0 to recommend adoption of the proposed resolution, which would authorize settlement of the claim for \$121,181.88. I ask for the Members full support. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Any further comments, questions? If not, all those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, for the record, that is RESOLUTION 20-109.

COMMITTEE REPORT

NO. 20-91 - GOVERNANCE, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE:

Recommending that Resolution 20-110, entitled "AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF CLAIM NUMBER 30193234263-0001 OF PERLITA CASINO," be ADOPTED.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

MOVE TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 20-91.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Ms. Sugimura, to adopt the resolution in Committee Report 20-91.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Yea, Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Your Committee met on this matter July 7, 2020. This case, the case involves a sewage leak resulting in damage to a rental property in Kahului. And your Committee voted 9-0 recommend adoption of the revised proposed resolution, which would authorize settlement of the claim for \$76,394.70. I ask for the Members support. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: For the record, that is RESOLUTION 20-110.

COMMITTEE REPORT

NO. 20-92 - GOVERNANCE, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE:

Recommending that Resolution 20-111, entitled "AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF COUNTY OF MAUI V. RICK MARKHAM, ET AL., CIVIL NO. 17-1-0393(2)," be ADOPTED.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Yes, thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA:

MOVE TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 20-92.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Mr. Sinenci, to adopt the resolution in Committee Report 20-92.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Your GET Committee met on this matter, both on June 2, 2020 and July 7, 2020. The case involves violations of the Building Code for the construction of an unpermitted dwelling and deck in Paia, Maui.

And at the request of Corporation Counsel, your Committee held an executive session meeting. And following the meeting, your Committee voted 8-0 to recommend adoption of the revised proposed resolution. I ask for the Members support of this motion. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Anymore discussion? If not, all those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS KAMA, KING, MOLINA,
PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA, VICE-CHAIR
RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND CHAIR LEE.

CHAIR LEE: And those opposed, "no".

NOES: COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA.

CHAIR LEE: Motion carries, nine, oh, one "no". Eight "ayes", one "no"; Mr. Hokama.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Chair, for the record, that is RESOLUTION 20-111.

COMMITTEE REPORT

NO. 20-93 - HEALTHY FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE:

Recommending the following:

1. That Bill 79 (2020), entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 12.24A, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO EXCEPTIONAL TREES," be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT; and
2. That County Communication 20-269, from the Director of Parks and Recreation, be FILED.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Hokama

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

MOVE THAT COMMITTEE REPORT 20-93, ALONG WITH ITS RECOMMENDATIONS, BE ADOPTED.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Mr. Hokama, seconded by Ms. Sugimura, to adopt Committee Report 20-93 and the attached resolution.

Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Members, your Healthy Families and Communities Committee met on this request on July 9, 2020. And the proposed request before the Committee was to remove 34 monkey pod (*samanea saman*) trees along Honoapiilani Highway, north of the intersection with Kuihelani Highway, in Waikapu, Maui, Hawaii, from the list of "exceptional trees". The site is on the mauka side of Honoapiilani Highway, fronting real property identified as TMK: 3-5-002:002. The delisting of these trees would allow for their removal in conjunction with the Pu'unani Homestead Subdivision, which is a residential project of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Your Committee discussed in details, with the project's design, as well as the importance of exceptional trees to Maui County and to those in that area, especially those that are indigenous to Hawaii.

Your discussion was aided by the resource personnel from the County, property owner, and project developer. Your Committee notes that the bill was submitted with the unanimous concurrence of the County's Arborist Committee, as well as support from the Association of Hawaiians for Homestead Lands, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, County Department of Public Works, and the County's Arboriculturist.

Your Committee did discuss concerns about a mauka connector road between Waikapu and Wailuku. And that County Communication 20-391 that is referred to our WIT Committee today is a vehicle that we would ask for continued discussions on the matter. Therefore, this afternoon, we ask that the Members support your Committee's recommendation. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Any further discussion? If not, all those in favor of the motion, say "aye". Raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, for the record, that is BILL 79 (2020).

COMMITTEE REPORT

NO. 20-94 - PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE LAND USE COMMITTEE:

Recommending the following:

1. That Bill 80 (2020), entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE STATE LAND USE DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION FROM AGRICULTURAL TO URBAN FOR PROPERTY SITUATED AT PAIA, MAUI, HAWAII, TAX MAP KEY (2) 2-5-005:063 (POR.)," be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT;

2. That Bill 81 (2020), entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE ZONING FROM INTERIM DISTRICT TO B-CT COUNTRY TOWN BUSINESS DISTRICT AND PUBLIC/QUASI-PUBLIC (CONDITIONAL ZONING) FOR PROPERTY SITUATED AT PAIA, MAUI, HAWAII, TAX MAP KEY (2) 2-5-005:063 (POR.)," be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT;
3. That the County Clerk RECORD the unilateral agreement; and
4. That County Communication 17-126, from the Planning Director, be FILED.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair.

I MOVE TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION IN COMMITTEE REPORT 20-94.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI:

SECOND.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Second.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Member Paltin, seconded by Mr. Sinenci, to approve Committee Report 20-94.

All those, I mean, Ms., Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. The Planning and Sustainable Land Use Committee discussed this proposed State District Boundary Amendment and Change in Zoning for the Paia Courtyard Project.

If enacted, the bills will amend portions of the State Land Use District from Agricultural to Urban and portions of the zoning from Interim District to both B-CT Country Town Business District and Public/Quasi-Public District. Furthermore, these bills will allow the property to be subdivided and developed in alignment with their new designations.

As a condition of zoning, the landowner offered to dedicate the 2.9-acre Public/Quasi-Public District portion of the property to the County of Maui at no cost to the County if the bills are enacted, but requested to retain a certain amount for development of a parking lot.

The Planning and Sustainable Land Use Committee requested the landowner decide what portion of the Public/Quasi Public District to retain, which the landowner agreed to determine. Therefore, the Planning and Sustainable Land Use Committee unanimously recommended the bills be passed on first reading.

I'VE TRANSMITTED AN AMENDMENT SUMMARY FORM TO REVISE THE FIRST CHANGE IN ZONING CONDITION TO ESTABLISH THE PROPERTY OWNER MAY RETAIN 30,000 SQUARE FEET OF THE PUBLIC/QUASI-PUBLIC DISTRICT PROPERTY, AND THAT WAS WHAT WE HAD GONE OVER IN COMMITTEE.

And we just wanted to make sure that everything was recorded, that he intended to use that for, to satisfy his parking requirements for the frontage that would be B-CT District. Did everybody receive the Amendment Summary Form?

CHAIR LEE: Yes. Okay. Anymore discussions?

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you, Madam Chair. Very quickly, I want to thank Mr. Spencer for his patience and willingness to meet with the community and the Committee to discuss the proposals. And also to Committee Chair Paltin for having this matter discussed and shepherded through. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you, Mr. Molina. Anymore discussions?

Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yea, for Committee Chair, just one question, please, Chair Paltin. What is the, I notice the Committee's recommend retaining the 5-acres of Interim to remain Interim, is that correct?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No. So, the front one would be Business Country Town. The Interim would be Public/Quasi-Public, about 2.9-acres. And the 5-acres in the back would remain Agriculture.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Okay. Okay. No, I saw on the Committee Report page 6 as Interim, so I just was curious. Thank, thank you for that clarification, Chair Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No problem.

CHAIR LEE: Alright. Any more discussion? All those in favor of the motion?

Oh, we have that summary, that amendment, summary amendment.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can I get a second for the amendment?

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Do we have a second for the amendment?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: As distributed today. Ms. Sugimura is seconding the motion for the amendment.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And so, in Committee, the information that they would require parking came out late. It wasn't an upfront thing that was told to me or staff. And so, you know, we were about ready to pass it, and then they said, well, we need however much for parking. And I felt more comfortable laying it all out so that there's no question, that they'll have a certain amount designated for their parking.

So, we just spelled that out in the Amendment Summary Form, you know. Just to make sure that down the road, like what if we use Public/Quasi-Public right there for a pallet housing like Waiale, you know, and they didn't get their parking area for whatever it is that they should develop. So, we just wanted to make sure that they had sufficient parking for that front B-CT section. And this spells it out.

CHAIR LEE: So, did everybody get the Summary Amendment Form? No? Who didn't get it besides Ms. King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Where did you, what, did you send it by email? Was it sent by email?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The Clerk's were supposed to, I guess, hold it for the meeting, like how they, they normally have been doing. I, I got it.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: How are they, how are they sending it? By email?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Email, yea.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. One second. The Clerk's Office is saying that they emailed it. When?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: 3:38.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, they just emailed it. So, can you check your email everybody, your inbox.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, I got it.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Everyone else.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I'm still waiting on my staff to send it, I guess.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, I, shall I read it for you?

CHAIR LEE: Sure, why not. It's kind of long. What are you going to read, which part? The motion, the effect, the what? Just the motion?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN:

MOVE TO AMEND THE BILL BY AMENDING CONDITION 1 AS FOLLOWS:

DELETE: "OFFER TO"; AND

ADD THE FOLLOWING BEFORE THE PERIOD AT THE END OF THE SENTENCE: "WITH A TWO-LANE VEHICULAR ACCESS EASEMENT THROUGH "AREA A" TO BALDWIN AVENUE; EXCEPT 30,000 SQUARE FEET OF "AREA B" LOCATED ALONG THE BORDER OF "AREA A" IN EXHIBIT "3" CAN BE RETAINED BY PAIA 2020, LLC AND THE DAVID R. SPEE REVOCABLE TRUST. PAIA 2020, LLC AND THE DAVID R. SPEE REVOCABLE TRUST MUST NOT ALLOW THE RETAINED PORTION TO IMPEDE VEHICULAR INGRESS AND EGRESS TO "AREA B" FROM BALDWIN AVENUE, AS DETERMINED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS."

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Any questions about that?

Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, I'm sure the Chair had Mr. Spee and Henry Spencer look at this? To confirm. Okay, thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Anymore questions? If not, all those in favor of the, excuse me.

Mr. Clerk, you have a question?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Apologies, Chair. We just wanted to check, does this motion also include the same revisions that would be made to the unilateral agreement that's also attached to that bill, that also reflects the conditions?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes.

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So, shall we proceed with the vote? Okay, all in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand. This is on the amendment.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Is it unanimous? 9-0; motion carries.

Okay. Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I respectfully ask the Members support for my motion as amended.

CHAIR LEE: Anymore discussion? Oh, who, who's the second on this?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Member Sinenci, I think was the second.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Mr. Sinenci. Right. Any more discussion? If not, all, all those in favor of the motion as amended, say "aye" and raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, KING,
MOLINA, PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA,
VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND
CHAIR LEE.

NOES: NONE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Nine "ayes", zero "noes"; motion carries.

Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, for the record, these are, this is BILL 80 and BILL 81 (2020), respectively.

Chair, proceeding with resolutions for second and final reading.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 20-98

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE REVISED CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI (1983), AS AMENDED, TO ESTABLISH STRICTER TERM LIMITS FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. May I request the Clerk call up Resolutions 20-99 through 20-102?

CHAIR LEE: Any objections, Members?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No objections.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No objections.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Mr. Clerk. 98 to 102.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Everyone's muted.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura, did you have an objection?

Mr. Hokama, did you have an objection?

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: No. But I was pleasantly surprised by my colleague, Mr. Molina.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Alright. Mr. Molina wanted to bring up all of them, okay? And I didn't hear any objections. So, Mr. Clerk, please read them all.

RESOLUTION
NO. 20-99

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE
REVISED CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
(1983), AS AMENDED, RELATING TO
CONFLICTING INTERPRETATIONS OF THE
CHARTER

RESOLUTION
NO. 20-100

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE
REVISED CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
(1983), AS AMENDED, RELATING TO CHARTER
COMMISSION

RESOLUTION
NO. 20-101

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE
REVISED CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
(1983), AS AMENDED, TO ESTABLISH
STRICTER TERM LIMITS FOR THE MAYOR

RESOLUTION
NO. 20-102

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE REVISED
CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI (1983), AS
AMENDED, RELATING TO ESTABLISHING A
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Very quickly. 20-98, relates to establishing stricter term limits for Councilmembers by limiting the number of terms a person may serve as a Councilmember to five two-year terms.

In Resolution 20-9 *[sic]*, relates to establishing standards for interpreting and complying with the Charter, including by requiring a judicial action be filed within 30-days to seek clarity when a conflict in the interpretation of the Charter is identified.

And Reso 20-100, authorizes the Council to appoint nine members and the Mayor, and the Mayor to appoint two members of the 11-member Charter Commission.

And then Resolution 20-101, relates to establishing stricter term limits for the Mayor by limiting the number of terms a person may serve as Mayor to two four-year terms.

And Reso 20-102 establishes a Department of Agriculture to develop a sustainable regional agricultural system for Maui County.

And if approved by the electorate, all Charter amendments go into effect January 2, 2021, with the exception of the Department of Agriculture proposal that is effective July 1, 2022.

And of course, Madam Chair, if any Members would request a separation of this one motion, . . . to do so. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura. Can't hear you. Can't hear you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, on the 20-98, which is establishing a stricter term limit for Councilmembers, I'm going to be voting "no", because I'm voting in support of Mr. Molina, Ms. Lee, and Mr. Hokama, who have proved valuable service to the County because of their years of experience and knowledge. So, for that, for that reason, I'm voting "no", because I believe that this will restrict historical knowledge to be shared again with the Council if this passes.

I also believe that the, relating to the Charter Commission--

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura. Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yes. You want me to take each one?

CHAIR LEE: No, no, no. The, the staff is saying that there was no second to Mr. Molina's, Mr. Molina's motion.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ:

SECOND.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I'm sorry.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Second would be Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. I, I thought there was a second, but that's alright. Now, we're still, we're, before you continue, did, did any of you want to separate these?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: One. Ms. Sugimura, did you want to separate it? All of these; you got one, two, three, four, five.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, Ms. Kama had her hand up first.

CHAIR LEE: No, no, she wanted to separate it. So, you want to separate it? How many people want to separate it? Mr. Molina just asked, do you folks want to separate it?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, yes.

CHAIR LEE: So, we go one at a time, okay. We go one at a time.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I'm okay with the first. The only thing, the only one I wanted separated out was Reso 20-102, that's all. That's the only one.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Mr. Molina. Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yes, Madam Chair.

CHAIR LEE: What would you like to do? You have some people, you know, wanting to separate a couple and some not really asking for any separation.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Madam Chair, I'm okay either way. I mean, if I could withdraw the initial motion to pass the Resos 20-98 through 102 on second and final reading. But if we want to go by Charter amendment, each a separate motion, I'm fine with that.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Why don't we do that, so.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. So--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA:

SO, I'LL GO AHEAD AND WITHDRAW THE INITIAL MOTION THEN.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA:

SO, I'LL JUST FIRST MAKE A MOTION TO PASS RESO 20-98 ON SECOND AND FINAL READING.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Second?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Been moved by Member Molina, second by Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, to pass Resolution 20-98 on second and final reading. So, discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Madam Chair, I'll yield the floor to the Members.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Ms. Sugimura, now you can restart your discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Molina, for doing that separation. So, on this, as I was saying for item number, Charter amendment 20-98, I want to just, I'm going to be voting against this because I believe in the knowledge and experience which Mr. Molina has brought back by coming back to the Council;

Ms. Lee, look at that, she's Council Chair again; Mr. Hokama with his many, many years of experience, and with NACo, I mean, just a wealth of knowledge. And so, therefore, I am voting against this Charter amendment. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else? If not, ready for the vote?

Yes, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I'll quickly just add a little bit of mana'o, because I, I will be voting in support of this motion. But it's not because I don't value your institutional knowledge, Member Molina's, Member Hokama's. And I, and I do agree that with all the institutional knowledge and mana'o you bring, it, it does have tremendous value.

And while, you know, Member Hokama is terming out this year, if I am on the Council next year, I, I will definitely be calling up Member Hokama for some of his institutional knowledge, especially when it comes to Lanai. Not that I, you know, if I'm on the Council, I wouldn't work with the new representative for Lanai but, you know, we've, we've already worked on some things. And it, it, this wouldn't prohibit me from being able to consult with and, well, hopefully Member Hokama will answer my calls.

But I, I think, you know, just lifting up the, those that, you know, I just, I believe in, you know, just lifting up other members in our community to, you know, have a shot at being the Councilmember. And as the person who would be elected, we would hope that that elected official would have those types of relationships with former Councilmembers such as Ms. Gladys Baisa, who's offered her tremendous institutional knowledge. And yes, I am definitely soaking in a lot of what she has to share. So, just because she's not on the Council as a Councilmember does not mean that I will not be taking advantage of those that offer their expertise and their wealth of knowledge, because I, I have been offered those opportunities and I will definitely take those up. So, mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else want to talk about wealth of knowledge?

Mr. Sinenci, and then Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yea, I wanted to just add my, always been appreciative and impressed with Member Hokama's institutional knowledge. And I've always seen him as, you know, one of our representatives even higher beyond the borders, our Hawaii borders. Even, you know, just looking at his representation for us at the NACo level and in Washington. So, I'm always supportive and I, I look forward to working with him in the . . . Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Well, it's tough to be in this kind of unique situation isn't it, Chair Lee? But, you know, I, I appreciate everybody's point of view. And of course, points of view tend to change as time changes too for the individual. So, I'm more conservative than I was maybe 40 years ago. But you know for me, I'm going to vote "no" on this. And maybe it's a generational thing.

But what I grew up, in my generation and in my time of what I was taught as the basic foundations from those that helped raise me, and again with all respect to my colleagues, is the foundation of ike kupuna, or what is the elder's knowledge and wisdom. And I, and my thing was that I still think it has a place in elective politics. I think it should be offered to the community at unique times when situations call for those potential type of resources. And then, again, at the end, allow our people to make their choices. So, thank you for letting me share my thoughts on this matter, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else? Well, I'm going to share my thought right now. If I had my way, I wouldn't support this or any other proposal, except a one term, one six-year term for all Councilmembers. I may have mentioned this to some of you before. And the reason is two years, everybody knows, especially you newbies, yea, your, your first year you're learning the ropes, your second year you're running for re-election. Now, how much work can you get done, really, in a, in a regular term?

I feel, give somebody six years, they won't worry about running for re-election. You know, the second and fourth years and sixth year, you can get a tremendous amount of work done. You wouldn't be political, because it makes no sense for you to be political. But I know, nobody is ever going to agree with that suggestion. So, I will support this proposal, because I too believe that everybody should have a chance. And I did my part; I stayed out for 20 years and then I came back.

So, anybody else? Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to emphasize the point that Ms. Tumpap made, you know, that former Mayor Kimo Apana is, is helping out our current Mayor Victorino. And he hasn't even reached his term limits of whatever it was. But you know, that's, that's the kind of thing that really makes me happy to be living in Maui County.

You know, to see former Mayors and current Mayors working together, to see former Councilmembers and current Councilmembers working together. And you know, even,

even bringing the, the type of knowledge that you get from serving on the Council to other areas of the County, like boards and commissions, and, and you know, just being involved in the community and explaining it to the community.

I think that by bringing back folks that we feel comfortable and familiar with, it limits the capacity of what we're all capable of. And, and helping from, from different angles, you know, I mean, I really would like to get it away from the, the viewpoint that we're like, we don't ever want to see Mr. Hokama again or something like that. Cause this isn't, that's not even what it is. He can come back for another 10 years cause it starts when the clock is ticking. But you know, even if he, he doesn't come back or anybody were to not come back, even Elle or whoever, we feel comfortable with our former politicians, our current politicians to the point where if they're involved in the discussion, if they're involved in the community, it, it brings that much more of a vibrant County for us.

So, you know, I mean, I hope that politicians who have termed out or who have retired or whatever don't go off into hiding and, and do be a part of everything that's going on in the County, and encourage other people to be a part of it based on their knowledge, and wisdom, and experience. And, you know, I just, I, I'm afraid that if we put all our eggs in the same basket over and over again, once that basket passes on, then what are we left with? You know, just an empty basket. So, I'm going to support the major, or the motion.

(Councilmember Kama was excused from the meeting at 4:02 p.m.)

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Anybody else? If not, all those in favor of the motion say "aye", raise your hands. Okay. I see one, two, three, four, five, six. Tasha Kama's not there. Okay, so, we have six "ayes".

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS KING, MOLINA, PALTIN,
SINENCI, VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ,
AND CHAIR LEE.

CHAIR LEE: "No", raise your hand.

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA AND SUGIMURA.

EXCUSED: COUNCILMEMBER KAMA.

CHAIR LEE: We have two "noes". Six "ayes", two "noes", one "excused"; motion carries. Excused is Member Kama. The "noes" are Mr. Hokama and Ms. Sugimura.

Okay. Mr. Clerk. Next one.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, the other four resolutions for second and final reading are still before the body.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, do we have to read it for you? You can read it, right? You guys can read it, "PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE REVISED". Mr. Molina read all of this already. It's just as a reminder, yea?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Madam Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Should we just, for the sake of formality, because we requested separation that to, do I need to make a separate motion for each Charter amendment, bill *[sic]*?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: I think maybe, yea.

OKAY, WELL, THEREFORE, MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO
PASS ON SECOND AND FINAL READING RESOLUTION
NO. 20-99.

COUNCILMEMBER KING:

SECOND.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, it's been moved by Member Molina, seconded by Member King, to pass, to approve Resolution 20-99.

All those in, I mean, Mr. Molina, do you want to talk again on the motion?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea. Madam Chair, I'll yield the floor for 20-99 to the Members.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. 20-99. Okay. Doesn't seem like there's any discussion. All those in favor of the motion, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS KAMA, KING, MOLINA,
PALTIN, SINENCI, VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-
FERNANDEZ, AND CHAIR LEE.

CHAIR LEE: And then, those who say "no", raise your hand.

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA AND SUGIMURA.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. We have two "noes". Seven "ayes", two "noes"; Member Sugimura,
Member Hokama. Motion carries.

Mr. Molina, the next one.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

I MOVE TO PASS ON SECOND AND FINAL READING
RESOLUTION NO. 20-100.

COUNCILMEMBER KING:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Mr., Ms. King, to pass on second and final
reading, the attached amendment in 20-100.

Any discussion? Yea, Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you, Madam Chair. I have a little bit of a discussion
for this one. I've heard some concerns about this that this may be a power grab by the
Council and, and that it could affect, have some affect, negative affect on future Charter
Commissions. But I see it differently, because under this proposal, the Mayor will have
a free pass. He or she will get to choose two nominees without any vetting by the
Council. And then the nine Councilmembers each can select one individual from their
districts.

Now, there's been concerns, well the, the agenda of the Councilmembers may be
different of future Councils. Well, if you look at the current process, the Mayor gets to
nominate all 11, and chances are the Mayor will select some individuals who have the
Mayor's agenda on their mind. So, it can be argued both ways. So, we don't know
what the future makeup of the Council will be like and what each future
Councilmember's agenda will be.

But I see this as an opportunity to try something different. Every now and then government needs to look at itself and see where and, and get a pulse feel of the community if they like the current process or not. So, I see this as an opportunity just to put it out there to the public, and to see if they want additional structural changes to government. So, if it flies, it flies. If it doesn't, well, that's okay too. But ultimately, it's again as I've said before, it's the people's government, not the Councils and not the Mayor. So, that's why I'm going to support putting this on the ballot for the people to decide. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Any more discussion?

Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yea, so, I'm going to be voting against this. I understand the, what Mr. Molina said, thank you very much. I was on the Charter Commission, and at that time in the current process selected by Mayor Arakawa, I wasn't, I didn't really know him, so it wasn't anything, you know, like that.

But he did select a, a Charter Commission that was diverse, so you had, I think I said this in the Committee meeting, or last meeting, you had Kay Okamoto from Lanai, you had Stacy Crivello from Molokai, you had Dave DeLeon from Upcountry. I mean, he, they chose members that were from all over the island and representative of the different districts. So, I, I agree with the current process, so I'm going to be voting against this Charter amendment.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else? All those in favor of the motion to pass Resolution 20-100, say "aye", raise your hand.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS KAMA, KING, MOLINA,
PALTIN, SINENCI, VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-
FERNANDEZ, AND CHAIR LEE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. All those against the motion, say "no".

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA AND SUGIMURA.

CHAIR LEE: So, I see seven "ayes", two "noes". The two "noes" are Sugimura and Member Hokama, on Resolution 20-100.

Okay, Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

MOVE TO PASS ON SECOND AND FINAL READING
RESOLUTION NO. 20-101.

COUNCILMEMBER KING:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Member King, to pass Resolution 20-101 on second and final reading.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'll yield the floor to the Members for comments on this proposal.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Anyone for discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, Chair Lee.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, basically, I'm going to be voting against this, as I believe that the Mayor, as Councilmembers bring their knowledge and experience to, in this case, to run the Administrative side of the County. And I believe that the voters, if they think the Mayor or Councilmembers are not doing the job, we will not get re-elected. So, that process of checks and balances and the belief in our community, I'm going to be voting against this. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else? All those in favor of the motion to pass Resolution 20-101 on second and final, raise your hand, say "aye".

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS KAMA, KING, MOLINA,
PALTIN, SINENCI, VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-
FERNANDEZ, AND CHAIR LEE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. I see seven "ayes". Those against, say "no".

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA AND SUGIMURA.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So, there's seven "ayes". The two "noes" are Ms. Sugimura and Mr. Hokama. Motion carries.

Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

MOVE TO PASS ON SECOND AND FINAL READING
RESOLUTION NO. 20-102, "PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT
TO THE REVISED CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI, AS
AMENDED, RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Alright. Moved by Mr. Molina, seconded by Mr. Sinenci, to pass Resolution 20-102.

Discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Madam Chair, I'll yield the floor to the Members.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Ms. Sugimura, and then Ms., Mr. Sinenci.

Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: This is Mr. Sinenci's, this is Mr. Sinenci's proposal and he put his hand up, so I defer to him first.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Yea, we've, we've heard many of the testimonies that this was not the time to create a Department of Agriculture. And I disagree. This is, if we didn't, if we weren't in a global pandemic, we wouldn't even have this conversation. So, now is the time that we need to be looking to, for food security.

And Chair, I just wanted to thank all the Members and all of the agricultural communities for working on these amendments to make this acceptable for everyone to put on the ballot, including, you know, almost 4,000 signatures that are in support of

putting it on the ballot. If it does pass, as Chair, I'll work, immediately work hard to, to meet with those ag groups again so that we can go ahead and work on, on the Charter amendment. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you again, Mr. Sinenci, for your hard work. I believe that this Department of Agriculture and the discussion that we heard, and testimony, as well as through its creation, it was stated that the purpose and intent of the creation of the Department is really to provide advocacy, correct, Mr. Sinenci? Correct? Yea.

And I believe that that was the testimony that we heard today. And I wanted to, excuse me, sorry. I wanted to also state that I'm going to be voting against starting this Department of Agriculture. And the reason is, because exactly where you had Ms. Paltin's earlier testimony about homeowners' association being able to hear the trials and tribulations of what's happening now because of COVID-19 and the struggling in the economy is the reason why we should not expand government is my position.

I believe that agriculture is important. Mr. Molina and I, during the budget process we put money in for the slaughterhouse and there's many needs of agriculture, which, you know, up in, well, Upcountry, we have many of the farmers there as well as, you know, scattered throughout Maui County. But because of that, I, I think this is probably a good idea. But I think now, with us, the uncertainty of our economy that has crashed, it's hard to spend money to build government where we should just take that money and give it to agriculture programs. So, thank you very much.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Kama. Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. You know, one thing I love about this Council is that we don't always have to agree on a lot of things.

CHAIR LEE: . . . we don't?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And that's what makes it special. And that's what makes it special, is that we don't, we don't agree. But it doesn't mean that we stop working with each other. It doesn't mean that we stop talking to each other. It doesn't mean that we get mad at each other like before.

CHAIR LEE: It does.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: But we're able to become really thoughtful about what's being proposed, who's saying what. And in the end, we get to decide, for ourselves and in

our hearts and in our minds, what it is that we're going to do with our one vote. And even if we win, we win. If we lose, that's okay too, because the fact is that we got to say our peace. We got to say I want to represent the voices that were out there, that were contrary to what some of the other voices were saying. That's what makes this Council really special, and I'm glad to be working with everybody on this, on this.

But regarding this issue before us, I don't support the development of a Department of Ag. I am wanting to see whatever it is we have in, going for us right now. We have a lot of agencies who've work on agricultural issues. They combine their resources to be able to support all of our farmers. So, I am voting in opposition of this particular reso. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, anybody else? Alright, all those in--

Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Real quickly.

CHAIR LEE: And then Mr. Hokama.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I, I wanted to, so I'll be voting in support of the motion, of course. I, I wanted to be able to correct the record for Member Sinenci. If I can just ask two questions of Member Sinenci?

Member Sinenci, did you cancel the meeting on Friday with the president of the Farm Bureau on that Friday that was a scheduled meeting? No one can see you shaking your head.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then my, my second question, to clear the record and stop the, the rumors being spread. Member Sinenci, did you refuse to, an opportunity to reschedule with the Farm Bureau president, or refuse her an opportunity to meet after that meeting didn't happen on that Friday?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No. We had a meeting scheduled for Friday that the Farm Bureau director cancelled on us, that Friday.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The, the president of the Farm Bureau cancelled that meeting? It wasn't you who cancelled that meeting?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: That's correct.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And you offered an opportunity to reschedule?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: We offered to, to meet with all the, the farm community and the farm groups. I believe we received a email from the Farm Bureau asking to support the filing of the Charter amendment.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The Farm Bureau asked you to file this resolution?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: That's correct.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Mahalo, Chair. So, I'll be voting in support of this motion. Mahalo for that opportunity to correct the record.

CHAIR LEE: Anyone else? If not all those--

Oh, Mr. Hokama wanted to speak. And then Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Thank you, Chair. Quickly, for my opportunity on this. I'll be speaking against the motion this afternoon. I spent time, you know, the last couple weekends back home, and I can tell you, I would say Lanai is like the rest of the County. There are some that ask me to consider supporting the Department, and there were others that told me that they didn't feel that a Department was necessary at this time. And they, they was actually looking for a different type of assistance from the County; more in the type of a grant than a bureaucrat.

And so, just let me put it this way. I, I'm going to share a point of view that hasn't really been brought up, and that is those that actually pay the taxes and help provide the \$30 million subsidy to agriculture every year. And my communications with them is while they support ag, they don't see a benefit of a Department at this time, you know. They don't see a plan of anything, either from the Council or the Administration, on how we're going to move agriculture forward.

Where does Mahi Pono fit? They're the biggest person in the block right now, but we haven't heard anything in three to four months from that entity. Where does Maui Pine fit in, in all of this? Where does our Upcountry produce people and flower growers fit in? Part of the comment I'm getting is for, from those that actually pay the bill, is what do we get out of this except paying more taxes and not getting the results?

So, I just share that with you that I present another perspective of this proposal. And for those that feel that they're paying the bill, I can tell you I don't see that much support from it, from that side of the factor. Thank you very much, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, thank you, Madam Chair. Earlier in testimony today, we heard from my, a representative for the Maui County Farm Bureau making a request to the Council to consider amending or removing a particular word under Section 8-18.3, the word "primary" from, prior to the word of "purpose". Can I get some comment, I mean, I, I guess it, it'll, the testimony said that it would I guess maybe possibly change the intent or add additional purpose and maybe an unknown purpose? So, I'm trying to get an understanding or clarity about this proposal.

I mean, would, if we were to remove "purpose", is this going to change the intent of the bill? Or if we leave it in, is it just, you know? I don't know if maybe we need a legal interpretation of the word "primary" being left in versus "primary" being left out? So, Madam Chair, if I could get either comment from the maker, Mr. Sinenci, or from Corp. Counsel on this? Just to be fair, so to show that we've heard all concerns.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Sinenci, would you like to respond?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I can refer to Corporation Counsel, if that's okay, Member Molina, to answer your question?

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Before I do that, she's going to, she would ordinarily give us the legal perspective. But I believe that the word "primary" was added to actually, in the beginning, as a compromise with the, the Farmers Bureau; that was the initial intent. And then somehow, a lot of, I guess confusion ensued. But, but that prime, the word "primary" wasn't in there in the beginning. That was added, you know.

So, the person who probably knows most about it is probably Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Can I call on you first? And then Member King and then Member Paltin. Go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. And as you stated, that's, that's correct and accurate that the purpose statement was also new. And that was suggested via Member, from Member Hokama via Member Sugimura. Member Hokama had to leave and then Member Sugimura offered that from Member Hokama.

And we, we wordsmithed it a little. And it was at that time that I, I added the word "primary". And that was because we were listening to all the farmers, and not just one group. It, there are more farmers than just those that are members of the Farm Bureau. And so, there are farmers that support having some regulation that would be supportive of their work. So, the, the primary purpose is advocacy. That, that is what we want

this Department to do. I think we, we all agree on that; that that is what I would like to see this Department do.

As mentioned in testimony by farmers, that to protect our farmers and to support them, to prevent, for example, the spread of invasive species such as little fire ants, to help with the, the different kind for permitting, to recommend proposals on the different permitting, you know, hoops that our farmers have and, and not just farmers, I'm sorry, our entire ag community, such as ranchers as well, and those that do aquacultural farming. I think I just made that up. Those that farm fish and do, you know, marine life such as in the fishponds/

To help them with regulatory hurdles and to make these easier for them. It's important that we allow that little bit of room for the Department to support our farmers as we all want them to do, as we want this Department to do, which is to support our ag community, not just farmers. Sorry, I keep saying just farmers. But it's, it's everyone in our ag community.

That as a testifier correctly pointed out, by having the word "primary" does not negate the rest of the purpose. The purpose is very clear and unambiguous. It, it states it exactly as we intend it to be, which is to advocate. And there, there aren't any legal issues as I see it. This is a policy issue. And this is for us as the Council to decide. If we want this Department to be successful and not pigeonhole it or shackle it down so that it cannot be as successful as we envision it to be. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Very good. Yea, that's exactly what happened, before I call on Member King, is that the intent was the Department would be the advocates for farmers. The, the main purpose of existence would be advocacy, not bureaucracy.

So, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. The, also what was pointed out today, earlier in testimony was, you know, the line in, in Section 8.18.3, it says, "not create additional regulatory barriers". It makes it very clear that we, you know, that we, if we do address regulation it's not to make barriers . . . And one of the other things that came to me aside from, I think Member Rawlins-Fernandez was trying to refer to aquaculture, but, but one of the other things that came to me was, you know, we've seen an abuse on the Big Island of the, of the use of Kona coffee. And so there was a regulation that was passed that, you know, all, all, anything labeled Kona coffee has to be at least 50 percent. And that was to protect the local farmers there. So, you know, those are the kinds of things that the Department may come up with.

But in the end, those kinds of regulations are also regulations that will probably be passed by the Council, not, not necessarily the Department passing those out, . . . but, but bringing those ideas to the Council. They'd be, they'd be well deliberated on at the Council level and we would decide. I mean, we do this all the time for the other departments. We make rules and regulations and ordinances at the Council level. And, and they are sometimes supported by the departments and sometimes they're not.

So, I mean, you know, case in point was the, the pushback on the Commission on Healing Solutions for Homelessness. So, you know, there, there are times when, you know, we're trying to represent the public and have the public voice heard in some of the actions that are happening in our, our community.

And I see this as a major one. We don't have, we haven't had enough support in agriculture with the one ag specialist in OED. And so, this is a, you know, and we, there's been plenty of chances. Nothing has prevented any previous Mayor from creating an Office on Agriculture, staffing it with the appropriate number of people to get the support out there. And so, it, but it hasn't happened, because the political will hasn't been there. So, what we're doing is we're giving the public a chance to weigh in and saying yes, this is really important to our community, especially at a time when we need to diversify agriculture, we need to diversify our economy.

And so, this is going to, we'll, we'll find out from, after the vote whether this is important enough that we need to move ahead with it and, you know, fund it at some point. It's not going to happen next year. It's not going, I don't think, I don't see it happening in the next year because we're, we're going to have to reassess where our, our finances are when we go through the next budget session. And we may or may not be able to afford this Department right now.

And it, and it also will, I'm sure the Mayor will weigh in. And if the Mayor is, doesn't have the political will to create this Department, it's not going to happen anyway. It won't get supported. It's like and I've talked about this before, it's like the EP&S Division. The, the public voted that in as a Charter amendment back in 2012, to have an Environmental Protection Sustainability office. And it was not created until 2018.

So, you know, we're going to, we're, we're trying to get the public's political will in there. And hopefully the Administration hears it and will support it. But if it, if they don't, it's probably not going to happen anyway. But I think it's really important for us to weigh in. And we know, when we go forward next year, where we want to put our efforts and our money. If it, if agriculture is that important, then we should, we should act, we should fund more agriculture whether we do it through a department or not.

But the one thing I wanted to say and offer to Member Molina about that word "primary", is it's a double-edge sword. Because I heard on one hand that this one word is totally changing the entire bill. And if we do that, we have to send it back to Committee, because now it's not nonsubstantive. And then I heard at the end of that testimony, it's just one little word. So, it can't be both. It can't be a major change in the entire intent of the bill without sending it back to Committee, and yet be so simple to do that we could do it today and move forward. It's go to be one or the other.

And so, and I'm, and I'm really comfortable where, where we, we've done a lot of work on this bill, we've had a lot of input. It's basically, you know, we're not, putting this on the ballot is not instantly going to create this Department. It's going to give us a mandate to create it at some point in the future, and hopefully not to distant future. But I, I, I see this as really important in part of our mandate of diversifying the economy. And it's, it's not just a mandate that's coming from the public. It's something we can, we can't ignore. We have to do that.

We have to diversify our economy, because look where we're at today from not doing that. And you know, I'm, I'm really, I'm hap, I'm happy that this is coming up. I'm happy we're giving the, you know, if we can give the public a chance to vote on this. I think we're moving in the right direction. And certainly, we, we've gotten a mandate as a Council that will carry on into the next Council to have that fuller discussion if it, if it does become something that the community wants to create.

But I would also suggest to those who are pushing back against it, because there's not a complete plan that we funded. We just funded a new office in, in the Administration; the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resilience. And there is no plan for that. There was, you know, we put a million dollars into that, because we believe in the, in the issue and we need to move forward. But we never, we, we did that without seeing a plan, without even knowing who was going to be in charge of that office. And it's an important issue. And that's what we're doing here with the, with the Department of Agriculture. That we're letting the, the public weigh in and telling us this is an important issue enough or it's not, you know, continue on the way you're doing with just one person in the OED Office.

I, I, I know, you know, that personally as a farmer, I see it as something, cause I, you know, I've, I've been probably more, as much or more connected with the State Department of Agriculture as anybody. And still I've been frustrated because of their limitations. So, you know, I'm, I'm hopeful that this is something that we can create together that will be meaningful and that will be supportive and helpful and focus on our local agriculture. And local meaning County of Maui. So, thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Then now, Ms. Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Wait, wait, wait. Did you have your hand up?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I did.

CHAIR LEE: Did you have your hand up? Oh, okay. Alright, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I was Although I think a lot of what I was going to say has been covered by Member Rawlins-Fernandez and Member King. You know, if you just look at one word "primary" and you don't work, look at the whole rest of the sentence where it says, "regulatory barriers", then of course it's going to mean something different. But you have to keep reading the whole sentence, keep reading the whole paragraph and then it makes more sense.

You know, the point that I wanted to make that wasn't, or I didn't feel like was touched on previously by the other Members was, you know, this downfall is not new. The tourism downfall is not new. I mean, it's unprecedented in that it's a, like a complete shutdown. But after 911, hardly anybody was traveling. After the 2008 financial crisis, it was coming down. And each time we said that we needed to diversify. But each time, tourism came back more so than ever before to the point wherein 2019, we were suffering the effects of over-tourism.

And we never did anything like this, create, or focus on agriculture, create a reason to diversify or a way to diversify. Everybody's saying, how are you going to diversify, how are you going to diversify the economy, what are the things? And this right here is the answer to that, if you ask me. And, and, we can say, like, you know, we can't afford it because people are having a hard time to dry their clothes in the drying machine. Then in that case, we can't afford the land administration department new thing that we created either. We can't afford a lot of things that we did.

And this is something that's like an investment, you know? We can't afford \$1.5 million to bring tourist here this fiscal year. But this is like an investment that's supposed to pay off dividends. When you think that we've spent like every year three to four million dollars bringing in tourists, where did that get us in 2008? Where did that get us 911? Where did that get us today?

So, you know, whether people are coming in or not, tourism as a in, multimillion dollar investment every year, this is something that's for the people that live here, not the offshore corporations. Because in the end, the, the worse case scenario is we have

too much food. Or we have, you know, more than we can eat. Or we have jobs for local people to feed our local people.

So, I'm going to support this because, you know, for all the folks that are asking how, how are we going to diversify the economy, how are we going to, you know, do other things? This is, this is the way that we're going to do it. And when you're saying that we can't afford it, if we can't afford it, then we won't fund it. Simple, you know? Cause ultimately, we're, somebody else proposes and we dispose.

So, you know, I feel like people have brought up good points. And I feel like we have addressed, addressed them. You know, Member Hokama, Member Sugimura proposed their amendment, we took it into consideration. We accepted it; "regulatory barriers". We do not want to have any part in that.

You know, and, and two, if it turns into this thing that everybody's afraid of, then we just stop it. Like, that's why we're in a decision making realm, us and the Mayor, you know. If the people give us feedback; this is horrible, you guys are shutting down farms left and right. Well, get that guy out of there, cause he's not doing what we wanted him to do. We wanted him to build up agriculture and advocate it and help us to diversify the economy away from tourism only, and help feed ourselves should the barges stop coming. So, supportive. Thanks.

CHAIR LEE: Thanks. Okay. Ms. Sugimura, this is a short one now, short one. Unmute, unmute yourself. Unmute yourself.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Got it. Mr. Molina had that question regarding Corp. Counsel, the word "primary" and I'm curious. I thought that's a good question because it came up. And I just, and Moana came on for a brief moment. Oh, there you are. So, I wonder, Chair, if we could ask her?

CHAIR LEE: Sure, we can.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: The word "primary".

CHAIR LEE: You know, but I just, I tried to explain to you how that word came about. It wasn't meant to be a legal term.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yea, that was--

CHAIR LEE: And that was a part of a compromise, a very significant compromise. But however, if you want to hear from Ms. Lutey.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Just curious.

CHAIR LEE: Moana.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: That was a good question from Mr. Molina.

CHAIR LEE: Moana.

CORPORATION COUNSEL MOANA LUTEY: Thank you, Chair. Well, during the discussion we've had quite a animated debate here. I think when you take the entire sentence in context, that it's not substantive in the sense that you get across where this is going. But as discussed both by Member King and by Member Paltin, at the end of the day, the regulations for this would be done in a different manner by this body. So, you could control it that way as well.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Are we ready to vote everybody? Okay. All those in favor of the motion of passing this Charter amendment, raise your hand and say "aye".

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS KING, MOLINA, PALTIN,
SINENCI, VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ,
AND CHAIR LEE.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Those opposed, raise your hand and say "no".

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA, KAMA, AND
SUGIMURA.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, six "ayes" and three "noes"; motion carries. Phew. Wow, that was close.

Mr. Molina, good job. And everybody else, good job.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Chair, everybody.

CHAIR LEE: Even, even Ms. Sugimura, and Ms. Kama, and Ms., Mr. Hokama. This is how good legislation is made; when you can compromise and come up with something good.

Alright. Now, who's next? Mr. Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, proceeding with ordinances for second and final reading.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. _____
BILL NO. 77 (2020)

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE CIRCUIT BREAKER TAX CREDIT, HOMEOWNER EXEMPTION, AND HOUSEHOLD INCOME

CHAIR LEE: Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

I MOVE TO PASS BILL 77 ON SECOND AND FINAL READING, INCLUDING ANY NONSUBSTANTIVE REVISIONS THAT MAY BE NEEDED TO REFLECT THE AMENDMENT MADE AT FIRST READING.

CHAIR LEE: What? Okay. Who seconded?

COUNCILMEMBER KING:

SECOND.

CHAIR LEE: Member, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez moved, and Member Kelly King seconded, that Bill 77 pass second and final reading.

Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Bill 77 amends Section 3.48.010 *[sic]*, Maui County Code, and related sections as it relates to the Circuit Breaker Tax Credit by: 1) increasing the maximum amount of the credit to \$6,500; 2) increasing the amounts of homeowner gross building assessed values at which the credit is phased out based on zero percent of eligible tax credit to 100 percent of the eligible tax credit; 3) clarifying the credit does not supersede the minimum tax due; 4) allowing a home exemption if taxes on the property are not delinquent for more than

one year; and 5) changing household income from adjusted gross income to gross income. I ask for the Councilmembers support of my motion again. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else? All those in favor of the motion say "aye", raise your hand.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Was there a second? Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I seconded.

CHAIR LEE: There was a second. King seconded.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. I didn't hear it.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So, Member Kama, is your hand up? Member Kama.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS KAMA, KING, MOLINA,
PALTIN, SINENCI, VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-
FERNANDEZ, AND CHAIR LEE.

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS HOKAMA AND SUGIMURA.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So, I see nine "ayes" and zero "noes".

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I'm voting against it.

CHAIR LEE: You're a "no", okay. Seven "ayes" and two "noes"; Mr. Hokama and Ms. Sugimura, two "noes". Seven "ayes", two "noes"; motion carries.

Hallelujah, it's 4:39. Members, if you don't mind, we'll reschedule the Chair's meeting, yea? If--

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No objections.

CHAIR LEE: No objections. Okay. Great. But I do have an announcement to make. I don't know when I'd be rescheduling. We have to check with everybody's availability. Okay. the announcement I have to make is, you know, did, did, did you hear, or did you see the Mayor's press release this morning where he's asking us to open the building? Well, this afternoon, he's asking us to close the building. So, and the person I am going to call up is our County Clerk. Can you speak to that? She, she just got the announcement we have to shut down the building; the seventh and eighth floors.

Okay. Kathy. I mean, I didn't hear it myself. Kathy.

COUNTY CLERK KATHY L. KAOHU: Yea, can you hear me?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNTY CLERK: Okay. So, it, it--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair. Chair . . . please speak up. It's really hard to hear.

CHAIR LEE: Pardon me?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's really hard to hear.

CHAIR LEE: Her?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I, I keep speaking, but I'm being muted as I'm speaking.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I can't hear any--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Everyone needs to mute, because I can't, we can't hear Ms. Kaohu. So, I think the Clerk's were trying to mute everyone as I was speaking, which is why I was muted. Mahalo, Chair. Oh, and now you're muted.

CHAIR LEE: Kathy.

COUNTY CLERK: Okay. Can you hear me okay?

CHAIR LEE: Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yea, go ahead.

COUNTY CLERK: So, the notice that I received was in my capacity as a holder of a permit for a County facility. And that is for our voter service centers are at community centers. So, it was notice informing us that as of the 25th, the Mayor was going to be closing these County facilities. So, it was not specific to the seventh or eighth floor or to the building itself. And it wasn't in a form of a press release. It was more, it came more from the Parks Department of permitting. So, in that context, we're anticipating that, all, it'll include all facilities.

CHAIR LEE: Questions? Ms. King. Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yea, thank you, Chair. So, thank you, Ms. Kaohu. So, this has to do with, just with the hurricane coming?

COUNTY CLERK: Yes. Yes, in preparation of the hurricane.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So, the anticipation is till Monday, and then we don't know beyond that, depends on where we're at?

COUNTY CLERK: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

COUNTY CLERK: For us, for us, we're now taking measures because all our electronics are set up, so we're pulling those back down. For the 27th, which is a Monday, that's our first day going live with the voter service centers. So, we're, right now, we've got everybody on hold as far as the workers and the facilities. And it's just a wait and see kind of thing.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: I'm sure you all got the, the notice from the County Clerk about the use of the facili, the chamber, seventh and eighth floors, yea? So, please observe those requests, because, you know, the election is, is very, very important. So, all the years I've been in this building, when it comes to election time, there's no, we always defer to the County Clerk, yea? So, even though you may have forgotten something in your office, you're just going to have to wait, because elections come first, and we cannot interfere with the elections.

Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, I just wanted to clarify that the eighth floor and the seventh floor is really closed to us till August 9 from now, or whenever this thing is done, till August 9.

CHAIR LEE: Well, things change too, you know. Today, I mean, there, there was supposed to be a training tomorrow, and because of the hurricane, that training in here has been canceled. So, I can't really tell you when they're going to, you know, modify their schedules and so forth.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: But it, it's--

CHAIR LEE: Just, just don't make any plans to come in the, you know, into your office. Because, until the election is over, you know, they, they pretty much have the authority to, to use the premises, yea? I tried to explain that to the Mayor too, but he didn't listen.

Kathy, you have anything else you want to say?

COUNTY CLERK: Just, you want to avoid the conflict of having your name on the ballot and being present in the same building that the ballots are being counted, cause we don't want to, to have somebody witness that and make assumptions, and then the next thing you know your race is being challenged. So, the cleaner we can keep the separation, the better.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo, Ms. Kaohu, for the announcement. I know the hurricane is scheduled to reach Hawaii on Sunday afternoon. But if, you know, it affects Monday, the hurricane affects the, causes the closure of County facilities on Monday as well, because as you mentioned the voter service centers are supposed to open, will the, will there be public notice letting people know that it's not going to be open?

COUNTY CLERK: Yes. The Office of Elections right now, I forwarded the notice to them. They're working with the Attorney General and the Governor to amend our Proclamation, and--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNTY CLERK: --that's in the works right now.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And then since we are in hurricane season through the Primary Election day on August 8, are the ballot drop boxes secured? So, that when it does open--

COUNTY CLERK: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --it, it, it won't be damaged or swept away from the hurricanes?

COUNTY CLERK: They are secured right now, yes.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Ms. Kaohu. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: That's a very good question.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea.

CHAIR LEE: I lost by 90 votes one time. It could've been swept away by the hurricane or something, you know.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right. Or, or any--

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Molina.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --water damage. It's, it's, it's water . . . so it won't be damaged by water.

CHAIR LEE: Yea, right. Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yea, so Madam Chair, so for what it's worth, Ms. Kaohu, this can survive a Category 1 type of hurricane? I, I, I presume the drop boxes, they can withstand winds, 80 mile an hour winds, I hope?

COUNTY CLERK: Well, we planned for the worse--

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: We'll find out.

COUNTY CLERK: --and we're going to hope for the best, yes. They won't be open until October 3, I mean, August 3, so there won't be any ballots in it if something were to happen to it this round. And we'll definitely be assessing how well they held up.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, great. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Anyone else? Okay, best thing is just try and stay away from the building.

Yes, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, just real quick on, on the drop boxes one more time. So, in the event there is another hurricane at some point after August 3 when the drop boxes do open on Maui, but it also opens on Molokai and Lanai on July 27, the drop boxes?

COUNTY CLERK: By virtue of it being located at that service center, yes.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That if there were any damage, like water damage to the ballots, would that be made public, or would you be able to contact the barcode, since we're able to . . . those?

COUNTY CLERK: The ones at the, the ones at the service center, is located at the service centers, will be inside. So, the, the chances of water damage are very less.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right. And then the other ones are like located at the fire station, so they're, they're also protected. Mahalo.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Any, last questions or clarification from the County Clerk. If not, we have reached the end of the calendar and I will, Mr. Clerk, I don't have to open up the Chair's meeting, do I?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Chair, my understanding is if you've canceled it or, you know, then you've canceled it, so.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. It's canceled. Okay. The meeting of July 24 Council meeting is now adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting of July 24, 2020 was adjourned by the Chair at 4:50 p.m.



KATHY KAOHU, COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY OF MAUI, STATE OF HAWAII

County Clerk

From: Hale Hawaii <hale808hawaii@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 10:02 AM
To: County Clerk
Subject: Our petition and the Kauai plan
Attachments: Hawaii Healthcare Provider Petition with Attm Final (2).pdf

Aloha

Will you please forward to all council members and the mayor. We would like the council, mayor and governor to make policy that will #ProtectHawaii and stop community spread of COVID-19. It is the only way to have in person school safely, church, sports, gatherings, and regular commerce. It is the most realistic way to handle this pandemic. It has become very clear that trying to keep cases low is too risky. A stronger and better enforced quarantine that includes testing requirements (2 tests), and a centralized quarantine facility would greatly decrease the cases coming into the islands and stop them at the border.

In order to protect the people of Maui and Hawai'i we need a better quarantine. We fully support the plan (to be implemented state wide) put forward by the Kauai group of doctors. It is well researched and we believe it would nearly eliminate COVID-19 from coming into the state. It is attached.

We just started a new petition to show there is public support of a better quarantine.

Here is a link: <https://sign.moveon.org/petitions/we-need-a-covid-19-free-hawai-i-and-effective-quarantine-enforcement>

Mahalo,

Cara Flores

HALE Hawai'i

www.HALEHawaii.cc

Facebook.com/HALEHawaii808/

PETITION

To: The Honorable David Ige, Governor; The Honorable Josh Green, Lt. Governor; and The Honorable Derek Kawakami, Mayor:

The Hawai'i healthcare providers listed below are in support of the suggestions detailed in the accompanying report entitled:

A Plan for Safely Re-opening Hawai'i: Kaua'i as a Model.

In Hawai'i we are fortunate that we can still minimize, and maybe even eradicate, community transmission of Covid 19, since our case numbers have been so low. We are grateful for the leadership on the State and County level which has allowed for this reality and opportunity. Our concerns moving forward are similar to those that all communities face as they take on "opening up responsibly." I.e. We have limited hospital and ICU capacity, a large kupuna population, and large numbers of citizens at risk because of comorbidities such as obesity, hypertension, and diabetes. These comorbidities are especially prevalent in our native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander populations.

Our risk of Covid infection going forward is mostly from returning residents or visitors to the islands. At the same time, we understand that the ongoing economic cost of keeping our state closed to visitors is not economically sustainable.

We believe that there could be a market in the world for a tourist destination that is known to be essentially free from Covid. We realize that our proposed strategy, which will be described in detail in the attached report, will result in fewer tourists than would be coming here were Covid not an issue. I.e. They will be asked to endure a 6-day quarantine, with release on day 7. But, the tradeoff of a safe environment for them and for our local families might well be worth it.

The attached report details the following:

1) We are suggesting that there be special locations for a 6-day quarantine for tourists and returning residents. The special hotels and time-shares would be set up to make the week enjoyable perhaps even memorable.

2) We would also require two coronavirus tests, one before arrival and one six days after arrival. We have analyzed and modeled different testing strategies in our report and we have determined (per current knowledge) that doing two tests at least 6 days apart is vastly superior to doing a single test prior to departure from the city of origin. With the latter system, for each 1,000 arrivals per day, our analysis projects that there would be 100 Covid-positive people released into our community per month. With our proposed system there would be less than 15 per month (per 1000/day arrivals). This number is still daunting but far superior to the possibility of 100 potentially infected persons coming into our community.

3) Although the first test can in theory be performed either prior to or upon arrival, we strongly favor the approach advocated by Lt. Governor Green, whereby all travelers must test negative for COVID-19 within 72 hours of boarding their flight. This step will reduce the number of infectious arrivals by ~2/3rds, and hence reduce substantially both the health care burden and the need for contact tracing associated with travelers that develop the disease after they arrive.

4) Along with this, we would encourage the legal evaluation of tracking bracelets for those who choose to go to their own quarantine location, and tracing apps on the phones of all new arrivals for at least 2 weeks — to help with the DOH tracing system. Note: We would actually encourage all citizens to have such a tracing app and we would encourage DOH to utilize the system in order to enhance their tracing capabilities.

We realize that it will not be easy to implement the plan we propose, but we believe that the benefits of being one of the few Covid-free (or almost free) tourist destinations in the world would offset the difficulty. We believe that it can be done and we the undersigned are strongly in favor of this plan.

Mahalo for your attention and for all that you have done.

Attachment: *A Plan for Safely Re-opening Hawaii*

Signed:

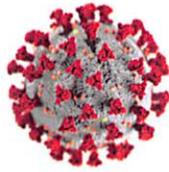
Name	Zip code
Lee (Bill) A. Evslin, MD	96746
Paul T. Esaki, MD	96746
William (Monty) Downs, MD	96746
Robert Weiner, MD	96741
Michael W. Schwartz, MD	96754
John Alderete, PhD, MBA	96746

(Names and zip codes will be added from responses we receive by e-mail)

Preprint report attached below

A Plan for Re-opening Hawai'i Safely

Executive summary in the report allows review of the most important findings and recommendations



HAWAI'I SARS-COV-2 PANDEMIC

A Plan for Safely Re-Opening Hawai'i: Kaua'i as a Model

Report v1.2

18 June 2020

SARS-COV-2 PANDEMIC

A Plan for Safely Re-Opening Hawai'i: Kaua'i as a Model

Report v1.2

18 June 2020

Prepared for:

**The Honorable David Y. Ige
Governor, State of Hawai'i**

**The Honorable Derek S.K. Kawakami
Mayor, County of Kaua'i**

Prepared by:

John P. Alderete and Kaua'i COVID-19 Discussion Group

Contact:

**Kaua'i COVID-19 Discussion Group
KauaiCDG@gmail.com
808-652-3988**

Information contained herein is based on sources considered reliable but is neither all-inclusive nor guaranteed. Information and analyses reflect best judgment at the time and are subject to change.

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SECTION 1

Executive Summary

The primary objective of this study is to provide information and recommendations to decision makers on the design and implementation of a plan for screening and quarantining of incoming travelers for the novel coronavirus. The overriding goal is to keep the community safe as we reopen the County of Kaua'i and the State of Hawaii. The intention is to minimize both the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak on Kauai and the duration of quarantine needed to keep the island safe. The report was initiated on 12 May 2020 and was completed 17 June 2020.

Due to the informal nature of the Kaua'i COVID-19 Discussion Group, these recommendations are made without the benefit of organized input from key stakeholders such as the hotels, the visitor industry, the airlines, the State Airports system, the Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH), the police and National Guard. If such a group is not already convened, it is hoped that one will be created soon and that these science-based recommendations will be useful in planning, and implementing a system of testing, quarantine and tracing. Given the economic urgency to reopen, and the desire to do so safely, putting a well-designed protective system in place is likely the state's most important priority for economic recovery.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Kaua'i COVID-19 Discussion Group has the following recommendations for state and county leadership on how to reopen Kaua'i safely to incoming travelers:

Thermal Screening

RECOMMENDATION: *That thermal screening prior to boarding be advocated by state and county officials as a national minimum safety protocol for airlines and cruise ships.*

Direct Virus Testing

RECOMMENDATION: *That highly sensitive testing for infection with SARS-Cov-2, performed on two separate occasions, 6 days apart, be offered to all incoming travelers as an alternative to the mandatory 14-day quarantine, potentially reducing the quarantine time to 7 or fewer days. If the first test can be done prior to boarding, the two-test strategy would be even more effective.*

We emphasize that the performance of two tests separated by 6 days greatly increases the ability to identify arriving passengers capable of spreading the infection and is far more effective than strategies based on a single test. According to our statistical model, and supported by data and experts in public health, testing only once without quarantine means that fully one-third of infected passengers will be allowed to enter our communities undetected (32 for every 10,000 arrivals). At a rate of 1,000 visitors per day, almost 100 positive cases per month will enter Kaua'i unrestrained. Adding a second test after 6 days of quarantine cuts the number by 7-fold to <5 per 10,000 providing an exponential leap in safety.

We emphasize that we view the proposed testing program as an interim step, rather than a long-term solution to the challenges confronting the island. Other options will likely become available in the short- to mid-term that may supplant the approach recommended herein. Importantly, however, the data gained by implementing this program is likely to be valuable for future decision-making. Specifically, the quantitative data on the prevalence of transmissible SARS-Cov-2 among arriving travelers will be generated by proposed testing program, information that is fundamental to future decision-making regarding how best to keep the island safe.

A final point is that the model introduced herein is “flexible” in the sense that it can be applied to predict the risk associated different testing and quarantine options. Thus, while the power of this model is illustrated by predicting the risk associated leaving quarantine after 7 days when viral testing is performed on Days 1 and 6 after arrival, it can also be used to assess the risk associated with testing on earlier or later days. Thus, we view the model as a flexible ‘risk assessment tool’ for future decision-making. While participation in this testing program is strictly voluntary, we believe it will be viewed favorably by most incoming travelers when compared to the alternative (mandatory 14-day quarantine).

Quarantine Practices

RECOMMENDATION: That, to increase the effectiveness and integrity of the existing quarantine system, all incoming travelers be quarantined in designated hotels except for those visitors and residents who consent to wear tracking bracelets. The proposed personalized quarantine facilities should be approved by the Department of Health.

SECTION 2

Introduction

BACKGROUND

The unprecedented global public health crisis caused by COVID -19 is no longer subject to legitimate debate. As of May 28, 2020, there have been over 1.6 million reported COVID-19 cases in the United States, with over 100,000 deaths from the virus. The worldwide totals as of the same date are more than 5.4 million and 345,000, respectively. Unlike other viral strains, the SARS-CoV-2 virus (which causes COVID-19) manifests itself in completely unpredictable ways. Of those individuals who have been infected by the virus, significant numbers are asymptomatic but still highly contagious, while others may have mild cold-like symptoms, suffer flu-like symptoms, experience organ damage and failure, or perish from the disease. This novel coronavirus has baffled scientists and, understandably, caused considerable fear in the general public.

Quarantines and social distancing have slowed the spread of the virus and continue to be necessary from a public health standpoint, but at a monumental cost to the global economy. In the United States alone, more than 36 million jobs have been lost since states adopted strict stay-at-home measures – wiping out all employment growth created during the past decade. Unemployment is at a scale not seen since the Great Depression. Moreover, GDP in the U.S. is projected to drop nearly 4% in 2020. Countless industries have been particularly hard hit.

Travel and Tourism.

The World Travel & Tourism Council estimates the tourism and travel GDP loss to the global economy at \$2.1 trillion this year alone. Airlines are projected to lose more than \$50 billion in revenue in the same period. In addition, hotels in the U.S. are losing a staggering \$2.8 billion in revenue per week.

Restaurants and Retail.

Large and small retailers, including such stalwarts as Neiman Marcus and J. Crew, and J.C. Penney have filed for bankruptcy protection, countless restaurants and retailers have permanently closed their doors, and the path towards reopening, let alone long-term survival, for these establishments is less than clear. E-commerce has already greatly expanded its market share at the expense of traditional retailers, and its continued, accelerated growth will only further hasten the demise of traditional retailers unless they can resume normal business activities and volumes well before any potential vaccine is developed.

Concerts, Sporting Events, and Other Large Gatherings.

Professional sports leagues in the U.S. and high-revenue individual sporting events have no realistic safe pathway towards reopening with fans in attendance. The same holds true for the live music industry, with smaller music halls permanently shut down and larger music conglomerates struggling to survive.

Medical Practices.

Practices are down more than 60% in revenue, with elective surgeries and other revenue-generating procedures on hold and patients wary of returning to environments where others may be contagious.

Broader Societal Impacts.

Combined with the devastating health and economic impacts, the broader societal impact has been just as significant. Schools have been shut down indefinitely, and some significant universities, including The University of California, the nation's largest four-year public university system, have canceled on-campus

learning for the fall 2020 semester, with instruction taking place almost exclusively online. Personal travel, family gatherings, community meetings, churches, recovery support groups, and countless other ways in which society comes together have all been placed on hold or significantly modified.

With new “hot spots” materializing daily and with the second and third waves of COVID-19 predicted to hit during the summer and fall, the only way in which society can safely reopen and individuals can get on with life is through accurate, venue-specific, scalable, cost-effective, point-of-diagnosis testing. This is true regardless whether the venue is a university, factory, warehouse, office building, conference center, hotel, sports stadium, concert hall, community gathering, or countless other gathering spots. This is especially true when the common-cold season returns, and individuals with any symptoms of a cold – absent rapid, accurate, point-of-venue testing – will not be able to reassure themselves, those around them, or the venues they are attending, that they are not actively contagious with SARS-Cov-2.

These venues simply will not reopen at anywhere close to pre-pandemic levels and most individuals will not want to attend these venues absent some reasonable assurance they are entering a “COVID-Free Zone” or something close to this. As Bill Gates noted, “If in the spring of 2021 people are going to big public events—like a game or concert in a stadium—it will be because we have a miraculous treatment that made people feel confident about going out again. It’s hard to know precisely what the threshold is, but I suspect it is something like 95 percent.” As of today, all available options fall far short of this standard.

KAUA’I’S GOLDEN WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY

The absence of new cases of COVID-19 on Kaua’i over the past 9 weeks testifies to the effectiveness of social distancing, masking and other mitigation strategies when combined with sharp limits placed on new arrivals to the island. Once this goal is achieved – referred herein as “the golden window”— island nations and states are uniquely poised to limit the threat posed by the pandemic by limiting the potential for arriving passengers to spread the disease on the island.

Unfortunately, this ‘golden window’ is bound to be short-lived unless an effective strategy can be developed to protect against the infection returning as more travelers arrive on the island. Given that 0.5% to 1.0% percent of visitors and returning residents will either be actively shedding virus upon arrival or will become infectious in the days following arrival, spread of the disease is inevitable as the number of arrivals increases. Moreover because, individuals carrying the disease may or may not have symptoms, identifying these individuals requires an effective testing strategy.

Currently, the plan for minimizing this risk on Kaua’i is based on a 2-week quarantine period imposed on all visitors and returning residents. While effective in theory, prolonged quarantine can be hard to enforce, and it also places sharp limits on recovery of tourism and associated economic activity. As such, it is a suboptimal solution to a complex challenge. In this proposal, we introduce a plan to safely reduce the duration of quarantine needed to keep the island safe through a carefully timed testing regime to screen for active shedding of the COVID-19 virus.

This proposal is not advocating a reopening of the visitor economy currently. It is proposing improvements to the current system of screening and quarantining incoming travelers in order to keep the community safe right now as well as to prepare for reopening. The strategy includes quarantining incoming visitors in one hotel to improve the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of the quarantine system. Almost daily, there are news reports of visitors breaking their quarantine, revealing weaknesses in the present system that could put the community at risk. Now is the best time, while the number of arrivals is small, to perfect the system. If it works, and if it is scalable, it could be used at the proper time to reopen the visitor economy.

The current system of allowing visitors to quarantine in their own hotel rooms or vacation rentals is difficult to enforce, labor intensive and costly. Even with the small numbers of incoming travelers, the system does not appear to be working well. If the numbers increase, the risk to the community will also grow.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of this proposal is to offer guidance on the development and implementation of an overall plan for screening, testing and quarantine of incoming travelers to prevent re-entry of the novel coronavirus into Kaua'i and Hawai'i in an effort to minimize both the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak on Kauai and the duration of quarantine needed to keep the island safe.

The island of Kaua'i is in many ways uniquely suited to the implementation of the screening program proposed herein. The absence of active cases on the island speaks to the ability of local officials to implement effective mitigation efforts, and to the ability of island residents to comply with them. In addition, the number of arriving passengers is large enough to permit statistical analysis of the risk posed while being small enough for the proposed testing regime to be feasible with existing resources. Should the program proposed herein prove to be a safe and effective strategy for mitigating the risk posed by passengers arriving on the island, decisions can be made at the State level to determine whether something similar is appropriate for the other islands.

We also anticipate that the information gained by implementing the proposed program will be of value to other stakeholders, including airlines and hotels that serve Hawai'i. In addition, by identifying travelers that are actively shedding the virus upon arrival on Kaua'i, we can spearhead efforts to identify any individuals that may have been exposed while in flight and determine if they, too, were infected.

This proposal is a work in progress and is neither all-encompassing nor complete. A secondary objective of this report is to provide discussion points for larger conversations to be held among all relevant stakeholders during this pandemic.

In the course of the report, the Kaua'i COVID-19 Discussion Group:

- Analyzed and summarized options for managing incoming travelers to Kaua'i;
- Developed a methodology for testing and quarantining incoming travelers to Kaua'i for COVID-19;
- Estimated the likely level of community spread of COVID-19;
- Developed early-stage recommendations for COVID-19 testing and containment.

The study began 12 May 2020 and was completed 17 June 2020. Contributors to this report include Michael Schwartz, MD, John P. Alderete, PhD, MBA, Lee Evslin, MD, Bob Weiner, MD, JoAnn Yukimura, and Jill Lowry, all from Kaua'i, and Paul Pottinger, MD, FACP, FIDSA and Karl Kaiyala, PhD, from the University of Washington (Seattle, WA).

METHODOLOGY

A predictive model was developed to identify a strategically timed testing regime that effectively identifies arriving passengers with the potential to spread the disease, while minimizing the period of quarantine needed to keep the island safe. This model is based on assumptions including the prevalence of COVID-19 among arriving passengers, the sensitivity and specificity of the test used to detect the virus, and the time interval between exposure to the virus and both the onset and offset of active viral shedding.

The predictive model was developed with members of the Kaua'i COVID-19 working group and an expert in biostatistical modeling, Karl Kaiyala, PhD, Research Associate Professor (Emeritus), University of Washington (Seattle, WA).

More information on the predictive testing model is provided in Appendix B.

Use of Subject Matter Experts

Where appropriate, and for the purposes of developing and verifying the assumptions of the testing and quarantine models presented in this report, outside subject matter experts (SMEs) were consulted by the Kaua'i COVID-19 Discussion Group. Notable SMEs include, but are not limited to:

Paul Pottinger, MD, FACP, FIDSA

Dr. Pottinger is a Professor in the University of Washington's (Seattle, WA) Infectious Disease (ID) Division's Clinician-Educator Pathway. He is Director of the ID Training Program. He also co-directs the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program at UWMC, which aims to improve the use of anti-infective medications for the complex patient population there. He also directs the UWMC Tropical Medicine & General ID Clinic.

He attends on the UWMC inpatient General ID Consult Service, Solid Organ Transplantation ID Consult Service, and General Medicine Teaching Service.

He directs and teaches a variety of courses at the School of Medicine and delivers approximately 50 formal lectures per year to students, residents, fellows, and attendings. He collaborates with colleagues at UW, Johns Hopkins, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, KCMC in Moshi Tanzania, and Makerere University in Kampala Uganda to bring a comprehensive tropical medicine training course to East Africa.

Dr. Pottinger has been on the frontlines of the University of Washington response to COVID-19 since the outbreak began in Seattle early in March 2020. His work has ranged from managing acutely ill patients to guiding policy decisions regarding COVID-19 preparedness and mitigation, to teaching medical students and house staff to advising local officials and businesses /24/.

Karl Kaiyala, PhD

Dr. Kaiyala is associate professor emeritus in the School of Dentistry at the University of Washington.

Dr. Kaiyala has many years of developing and deploying statistical modeling methods for use in clinical science, epidemiology, and biomedical research to help with the analysis of collected data across a wide variety of sources. Dr. Kaiyala's work with the Kaua'i COVID-19 Discussion Group was critical in developing diagnostic and prognostic inferences from the developed testing model.

REPORT ORGANIZATION

Section 3 describes screening of incoming travelers to Kaua'i.

Section 4 examines quarantine practices for incoming travelers to Kaua'i.

Section 5 provides conclusions for this report.

SECTION 3

Screening of Incoming Travelers to Kaua'i

Due to both its limited population and its isolation from both mainland US and inter-island travelers, the island of Kaua'i is uniquely suited to the implementation of a screening program to interdict and contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The absence of active cases on the island at present speaks to the ability of local officials to implement effective mitigation efforts, and, equally important, to the ability of island residents to comply with them.

These considerations, combined with the relative ease with which a screening program can be implemented here on Kaua'i, create a compelling rationale for establishing such a program before the influx of travelers to the island begins to increase. Should the program proposed herein prove to be successful, decisions can be made at the State level for wider implementation.

How to make travel safe is the multi-billion-dollar question challenging not only the travel industry but the Kaua'i community. Kaua'i must rely on some tourism for its economic recovery.¹ Kaua'i residents also want to be able to travel safely. Kaua'i residents are also a potential source of infection upon returning even as they desire to keep their island home safe. (it seems that at least half of the COVID-19 infections in Hawaii were from returning residents). We anticipate that the information gained by implementing the proposed program will be of value to many stakeholders—including airlines, hotels, the visitor industry as a whole, other visitor destinations around the world, the medical community, many of the small businesses related to tourism, the community that wants above all to be safe, and taxpayers.

THERMAL SCREENING

RECOMMENDATION: That thermal screening prior to boarding be advocated by state and county officials as a national minimum safety protocol for airlines and cruise ships.

Fever is a common symptom of COVID-19, typically appearing 2-14 days after exposure /1/. Telethermographic systems determine surface skin temperature, which is then used to estimate the temperature at a reference body site (e.g., oral, tympanic membrane). These systems are particularly useful in high throughput areas (e.g., airports, businesses, warehouses, factories) and in settings where other temperature assessment products may be in short supply.^{2,3}

Many businesses, social (or religious) groups, and public health officials see temperature checkpoints as a critical tool to prevent those infected from spreading the coronavirus. As the US

¹ The authors want to acknowledge the important public debate about “over tourism” and make it clear that return to the level of pre-COVID-19 tourism is not being advocated here. However, most people would agree that some level of tourism will be important to a healthy economy and recovery.

² The available scientific literature supports the use of telethermographic systems in the context of initial human temperature measurement described guidelines for using telethermographic systems for initial temperature assessment for during such a triage process /2/. Additionally, international standards and scientific literature have described guidelines for using telethermographic systems for initial temperature assessment for triage use and best practices for standardized performance testing of such products /3, 4, 5/.

³ Guidance on containing COVID-19 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says workplaces, health care providers, and assisted living facilities may consider temperature checks. The Food and Drug Administration in April relaxed some regulations on infrared cameras to widen access to the technology. In March, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission issued new guidance clearing the way for workplace temperature checks, which previously were often precluded by employment laws.

moves to lift quarantine restrictions while trying to suppress the disease, temperature checks are becoming a daily ritual for many.

Thermal screening, however, is not a sufficient screen by itself. Studies have shown that it can miss over 50% of those infected /7/. A person can slip past a temperature check by taking fever-reducing medicine like ibuprofen.

There is some value, however, in the fact that thermal screening can detect a certain percentage of passengers who have the COVID-19 disease. If these contagious travelers are prevented from entering a plane and infecting a planeload of other passengers—and interdicted from entering Kaua'i where they could overload the healthcare system—the value of the screening is maximized. For these reasons, all state and county officials should advocate thermal screening as a minimum national safety standard for boarding of any airline.

While thermal screening has a role to play, its value as a screen must be weighed against the far more accurate polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test as well as other essential components such as quarantine and contact tracing. It is our understanding that the State of Hawai'i has received \$50 million for testing, quarantining and contact tracing. Of that money, \$36 million is going to the DOT Airport for thermal screening /22/, which as was mentioned earlier has an error rate of over 50%. To our knowledge no funding has been set aside for the testing of visitors and returning residents.

Challenges

A major limitation of screening based on fever or other disease manifestations is that up to 40% of individuals capable of spreading Covid-19 are asymptomatic (or begin shedding virus prior to symptom onset). Combined with the fact that fever is not always present in individuals with active disease, and that even when present fever can be suppressed by commonly used medications such as ibuprofen or Tylenol, a study in February of this concluded that even in a best-case scenario, screening for symptoms like cough or fever, or asking people about possible exposure to the disease, would miss more than half of infected people upon arrival screening /7/. To summarize, a positive test result provides valuable information, but a negative result does not.

The ease with which people shedding coronavirus particles could slip through a temperature checkpoint is one reason major hospital systems do not rely on this technology (like at University of California San Francisco, for example), and it highlights the need for a highly sensitive screening regime if the risk of disease spread is to be minimized. It is for this reason that a 2-week period of quarantine is currently required for all travelers arriving on Kaua'i.

DIRECT VIRUS TESTING

RECOMMENDATION: That highly sensitive testing for infection with SARS-Cov-2, performed on two separate occasions, 6 days apart, be offered to all incoming travelers as an alternative to the mandatory 14-day quarantine, potentially reducing the quarantine time to 7 or fewer days. If the first test can be done prior to boarding this would be even more effective.

We emphasize that the performance of two tests separated by 6 days greatly increases the ability to identify arriving passengers capable of spreading the infection and is far more effective than strategies based on a single test. According to the statistical modeling presented in this report, and supported by data and experts in public health, testing only once without quarantine means that fully one-third of infected passengers will be allowed to enter our communities undetected (32 infected passengers for every 10,000 arrivals). At a rate of 1,000 visitors per day, almost 100 positive cases per month will enter Kaua'i unrestrained. See modeling. Adding a second test after 6 days of quarantine cuts the number by 7-fold to <5 per 10,000 providing an exponential leap in safety.

The Kauai COVID-19 Discussion Group proposes an alternative to a mandatory 14-day quarantine period based on testing for infection with SARS-Cov-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) on two separate occasions, separated by 6 days. With this approach, our predictive model indicates that quarantine could safely end after 7 days for those who test negative on both Day 1 and Day 6. While participation in this testing program is strictly voluntary, we believe it will be viewed favorably by most incoming travelers when compared to the alternative (mandatory 14-day quarantine).

We also predict that replacing the current 14-day quarantine with a single screening test performed either prior to or upon arrival will prove inadequate to prevent significant disease spread on Kaua'i. This conclusion is based on 1) our model-based prediction that a single test will only identify a subset (~68%) of individuals who will eventually become infectious, and 2) recent evidence of a major COVID-19 outbreak of occurring where screening was limited to a single test combined with a shortened (5-day) quarantine period, resulting in disturbingly high infection rates. /23/.

Secondary outcomes of this proposal goals are:

- to determine the prevalence rate of individuals arriving on the island who subsequently become capable of transmitting the infection, and
- to facilitate strategies for contact tracing of travelers once they are released from quarantine.

Proposal

This proposal is based on a predictive model developed to estimate the likelihood of a passenger developing transmissible Covid-19 infection after testing negative on both Day 1 and either Day 6 or Day 7 after arrival. As is evident from Figure 3.1, the risk of converting to a positive test decreases exponentially with the passing of each day spent in quarantine, and therefore is quite low after Day 6. Specifically, this model predicts that for every 10,000 arrivals that test negative on Days 1 and 6, only 2 individuals will become infectious after leaving quarantine on Day 7. If the second test is performed on Day 7, instead of Day 6, the risk posed by those with a negative test result drops further to 1 individual per 10,000 (but the test result would not be available until Day 8).

We believe that the risk associated with this approach compares favorably to a mandatory 2-week quarantine with no testing, owing to:

- challenges inherent in enforcement of a prolonged quarantine, and
- a much greater likelihood of voluntary adherence to a shorter quarantine period.
- An added benefit is that we will obtain valuable data regarding the rate at which arriving passengers test positive for the virus over time, which will inform us as to the risk posed by travelers to Kauai more broadly.

Proposal Details

Our proposal calls for all arriving passengers to be asked for their consent to be tested twice for the presence of SARS-Cov-2 by PCR analysis of a specimen obtained by nasopharyngeal swab. The first test will be obtained on the day of arrival (either at the airport or at the hotel where they will be quarantined) and the second will be obtained on Day 6 after arrival. Each sample must be obtained by trained personnel with appropriate personal protective equipment; a sufficient supply of swabs and transport media must also be available. Essential to this model is that test results are made available within 24 hours of when the sample was obtained (see Assumption #2, below).

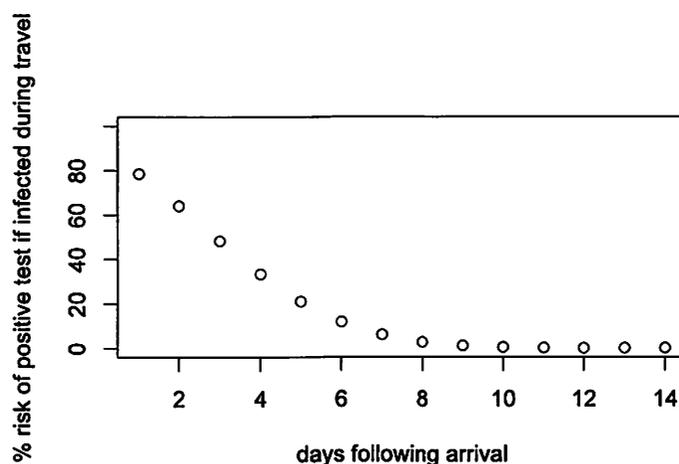
Those testing negative on Day 1 return to quarantine until Day 6 when they are tested again; those that also test negative on Day 6 will be released from quarantine when the test result

becomes available the next day, Day 7. For such individuals, therefore, the duration of quarantine is reduced from 2 weeks to 1 week. In contrast, arriving passengers that opt out of the testing program must be quarantined for the full 14-day period.

In this way, an incentive is created for arriving passengers to participate in the screening program. Even though participation is strictly voluntary, we anticipate that most travelers will prefer this option. We also propose to incorporate cell phone-based contact tracing of all travelers for at least 2 weeks upon their release from quarantine on Day 7, which will enable us to identify contacts for those few individuals that become contagious after they leave quarantine; those contacts must then also be tested.

Any individual testing positive (on either Day 1 or Day 6) will be placed in isolation for 2 weeks (estimated to be 0.5-1% of arrivals), and they must test negative before they are released to the community.

Figure 3.1
RISK OF INFECTION OVER TIME



Estimated likelihood of a positive test result over time among all individuals who will test positive after arrival.

Comparison to Other Testing Proposals

To illustrate how the model facilitates comparisons between different screening approaches, let's assume that those capable of transmitting the virus represent 1% of the arriving population, such that there will be 100 such individuals per 10,000 arrivals. As illustrated in the Table 3.1, a single negative PCR test at or before arrival reduces this number by ~2/3rds, to 32 per 10,000 arrivals. Assuming 1,000 incoming travelers per day on Kaua'i, or 10,000 visitors in 10 days, about 32 infected travelers will slip undetected into the community every 10 days—about 100 per month. Kaua'i has seven ICU beds.

Table 3.1
NUMBER OF INFECTED PER 10,000 ARRIVALS THAT ARE RELEASED INTO THE
COMMUNITY DEPENDING ON DAY OF SECOND PCR TEST

Day of Second Testing	Number infected per 10,000 arrivals
0 (arrival)	32
1	27
2	23
3	18
4	13
5	8
6	5
7	3

If a second test is performed after a 6-day quarantine period, and if the test result is negative, this number is reduced 7-fold, to 5 per 10,000 arrivals. If the second test is performed Day 4 of quarantine instead of Day 6, however, the number of infected arrivals released into the community increases by more than 2-fold, to 13 per 10,000.

Screening passengers with a negative PCR test result prior to boarding the aircraft is a powerful way to minimize the number of infected individuals that arrive on the island. In the absence of a second test and/or quarantine, however, this approach will still release 32 infected travelers per 10,000 arrivals into the community. If combined with quarantine for 4-6 days upon arrival, followed by a second negative PCR test, however, this becomes a highly effective screening strategy.

Testing Requirements

Of paramount importance is the accuracy of the screening test – failure to detect travelers who carry the disease will cause the testing strategy to fail and hence pose a significant risk to the health of the island. The current gold standard test for detecting SARS-Cov-2 uses a method known as polymerase chain reaction (PCR) to amplify and detect genetic material from the virus in samples obtained from a nasopharyngeal swab. When performed properly, the sensitivity of this test is 99%; i.e., for every 100 positive individuals, only 1 will test negative. No other currently available test comes close to this level of accuracy. Obtaining this high level of sensitivity, however, is dependent on obtaining an adequate sample.

Model Assumptions

The design of the testing regime proposed herein is based on a predictive model developed to assess the risk that a traveler to Kauai will become positive for SARS-Cov-2 viral infection after arriving on the island. This model (Figure 3.1) is based on the following assumptions, derived from published data:

1. Prevalence of transmissible COVID-19 in the population arriving on Kauai is in the range of 0.5% - 1.0% /8/.
2. Sensitivity and specificity of the PCR test to detect SARS-Cov-2 viral infection is 99% for both; turnaround time <24h /9/.
3. Time from viral exposure to onset of viral shedding (which typically precedes symptom onset by 2-3 days) peaks around Day 4 after exposure; >97% of those who will shed virus do so by Day 10 /11/.

4. Consequently, if we assume duration of viral shedding to be no longer than 12 days and that onset of viral shedding occurs as early as 4 days after exposure, approximately 67% of individuals who are going to test positive will do so by Day 1; i.e., only a minority of individuals destined to test positive will have tested negative on Day 1. (A key exception to this assumption applies to individuals who exposed during travel to Kaua'i, discussed below.)
5. Travelers will not be exposed to the SARS-Cov-2 while in quarantine.

Challenges

One consideration pertains to airport screening and the possibility that some arriving passengers will have been exposed to COVID-19 during flight. This scenario poses a significant challenge to efforts to shorten the duration of quarantine, owing to the possibility of individuals being exposed just prior to arriving on the island and hence being among the most likely convert to testing positive after being released from quarantine. Yet even most of these individuals will have converted by Day 6 (see Assumption #4, Appendix B). For this reason having the first test done prior to boarding in combination with a follow up test on island would be desirable.

A significant and ongoing issue worldwide is the lack of access to testing supplies, namely nasopharyngeal swabs, reagents and personal protective equipment. Shortages in testing supplies mean that hospitals and health departments will continue to prioritize people who can get tests.

While it appears that supplies are presently enough in Hawai'i, we know of no calculation of need based on viral testing of incoming travelers. Assuming a conservative number of incoming arrivals to Kaua'i, say 1000 per day, 14,000 test kits a week or 56,000 tests per month will be required assuming every arrival is tested twice. While that may seem like a lot of tests by American standards, such a volume of tests does not seem to be a problem in many Asian countries such as South Korea. The Kauai COVID Discussion Group has identified a reliable source of test kits. The cost of such kits (about \$150 per test) could be paid for by the visitor, the airlines or visitor industry, state or county government—or a combination thereof.

Processing of test samples is another potential limitation. Local Hawai'i laboratory capacity would need to be assessed and expanded, if necessary. Should there be insufficient capacity, the test itself can be performed within a matter of hours by a laboratory at the University of Washington Medical Center, with a 24-hour turnaround time, compatible with the goals of the screening program. In discussions with those who run the Virology Laboratory at the University of Washington, it was noted that they have the capacity to perform all the testing needed for this proposed program to succeed, should that be an attractive option.

SECTION 4

Quarantine Practices for Incoming Travelers to Kaua'i

RECOMMENDATION: That, to increase the effectiveness and integrity of the existing quarantine system, all incoming travelers be quarantined in designated hotels except for those visitors and residents who consent to wear tracking bracelets. The proposed personalized quarantine facilities should be approved by the Department of Health.

This section describes a quarantine system that would complement the testing protocol proposed in Section 3. Together, the proposed testing and quarantine protocols could reduce the quarantine time from a mandated 14 days to 6 days with release on the 7th day.

Quarantine is an age-old method for stopping the spread of infectious disease. Today, validated by science, it is an effective, legally sanctioned method for containing SARS-Cov-2. The emergency proclamation by Governor David Ige imposing a 14-day quarantine on all incoming travelers as of March 31, 2020, was likely a major factor in the State's success in controlling the virus thus far. It was effective in two ways: 1. By requiring the incoming traveler to remain in a hotel room or home, it limited the potential virus carrier from interacting with, and thus exposing, members of the community to the virus. 2. It strongly discouraged visitors from coming to Hawai'i.

Having successfully contained and possibly eliminated the virus from the island, Kaua'i must now address the severe economic sacrifice that was required to achieve this goal. In order to revive the economy Kaua'i must find a way to allow travelers to enter the island without allowing the virus to enter the community. It must also establish a system of detection, contact tracing and quarantining as a second line of defense to rapidly interdict and stop the spread of any virus that eludes the first screen and gets into the community. Until a reliable "rapid response" or "point of care" diagnostic test is available, quarantining will be crucial for both the screening of incoming travelers and the system of interdiction and contact tracing in the community.

QUARANTINE PROPOSAL

The proposal is to quarantine all visitors in one place, logically a hotel where rooms and meals are available, and employees are trained in COVID-19 protocols. In contracting with an existing hotel, the state would be investing in the economy and helping to save a business from potential demise, just as was done after Hurricane 'Iniki when tour buses were contracted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide emergency public transportation. It is likely that the occupancy of a quarantine hotel will be higher than if it were just serving a regular hotel function at this time.

Visitors could be allowed to quarantine at the resort where they have reservations, if those hotels are certified by the Department of Health (DOH) as having the protocols to handle quarantined guests and the visitors consent to wear tracking bracelets as are used in South Korea /12/.

Likewise, returning residents and intended residents would be quarantined at a hotel as well, but it may be better at a separate hotel as the needs and functioning of such guests would be different from the visitor.

Returning residents could be allowed to return home provided there were no others living in the home and they agreed to wear tracking bracelets. Where there are other householders in the

home, returning residents would need to demonstrate accommodations that meet quarantine requirements such as a bedroom with separate bathroom. This would require inspection and instructions about safe quarantining at home. Consent and commitment to wearing a tracking bracelet would also be required.

Proposal Details

A quarantine hotel set aside specifically for visitors (including returning residents) would have the opportunity on to focus on providing exemplary service and engagement to mitigate the inconvenience and stigma associated with a forced quarantine. Such a quarantine hotel for visitors could set a goal to provide such a memorable experience for the guests that they would be comfortable and inspired to book rooms in the future when the COVID-19 period is just a memory. A second facility for returning residents, students, and local business commuters would focus more on digital-communication access for family and business needs.

Incentives

Properties could potentially be incentivized with compensation via state contract, or in conjunction with reduced taxes, or special marketing program via HLTA/HTA, or other considerations. And until the State and County are ready for visitors, visitors could be made to pay a fee as is required in South Korea.

Keiki

There should be a special program for adults traveling with keiki. Keiki get bored easily and will need special attention, as well as patience, remembering that they are likely to be wound up because they are traveling, out of their environment, and potentially have stressed adults accompanying them. Daily bundles with projects, games, puzzles, art materials etc. based on age, could be delivered to the rooms each morning. Parents will be appreciative of this level of awareness and attention (kids hopefully will look forward to the delivery). Security measures and immediate response should be planned for if any child decides to go exploring. The response plan and expectations should be explained to the parents upon arrival.

CHALLENGES

There are several challenges to setting up a mandated quarantine policy for incoming travelers to Kaua'i. This will include managing legal and ethical issues, managing County or State liability issues, finding appropriate quarantine facilities and building out the appropriate infrastructure, having a properly trained workforce with sufficient personal protect equipment, and medical management and testing logistics at the quarantine facility.

A major component of effective quarantining will be enforcement. The County and State will have to determine how best to manage enforcement among a broad range of stakeholders, from the hotel to police and even the National Guard. Managing the infrastructure will be one of the biggest challenges and shifting as much of the burden from current law enforcement and military involvement will be necessary over the long haul as more travelers arrive on island Higher-level enforcement could default to local authorities and/or the National Guard, but lower level security, organizational, statistical, and technological tasks could boost the local economy and save businesses.

A handbook should be provided to each traveler or family that lists expectations, the level of enforcement and responsible parties, and potential penalties that are associated with infraction depending on State and County rules/laws.

County and state officials will also need to consider how best to manage or expand penalties for law breakers.

SECTION 5

Conclusions

We all rejoice at the lack of new COVID-19 cases on Kaua'i for the past 9 weeks and the gradual lifting of restrictions.

Our efforts will be for naught, however, if we reopen without a solid plan in place to prevent the COVID-19 virus from re-entering our county and state as the number of incoming travelers, both visitors and returning residents, increase.

There have been over 2.1 million infections in the United States, with 116,977 deaths at the time this report was written. The risk to our communities is real: without proper screening of incoming travelers, the virus could re-infect and spread in Hawai'i again, with devastating public health and economic consequences.

Kaua'i's and Hawai'i's chances for a sustained economic recovery depend on putting in place a science-based screening and quarantine system for incoming travelers — as well as a system of detection and containment (through testing, contact tracing and appropriate quarantining and isolation) when reinfection of the community occurs.

This report, channeling experts in medicine, science, and epidemiology, focuses on the screening and quarantine system for incoming travelers. It proposes a system whereby incoming travelers to Kaua'i will be offered the opportunity to reduce the 14-day quarantine to 6 days if they volunteer to take a pcr test on both Day 1 and Day 6 of arrival. If both tests result in negative readings, the quarantine will be lifted on Day 7. If the first test can be done prior to boarding this would be even more effective.

Without the quarantine and second test, we stress that for every 10,000 incoming travelers, approximately 32 unidentified infected travelers will be admitted into Kaua'i. At 1,000 visitors per day, that would mean about 100 infected travelers would enter Kaua'i undetected per month. This number would quickly overwhelm health care resources on Kaua'i, potentially leading to a second economic shutdown.

It is our hope that the State of Hawai'i's Department of Health has test kits, personal protective equipment and test processing capacity to implement the proposed testing and quarantine process for the expected number of incoming travelers. If that is a problem, this study has identified sources of test supplies and test processing capacity that Hawai'i could utilize.

Upon arrival to Hawai'i, incoming travelers will not be allowed to rent cars and will be shuttled to a designated quarantine hotel where management and workers are trained in protocols approved by the state Department of Health. Police or the National Guard will provide 24/7 support for hotel security.

A visitor may choose to stay at another hotel of his or her choice (approved by the DOH for hosting quarantined guests) but he or she must agree to wear a tracking bracelet. Our enforcement personnel currently have their hands full with just a trickle of visitors. It will become impossible — and extremely expensive — to enforce the quarantine as visitor numbers grow unless we use smart technology as well as good system design.

Because a substantial percentage of past infections were caused by residents returning to Hawai'i, the policy of home quarantining of returning residents needs to be upgraded. Because other householders have been infected in the past, quarantining (and isolation) henceforth should be done outside the home, unless the home is occupied only by returning residents.

As described in this report, the 14-day quarantine could be reduced significantly with enough testing capacity. If that works on Kaua'i, Kaua'i could become a model for the state.

Making travel to, or back to, Hawaii safe is the key to successful and sustained economic recovery. It will allow businesses to open safely and people to go back to work. It is the most important thing our leaders can secure for us now.

APPENDIX A

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APPENDIX B

Predictive Model Assumptions and Methodology

METHOD

This model is based on widely accepted Bayesian conditional probability concepts that are routinely employed in disease epidemiology /13/. Conditional probability estimates (a.k.a. model assumptions) are based on values derived from the literature relevant to the latency to viral shedding following infection, and on the sensitivity and specificity values for PCR-based detection of SARS-Cov-2 when performed by the Department of Virology at the University of Washington. The disease prevalence value is based on /8/. The model is structured as a 'tree structure', with conditional probabilities governing the percentage of people that will ultimately prove to be either true positives or false positives when tested on Day 1 or Day 6.

ASSUMPTIONS

1. Test sensitivity and specificity are both 1.0
2. CoVID-19 disease prevalence is 0.75% = 0.0075.
3. Infectivity occurs 4d after infection with CoVID-19.
4. Conversion to testing positive corresponds to the onset of infectivity.
5. Cessation of infectivity occurs 12d after infection.
6. Conversion to testing negative corresponds to the cessation of infectivity.
7. The flight to Kauai corresponds to d0.
8. Test 1 occurs on d0, the first day of quarantine.
9. Test 2 occurs on d6 of the quarantine.
10. All who test positive on Test 1 are quarantined for 14d.
11. Some passengers are infected on the flight (d0). Specifically, each infective passenger generates 0.72 new cases (based on updated information), i.e., the effective reproduction rate (Re) is 0.72.

Expected test outcomes on Test 1 and Test 2, and expected impact on the decision to release following a negative test on both Test 1 and Test 2 based on the assumptions listed above are listed in Table B.1.

ACCOUNTING FOR RISK OF INFECTION DURING FLIGHT

1. Passengers infected on d-12 or before are noninfectious on d0 and cannot transmit disease on the flight (d0) (Line 1 of Table B1).
2. Passengers infected on d-11 to d-4 are infectious and can transmit disease on the flight. Passengers infected on d-3 to d-1 are not yet infectious and cannot transmit disease. Thus 8 of 11 (72.7%) infected passengers can generate new cases on the flight.
3. Given a disease prevalence (P(D)) of 0.0075, an Re of 0.72 (<https://www.news-medical.net/news/20200510/Reproduction-number-of-COVID-19-and-how-it-relates-to-public-health-measures.aspx>), and given that the proportion of uninfected passengers prior to flight is estimated to be $(1 - P(D))$, we expect the rate of new cases generated on the flight to be $0.0075 * 0.727 * 0.072 / (1 - 0.0075) = 0.0004$, i.e., ~0.04% of the previously uninfected passengers will become infected on the flight. However, these will test positive on Test 2 and thus be quarantined for the entire 14d.

LIMITATIONS

Deviation from predicted outcomes can result from random variation in the inputs to the model that deviate from model assumptions. A more realistic predictive model can be generated using

Monte Carlo simulations that acknowledge the uncertainties in input estimates (using published values where possible).

CONCLUSION

Despite these caveats, we anticipate that if implemented, the proposed screening protocol would reduce the number of infected passengers that are released from quarantine to less than 3 per 10,000 arriving passengers.

Table B.1
EXPECTED TEST OUTCOMES

<u>day infected</u>	<u>day infectious</u>	<u>day noninfectious</u>	<u>test pos on T1 (d0)?</u>	<u>test pos on T2 (d6)?</u>	<u>released?</u>
-12	-8	0	N	N	Y
-11	-7	1	Y	N	N
-10	-6	2	Y	N	N
-9	-5	3	Y	N	N
-8	-4	4	Y	N	N
-7	-3	5	Y	N	N
-6	-2	6	Y	N	N
-5	-1	7	Y	Y	N
-4	0	8	Y	Y	N
-3	1	9	N	Y	N
-2	2	10	N	Y	N
-1	3	11	N	Y	N
0	4	12	N	Y	N

From: Maliko Estate <malikoestate@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 2:07 PM
To: Alice L. Lee; County Clerk; Keani N. Rawlins; Tasha A. Kama; Kelly King; Keani N. Rawlins; Shane M. Sinenci; Yukilei Sugimura; Mike J. Molina; Riki Hokama
Cc: Gina Flammer; karacajy@gmail.com; Bobbie Patnode; William and Anne Marie Jacintho
Subject: Testimony cc 20-102 Friday, July 24, 2020



AG WORKING GROUP

Aloha Chair Lee and Council members,

My name is Sydney Smith, coffee farmer from Makawao. I'm testifying today on behalf of Ag Working Group.

The Ag Working Group wishes to thank the Council and their staff for their support of CC 20-102, relating to establishing a Department of Agriculture. In our role as neutral representatives of the Ag community, we continue to reach out to producers and explain the purposes and intent of the charter amendment.

The Ag Working Group looks forward to being a resource for the Council if the Charter amendment is adopted and we get to help plan the Department. We would like to see reference to the Maui Island Plan and involvement from the whole agriculture community. Please don't hesitate to call upon us in the future to bridge the gaps between our Ag community producers. That gap is not as wide and insurmountable as people think. We all want a healthy and sustainable agriculture environment in our County. Together we can make it happen.

If we intend to pass Maui County's great farming and ranching heritage to future generations it will take all of us working together. As many of us plan for the succession of our farms and ranches, having a stable department within our County to help facilitate this will make a world of difference.

Mahalo!

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2020 JUL 22 PM 4: 04
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Sydney Smith
Maliko Estate Coffee
Maui Coffee Association
Ag Working Group
808-572-0072 - Farm
808-268-3646 - cell
malikoestate@hawaii.rr.com

**The Ag Working Group was appointed by Councilmember Don Guzman when he was the Ag Chair in 2012. His goal was to include stakeholders from Maui County Farm Bureau, Maui Farmer's Union United and representation from the commodity groups, Maui Flower Growers Association, Maui Cattleman's Association, Maui Coffee Association and other farmers and ranchers in our community. Members must be active farmers or ranchers in Maui County. We also include representatives from the County administration and Council that do not have to be active farmers or ranchers.*

We have remained an active part of the Ag community working as a bridge between the farming and ranching interests in the County. With few exceptions we have remained neutral and continue to be a resource for our Farmers and Ranchers with issues they need to solve and the County when they need actual experienced stakeholders to weigh in on issues. We have successfully worked with departments in the County to write ordinances, streamline processes and correct conflicts in the code.

Sydney Smith
Maliko Estate Coffee

808-268-3646 (call or text)
808-572-0072 (farm)



MAUI
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
VOICE OF BUSINESS

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2020 JUL 24 AM 7:53

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

**Testimony on Proposed Charter Amendments
Friday, July 24, 2020**

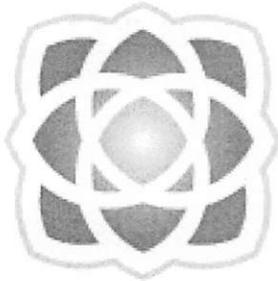
Dear Chair Lee, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez and
Members of the Maui County Council,

We appreciate that the Council decided to defer the Charter Amendment to bifurcate the Department of Housing and Human Concerns and let it be taken up by the Charter Commission.

Overall, we feel this is not the right time to ask residents to make tough decisions on Charter Amendments when residents and businesses are consumed with dealing with the impacts of COVID-19. Many of the proposed Charter Amendments involve considerable education to help voters fully understand what they are being asked to vote on and we are only months away from the General Election that is being held by the new mail in voting process. Therefore, the Maui Chamber of Commerce opposes all of the following proposed Charter Amendments for the reasons noted. However, we feel the two proposed Charter Amendments on term limits should be put forward in the 2022 election, when there is time for education and not during a crisis.

CR 20-74 – We oppose this proposed Charter Amendment because it does not spell out who will hire the party to make the declaratory judgement and ultimately, it would come down to one person. If the Council or the Mayor determined who to hire or how much to pay for this party, their opinion could be swayed in that direction. When the law was created, it was created by a body, not an individual and leaving the judgement of a conflicting interpretation up to an individual may not result in a fair and balanced review.

CR 20-76 – We oppose this proposed Charter Amendment to change the appointment structure of the Charter Commission because the current structure is more fair and balanced. This structure gives the Council more influence over the commission and the Council already has the ability to approve or deny the Mayor's appointments. The opportunity to encourage geographical diversity already exists. Therefore, we do not agree with the rationale for this Charter Amendment and oppose it.



MAUI

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
VOICE OF BUSINESS

Testimony on Proposed Charter Amendments
Friday, July 24, 2020
Page 2.

CR 20-78 – The Chamber opposes the proposed Charter Amendment to establish a Department of Agriculture. As was mentioned above, we are in the midst of a pandemic and once things are stabilized, it will take years for the economy to recover. This is not the time to look at spending extra money on creating a new department, which will require hiring a director, deputy director and staff, obtaining office space and purchasing furniture and equipment. This will be incredibly costly in a time when we must be frugal.

In addition, this may spur additional oversight on agriculture, which will only increase their costs and further disadvantage local farmers. This would discourage new farmers and may put longstanding farmers out of business, accomplishing the opposite of what this proposed Charter Amendment is intended to do. We understand the intent of creating the new department is to help and advocate for the farming community. However, there are federal and state departments and a staff member within the Office of Economic Development who do just that. Further, we feel Councilmembers, as representatives of the people in their districts, should be the advocates for their farming communities.

Lastly, we understand the Maui County Farm Bureau was not consulted when this request was put forward and do not understand why this critical farming resource was not sought when considering development of an entirely new department.

For these reasons, we hope the Council will defer the Charter Amendments listed above.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.

Thelma Akita-Kealoha, Chair
Maui Homeless Alliance
Continuum of Care
July 20, 2020

RECEIVED

2020 JUL 24 AM 11: 52

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Dear Chair Kama,

I am writing this letter on the behalf of the Maui Homeless Alliance in response to the proposed Chapter 2.31 Commission of Healing Solutions for Homelessness.

I understand that Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez stated that she sent this particular Bill to the email listserv of our Maui Homeless Alliance. Indeed she may have sent it to some members, but not all voting members were on the email listserv. The Maui Homeless Alliance does have an email protocol for sending email blasts of this nature. I want to send an apology to Vice-Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez for not taking more of an active role, forwarding any information to our entire membership and for our inability to get formal feedback from our alliance members regarding this proposed commission in a timely manner.

The Maui Homeless Alliance (MHA) is the Maui Chapter of Bridging the Gap, the Continuum of Care for the islands of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai. The CoC is a planning body required to receive funding from HUD and consisting of members from the direct service community, businesses, government, the faith community, homeless/formerly homeless individuals, and all others who are committed to ending homelessness in Hawaii. At this time the Maui Homeless Alliance has come to an agreement and has prepared a written response to the proposed Chapter 2.31 the Commission of Healing Solutions for Homelessness.

Here are our concerns regarding forming this commission:

- What exactly are “holistic” approaches to homelessness and mental health? In the past, getting chronically homeless folks into housing was on the back burner and many providers were providing charitable responses to people’s needs but this was not getting them into housing or finding ways to house chronically homeless individuals and families. In fact, what most organizations discovered is that charitable giving enabled people to remain in their comfort zones and therefore, many of them refused services or available housing offered to them.
- Currently, services offered to the unsheltered population are based on national best practices and regulated by HUD and the State of Hawaii, some dollars are also provided by the County of Maui. HUD mandates policies and guidelines for the requirements, function and funding of programs within the two Continuums of Care (Oahu and the Balance of State – Hawai’i Island, Kaua’i, Maui) in place. Knowing that the proposed Commission could make funding or programmatic recommendations that may jeopardize funding we receive from HUD and the State of Hawaii could put our organizations that work with this population at risk.
- Maui is in alignment with many States, HUD, Oahu, Hawai’i Island, and Kaua’i in the Housing First approach of providing services to our homeless population. Maui has had an annual Point in Time Count of homeless individuals/families that has shown a steady

decrease in unsheltered homeless for at least two years in a row. We have data available that shows how long people are engaged/worked with and how many of these individuals and families have actually been housed.

- This commission also adds another layer to the already complicated HUD Federal and State of Hawaii rules and regulations to organizations that provide services to our homeless population. If this body is not in agreement with the Federal or State policies, that could risk the loss of services provided by organizations and the loss of funding to the County of Maui. For example, many of our homeless service providers are funded via multiple sources (federal, state and County). If the proposed Commission does not understand how services are organized into a system of care, and makes recommendations for funding that run counter to the system, many of these agencies would be at grave risk.
- The proposal to form this commission also notes that a member of the Maui Homeless Alliance would be one member appointed to the commission. This language was meant to be inclusive of our membership, but the MHA was not consulted about this clause.

Thank you for letting me take the time to voice the opinion of the Maui Homeless Alliance regarding the formation of this commission. We appreciate all your work to help us serve our homeless population on Maui. The MHA really believes that getting people into housing, wrapping around services that maintain, keep them housed and identify other needed services is a compassionate response to our homeless population. We are agreeable to share information, data, statistics and information about Housing First, the Continuums of Care in Hawai'i, homeless services and outreach programs in our County. We appreciate being asked to participate in providing solutions to ending homelessness and want to work together with Maui County, the County Council and the Mayor to find solutions.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Maui Homeless Alliance meetings have been held via video conferencing. We offer any interested members of the public to join us on the third Wednesday of each month from 12:00-1:30 p.m. Rather than establish the proposed Commission of Healing Solutions on Homelessness, we offer our Alliance as a way for the public to learn about our system of care, ask questions, develop proposed solutions, and work collaboratively to end homelessness.

I am opposed to having a Department of Agriculture for the County of Maui. Farmers are heavily regulated by both Federal and State Government. We need advocates for farmers and not more regulations. Support is needed by all farmers no matter what practices they use, conventional or organic. We don't need more regulation but we do need help in marketing, grants, land acquisition, etc.

I am sure that adding another Department to the County will add an increased burden to the taxpayers of Maui County. This has to be well thought of and include input from all farmers no matter what method they use to farm. A solid plan that helps all farmers needs to be set before moving forward.

Rodrigo Balala

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2020 JUL 23 PM 4: 04

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

From: Elisabeth Bluml <ebluml@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 9:53 AM
To: County Clerk
Subject: Please vote in favor of charter amendment for county department of agriculture

Aloha Council Chair and Council Members,

As the owner of an 18-year working organic farm in Kula I want to thank you for your votes so far to let us vote on a Maui County Department of Agriculture.

I am in strong support of such a department. We need the County to work with us to form a thriving community of small to large farmers working together for sustainable agriculture so we can help feed Maui.

Please keep up the vote for this -

Mahalo,

Elisabeth Bluml
Khandro Farm
Kula, Maui

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2020 JUL 23 AM 9:55
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

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From: Peter Fay <peterfay@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 1:15 PM
To: County Clerk
Subject: Continued Support for CR 20-78

2020 JUL 23 PM 1:22

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Aloha Maui County Councilmembers,

I'm writing today as spokesman for the Omaopio/Piliwale Ohana, a group of 40+ citizens who have joined together to try to solve a devastating problem in our neighborhood caused by a completely irresponsible hemp farmer. The details are not important but what is relevant is that we have been battling with the State Department of Agriculture for months trying to get them to enforce their own rules against this operation's ongoing violations of portions of the Hemp Pilot Program law (HRS 141, Part II). The State Ag Department is doing nothing but dragging their feet and ignoring this blatant lawlessness. This is a perfect example of why Maui County need's their own Department of Agriculture which will be much more responsive to the unique needs of Maui's farmers and citizens.

Our group SUPPORTS item CR 20-78, the proposed charter amendment to create a Maui County Department of Agriculture. We thank councilmembers Shane Sinenci, Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, Tamara Paltin, Alice Lee, Mike Molina and Kelly King for voting in favor of the charter amendment already and thank you all in advance for your continuing to vote for the charter amendment.

Mahalo,

Peter Fay
Omaopio/Piliwale Ohana

312 Piliwale Road
Kula, HI 96790
808-283-3072

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2020 JUL 23 PM 4: 04

From: <jag@urmaui.com>

Date: Wed, Jul 8, 2020, 10:56 AM

Subject: CR-20-78

To: <county.clerk@mauicounty.us>

Cc: Nicole Galase <nicole@hicattle.org>, Keith Unger <kaimiunger@gmail.com>,
Warren Watanabe <warrenmcfb@gmail.com>, William Jacintho Jr

<jacinthow001@hawaii.rr.com>

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Aloha Council Members

My name is James Gomes and I work for Ulupalakua Ranch Inc. I am one of the managers here at the ranch. I am in opposition to creating a CofM Dept of Agriculture. We already have a State Federal, UH CTAHR that is functional now. I believe because of this pandemic covid 19 and all the related issues, now is not the time to create this department, funds are very tight. County should be working with the real commercial farmers and ranchers through out Maui County to get input and directions with options. I believe that we need and advocate in the County and not a regulator. We as stakeholders who are actual farmers and ranchers need to be at the table. Businesses are closing, people are moving away from Hawaii, unemployment is at its highest, bankruptcy is on the rise etc. We need to support HB-2035 and Act 19 which says that land is under DLNR for Agriculture be transferred to DOA. We need to find a better balance due to regulations, to help our stakeholders survived. We do not need another layer of bureaucracy, let's work with what and who we have. My 2 cents.

Mahalo,
James Gomes

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2020 JUL 23 PM 4: 04

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <ghaines@waipoligreens.com>

Date: Thu, Jul 9, 2020 at 7:42 PM

Subject: Testimony opposing the creation of a County Department of Agriculture

To: <County.clerk@mauicounty.us>

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

To whom it may concern,

I am a part owner of Pacific Produce, Inc. Our company owns and operates a 10 acre hydroponic farming operation that specializes in leafy green production. We have been in business for over 20 years and have built a viable business that services markets statewide. Until the recent visitor ban our business employed 20 full time employees.

I am opposed to the formation of a "County Department of Agriculture" without a clear understanding of the functions of the proposed entity. This requires a detailed description of the needs that would be addressed and the costs and benefits they would afford. We owe it to the taxpayers- our business and our loyal employees included.

A legitimate agricultural operation with our high level of production is highly regulated and we currently face strict requirements that add significantly to our cost of production. Most of these requirements are mandated by Federal and State government. Some are mandated by the marketplace.

To avoid redundancy and additional administrative costs please review the following agricultural related regulations and services that are already in place.

Regulations:

Federal Government

- eg. Department of Ag
- Department of Labor
- Food Safety Laws

State Government

- eg. Department of Ag

County

- eg. Zoning

Industry

- eg. Food Safety mandates

Services:

Federal Government

- eg. Loans
- Grants
- Soil Conservation Program
- Disaster Assistance

State Government

- eg. UH extension service
- Diagnostics
- Soil and water testing
- Research
- Ag park development

County of Maui

- eg. Grants
- Facilities (Cooling Plant)
- Ag park development and administration
- Dept. of Water and Ag Water Rates

Maui County Farm Bureau

- eg. Lobbying
- Information
- Grants

If those farming in Maui County have additional needs, it seems likely that they could be addressed with one of the aforementioned existing departments and agencies, and with much more efficiency and less redundancy than creating a new entity.

We are grateful for the immediate support we have received during this pandemic from the County of Maui, the Maui County Farm Bureau and the Federal grants to the Food Bank and various food assistance programs. Let's focus on the tremendous task ahead of us all to restore a semblance of Maui's economy instead of adding yet another layer of bureaucracy at additional cost to the taxpayer.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Haines
Owner/Manager
Pacific Produce, Inc.

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2020 JUL 23 PM 4:04

County of Maui Department of Agriculture

Inbox



OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Clark Hashimoto

Thu, Jul 9, 4:15 PM

to county.clerk, me

Aloha,

My name is Clark Hashimoto. My family has been farming for over a Hundred years in Kula. I've been a member of the Farm Bureau for over 40 years. I've been on the Maui County Water Board, A member of the Board of Agriculture and currently the chair of the Olinda Kula Soil and Water Conservation Board. My dad was a founding member of the Olinda/Kula SWCD. I also served as the Agriculture Specialist under Mayor Tavares.

Establishing a Department of Agriculture only will add another layer of bureaucracy that will frustrate farmers rather than help them. We need support and not more regulations! I'm a fourth generation farmer but none of my sons may take over the farm because we haven't had the support that we need to succeed. Farming is hard work. How can we be sustainable when politicians only make it harder for us to farm!

OED has an Agricultural Specialist and if the right person is hired, he/she can be very effective in assisting farmers. I worked for the College of Tropical Agriculture for over 30 years and if the County seriously needs assistance they can assist. The State already has the Department of Agriculture for regulatory purposes and I see no need for the County to have one. OED has been successfully promoting agriculture for years.

If the Council is really interested in helping agriculture, cut the politics and help all farmers succeed instead of listening to non farmers and activists trying to tell the farmers what they need to do. I'm hoping that my family will be farming for another 100 years.

Sincerely,

Clark Hashimoto

Owner/Manager, Hashimoto Persimmon Products

Sent from my iPad



808.878.1266
mauiwine.com

HC 1 Box 953
Kula, HI 96790-9304

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2020 JUL 23 PM 4: 03

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Date: July 9, 2020

To: Maui County Council
County.clerk@mauicounty.us

From: Paula Hegele

RE: County of Maui Department of Agriculture
Written Testimony for July 10th, 2020

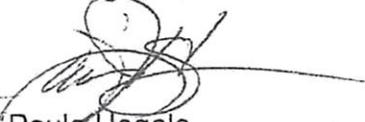
On behalf of Maui Wine, Ltd., the only commercial vineyard, and winery located on Ulupalakua Ranch for over 46 years, would like to strongly oppose the decision to create a Department of Agriculture for two primary reasons.

First, there has not been an adequate and analyzed input from Maui's active agriculture community as to the need, value, or consequences of this new department. Our industry is often misunderstood and disrespected for the knowledge, expertise and care we have for our lands and crops. The people of the agriculture business community should be your chosen source of information and facts.

Secondly, businesses now need advocacy, support, and basic pro-business resourcefulness from our government. Farmers are resilient and used to tough times, but this is unprecedented and if the Maui County Council truly believes in a diversified economy which includes diversified agriculture, we need signs of support for education, knowledge, and economic success from our County, not additional regulations.

Our industry is already heavily regulated by both State and Federal agencies, a duplication of services is not warranted. We need and desire a supportive, working relationship with our County Council members so that diversified agriculture can be successful part of Maui County's future.

Best regards,



Paula Hegele
President

County Clerk

From: Mark Hyde <hydem001@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 1:45 PM
To: County Clerk
Subject: County Council Public Hearing Testimony, July 24, 2020, Agenda

I support each and every proposed charter change proposal on the 7/24/20 council agenda.

Further, each proposal is sufficiently developed and succinct for voters to understand and determine whether to adopt them on election day this November. None should be deferred to the next charter commission as some have suggested. Voters are smart.

Mark Hyde
4320 E. Waiola Loop
Kihei, Hawaii 96753
(808) 874-3839

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2020 JUL 16 PM 2: 27
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

County Clerk

From: William Jacintho <wjacintho90@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 2:37 AM
To: County Clerk
Subject: Resolution No. 20-102 Establishing a Dept. Of Ag

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2020 JUL 24 AM 7:53
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Aloha Maui County Council Chair Lee, and Council Members,

My name is William G. Jacintho. I am a Rancher and Nurseryman, in SUPPORT of Resolution No. 20-102, Establishing a Department of Agriculture.

As President of the Maui Cattleman's Association, and an ag producer, I sent the proposed information to about a hundred Agriculture Producers, and had many positive responses regarding a need for some kind of serious support and advocacy for our Ag Industry. Some stated that this is long overdue.

Out of the many positive responses, I did receive an opposition from a Rancher who was concerned about it being a regulatory department, based on what some of social media was circulating. I also had a Nurseryman not in favor of the way it was being proposed, saying the whole thing should be spelled out before asking for a Department. I did explain that if approved, it didn't take place for another two years, to give the Industry opportunity to address the needs together.

I believe the current language clearly spells it out, as not being regulatory, but rather a supportive advocate kind of department. This is a long awaiting need, that Ag Producers have struggled with for years.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide Testimony.

Sincerely,
William G. Jacintho

From: Reylene <lelegurl10@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 6:39 PM
To: County Clerk
Subject: community decide whether they want a Maui County Department of Agriculture this November.

Please continue the support to let the community decide whether they want a Maui County Department of Agriculture this November.

thank you to all the members that have shown their support to allow the community their right to vote.

Mahalo, Lehua

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2020 JUL 23 AM 8:32
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

July 24th meeting of the Maui County Council – Maui County Clerk - Please forward to all members

Aloha Council Chair Lee and Councilmembers,

Please vote yes on charter amendments 20-87, 20-88, 20-89,20-98, 20-99, 20-100 and 20-101

Please vote yes on term limits for council members and mayor, makeup of the charter commission and for a Maui County Dept of Agriculture.

Please vote yes for the charter amendment for the Maui County Department of Agriculture.

I really do appreciate the 2 votes already taken by this body and committee. In these uncertain times the ability of Maui County to steer its own destiny is lead by our councilmembers and their foresight. Please give the people the backing of a department dedicated to supporting and bringing into reality a system that will allow us to feed ourselves on a scale far beyond what we have today.

You have placed in the language assurances this will be a supportive department – this was an excellent observation by Councilmember Hokama, and the verbiage truly speaks of a better definition.

Please let us vote on this in November.

Also, the time is now to ensure service to the County as an elected official is a service and not a lifelong job so I urge a yes vote for term limits.

Also, it is very important that the council have say in the makeup of the charter commission. Please vote yes on this.

Also, it is important the council have say in the planning commissions in the future.

As far as 20-89 – the ability of the council to remove the Corporation Council is vital to the governance of the county. As of today the corporation council works for the person that can hire and fire them and give them direction – this ensures or at the very least reflects the look of an office that has a built in bias regarding rulings. Please vote yes to allow the council to be equal to the mayor on this point and fix a glaring problem in the system

Mahalo,

Sean Lester

Haiku

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

2020 JUL 23 PM 3:09

RECEIVED

County Clerk

From: Lisa Kahaleauki <Lisa@flcmaui.org>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 11:58 AM
To: County Clerk
Subject: RE: Ref CR20-85

RECEIVED

2020 JUL 24 PM 5:02

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Aloha, council chair and members of the Maui County Council, my name is Lisa Kahaleauki. I am the outreach team leader for Family Life Center who is passionate and devoted to ending homelessness. Council Chair Lee, I agree with you, that we should be encouraging more in our community who are interested in solving our homeless issues but a commission not necessarily the way to do this. We have a system in place and having a commission would add another layer of managing a system.

I have worked for Family Life Center for the past 5 years, I started working at Family Life Center with a heart of compassion and empathy where I thought helping the homeless was to manage their homelessness by feeding, offering clothing and daily basic needs. However, I have been educated and trained to know the only solution to homelessness is permanent housing. I have seen through data collection the work that is in place has been working by permanently housing individuals and families who experience homelessness. In fact, during the pandemic we have increased the number of households experiencing homelessness and have permanently housed many in our community.

May I suggest that we not re-create the wheel that is in place and continue to put our best efforts forth with evidence based "best practices".

Mahalo Nui Loa!

Lisa Lindsey-Kahaleauki
Outreach Team Leader
Family Life Center...A Place of Hope
95 S Kane Street
Kahului, HI 96732
Phone: 808 877 0880
Fax: 808 877 4443
Email: Lisa@flcmaui.org

From: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 11:56 AM
To: Lisa Kahaleauki <Lisa@flcmaui.org>
Subject: RE: Ref CR20-85

Yes. You can try calling in again.

If you want to just submit written testimony, please send it to this address and we will forward it onto the Members. Thank you.

From: Lisa Kahaleauki <Lisa@flcmaui.org>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 11:54 AM

To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Subject: RE: Ref CR20-85

Aloha County Clerk:

I was just discontinued from the call. May I please send my testimony over email?

*Aloha,
~Lisa~*

From: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 10:27 AM
To: Lisa Kahaleauki <Lisa@flcmaui.org>
Subject: RE: Ref CR20-85

Sorry, Lisa –

We actually have you after testifier Jill Rogoff. So, you will be approximately 5 people after Sherry testifies.

From: Lisa Kahaleauki <Lisa@flcmaui.org>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 10:23 AM
To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Ref CR20-85

Aloha:

My name is Lisa Kahaleauki, I would like to give public testimony to CR20-85. My last 4 digits of my phone number is 0880. Thank you.

Mahalo Nui Loa!

Lisa Lindsey-Kahaleauki
Outreach Team Leader
Family Life Center...A Place of Hope
95 S Kane Street
Kahului, HI 96732
Phone: 808 877 0880
Fax: 808 877 4443
Email: Lisa@flcmaui.org

County Clerk

From: Ray Masters <ray@bepositive.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 9:28 AM
To: County Clerk
Subject: item: cc 20-385

Aloha Council Members.

I ask you to support the **#ProtectHawaii** movement to keep Hawaii COVID-19 free. Our island is seeing an increased number of tourists breaking the rules and starting to spread the disease. I know it is so hard to monitor these people and so it should be a priority to restrict this travel and if they must come here to ensure 100% compliance to the quarantine rules. We are requesting you each let the Mayor know we want to stop and prevent community spread moving forward. We need an island wide mandate on mask wearing anywhere in public. We need to stop tourism for now. This is the only way we will defeat this. I know you are work inking so hard yo keep us all safe and i thank you for this.

Mahal and Aloha

Raphael Masters
Paia.

ray@bepositive.com

County Clerk

From: Vivienne Masters <vivienmaui@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 9:11 AM
To: County Clerk
Subject: item: cc 20-385 #ProtectHawaii COVID-19

We are speaking on item: cc 20-385

"We ask you to support the #ProtectHawaii movement to keep Hawaii COVID-19 free. We are requesting you each let the mayor know we want to stop and prevent community spread moving forward. It is the only safe and realistic plan. We would like all laws, ordinances and policies to begin with this goal in mind moving forward through this pandemic. That is the ONLY way to have schools open in person safely"

Aloha.....

Vivienne Masters

<http://www.mauiwindcam.com/>
<http://www.raymasters.com/>
<http://www.facebook.com/mauiwindcam>
vivienmaui@gmail.com

Home:: (808) 877-2104

Mobile:: (808) 283-0910

Skype:: VivienneMasters



RECEIVED

From: Teena Monden <Kulacountryfarms@Kulacountryfarms.onmicrosoft.com>

2020 JUL 23 PM 4: 03

Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 7:25 AM

To: County.clerk@mauicounty.us <County.clerk@mauicounty.us>

Subject: Testimony opposing County Dept. Of Agriculture

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Council members:

My name is Teena Monden and together with my husband Chauncy, we operate Kula Country Farms .

Today is a very frightening time for us. Our sales have been greatly impacted by this pandemic, and moving into the school year, there is great uncertainty associated with one of our biggest events of the year for our farm and our community, our annual pumpkin patch.

We have planted our seeds, and plan to go ahead with our pumpkin patch preparations full of hope and prayer, but I am so unsure of what will happen. School field trips are a major part of our activities for the fall, and we are trying to develop ideas on how we could do a modified version under these pandemic times.

It would be nice if there were a County liaison helping us figure out the rules and what we can do.

A major role of the County needs to be how to help businesses adapt to Covid-19 realities. It is not just about agriculture. Agriculture exist in a greater business environment. The loss of tourist has affected us too. They were consumers. How will we as a greater business community survive? Enhancing economic development will help us. As businesses grow they help grow our business. When the economy slows, we do too. Growing crops is not enough. We need the markets.

The formation of a Department of Agriculture may have the right intent, but what we need is business assistance. We can grow the crops. We need help guiding small businesses to navigate the various rules that keep changing to be legal and successful. We get information about various programs, telling us that we should apply. Have you read them?

It takes time and the rules keep changing. Instead of summaries, there is a link telling us to go to a site.

Forwarding us this information is not enough. We need better guidance. Asking us to farm and read all that material at night is not possible. I know we have lost opportunities because we could not keep up with the programs that have been offered.

Farm Bureau has been trying, but I know they are overwhelmed with the number of emails received and trying to decipher the programs.

Please rethink your priorities of growing government vs. bringing actual help to us as producers. Helping us make maximum use of what we grow can increase Maui's food production overnight. This requires business people growing the economy

Thank you

Teena Monden

Owner

Kula Country Farms

375 Koheo Rd

Kula, Hawaii, 96790

808-878-8381 Office

808-878-8081 Fax

Kulacountryfarms@hawaii.rr.com

Kulacountryfarmsmaui.com



PO Box 148, Kula, HI 96790
mauicountyfarmbureau.org

Executive Director
Warren K. Watanabe

Board of Directors:

President
Teena Rasmussen

Vice President
Kyle Caires

Secretary
Shyloh Stafford-Jones

Treasurer
Tim Stevens

Directors:
Rodrigo Balala
Brendan Balthazar
James "Kimo" Falconer
Mario Gaggero
Heidi Watanabe
Carver Wilson

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2020 JUL 24 AM 7: 53

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

July 24th, 2020
TESTIMONY

Re: Maui Dept of Agriculture, Resolution 20-102

Aloha Chair Lee and Members of the Council,

We are a non-profit organization that represents 200 Maui farm families. Our volunteer farmers and ranchers who serve as our Board of Directors guide our work to advocate for farmers so they can produce food and other agricultural products for our communities.

On behalf of the hundreds of farmers and ranchers who will be impacted by this measure, we respectfully request **one simple change** to the resolution.

Please remove the word, "*primary*" from the first sentence in Section 8-18.3, Powers, Duties, and Functions. The hasty addition of this word at the very last ten minutes of the six plus hour Council meeting changed the intended meaning. This one word nullifies what every Councilmember expressed during the meeting because it provides that the intention and purpose of the Department **IS** to further regulate farmers. It may not be the primary purpose, but this wording clearly authorizes more regulation on our local farmers as a potential **SECONDARY purpose**.

We believe that every Councilmember supports Maui's farmers and ranchers. We believe that you did not mean to authorize more regulations for the farmers of Maui. As the resolution introducer, Councilman Sinenci himself clarified the purpose of the resolution at hour 6, minute 25, (quote) "...the clear intent for advocacy for farmers, not additional regulations...we do not want to add more weight on to the backs of our farmers...we want to lift that burden off of our local mahi'ai."

During the next 15 minutes, Councilmembers discussed and agreed that farmers should not face more regulations, with Councilmember King even mentioning that our egg farms and dairies were driven out of business because of regulations, and that she hoped the new department would reverse some of these regulations.

Removing this one word will clarify your intent and help to ensure that a future administration or council will not subvert the noble intent of this body.

Thank you so much for your support of Maui's farmers and ranchers, and your understanding of the hard work they do to provide for our communities.

Sincerely,

Teena Rasmussen, President

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

JULY 10, 2020
9:00 A.M.

CR 20-78

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE REVISED CHARTER OF THE
COUNTY OF MAUI (1983), AS AMENDED, RELATING TO ESTABLISHING A
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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2020 JUL 23 PM 4:03
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Chairperson Lee and Councilmembers:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on CR 20-78, a resolution to place on the next General Election ballot the question of whether Article 8 of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, should be amended, effective July 1, 2022 to establish a Department of Agriculture to develop a sustainable regional agricultural system for Maui County. The Hawaii Department of Agriculture offers comments and a suggestion.

The Hawaii Department of Agriculture's (HDOA) mission is to further expand the role of Hawaii's agricultural industry to benefit the well-being of our island society by diversifying the economy, protecting resources important for agricultural production, and gaining greater self-sufficiency in food and renewable energy production. Departmental goals are to conserve and develop essential agricultural resources and infrastructure; to gain access to and develop local, domestic, and international markets for Hawaii's agricultural products; to conserve and protect suitable agricultural lands and water; to promote Hawaii's food self-sufficiency; to raise awareness of the importance of



agriculture to the State's economy, environment, and as a profession; to implement programs to safeguard Hawaii's farmers, consumers, and natural resources; to prevent the introduction and establishment of plants, animals and diseases that are detrimental to Hawaii's agriculture and environment.

The Department's statutory and regulatory duties and responsibilities require our services to be provided fairly and efficiently throughout the State. We collaborate with individual counties to meet their unique needs (for instance, after a natural disaster harms farmers and/or their production), provide generic support for agricultural commodities but never to specific companies, and work to prevent invasive species from entry and/or control them if established. We work with county, sister State agencies, and federal agencies to maximize our ability to help Hawaii's agricultural operations within our limited means. HDOA notes that CR 20-78, subject to favorable referendum, would create a county-level agriculture department with functions that are duplicative of some of HDOA's mandated functions, mission and goals. Duplicative functions will create confusion among stakeholders, leading to inefficiencies in service and support for agricultural producers and stakeholders. Differences in State and County policies, plans or programs would require resolution, adding a layer of uncertainty to agricultural development in Maui County and impeding the State's goal to double agricultural production.

The Department suggests that rather than duplicate functions, the County's role in agriculture be complementary to the programs and services the State Department of Agriculture provides. For instance, if the County sees fit to only support organic producers, this may lessen the likelihood that there would be a conflict HDOA's support of all production agriculture throughout Maui County, regardless of the means of production. HDOA would welcome the County partnering with the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Cooperative Extension Service to work on a regenerative farming program. The County could work with the Market Development Branch to promote "buy local, buy Maui" or develop a sustainable food hub system. The County could have an important role in generating regional agricultural

information that can benefit the Hawaii Department of Agriculture's ability to more effectively provide our programs and services. HDOA welcomes a County role that compliments its core functions, but requests that care be taken to avoid duplicative responsibilities that could result in unintended harm to producers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



Jamie Shishido <jamiewkoa@gmail.com>

Testimony CR 20-78, Relating to the County Department of Agriculture

2 messages

Jamie Shishido <jamiewkoa@gmail.com>
To: county.clerk@mauicounty.us

Thu, Jul 9, 2020 at 11:19 AM

Chair Lee and Members of the Council,

Farmers need help now! Everyday, I worry about what will happen when the County purchase assistance ends. How much more damage will I sustain due to the deer coming to my fields? When will my neighbors start complaining about what I do? Should I stop planting? Will I be able to make payroll this month? How much drier will it get?

These are the questions that I worry about every day. I appreciate the help from the County with produce purchases. But we need help now. How will we survive if the pandemic extends into next year? I think the County needs to focus on how to help the farmers now ..and how to rebuild our economy. Adding a Department of Agriculture is adding to the government without any guarantee it will help us as farmers.

I am a third generation farmer. Doesn't it make sense to focus on helping keep our lands productive? Help us find someone to make value added products during times of over production or during times like this when we don't have sales. People buy things from the frozen food section. Why can't it be our products? If you help us manage the deer and pigs, you will see an increase in locally grown IMMEDIATELY. The investments are already been done. Our losses will turn into more locally grown. If another Department is created where will the money come from? Does it mean our real property tax will need to increase?

Please focus on bringing help now! Help will come too late by creating a department of agriculture via the Charter. When our economy is already faltering, growing government doesn't make sense. Please focus on helping Maui now.

Thank you for letting me give my opinion.

Jamie Shishido
Kula

Jamie Shishido <jamiewkoa@gmail.com>
To: Warren Watanabe <warrenmcfb@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 9, 2020 at 11:20 AM

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2020 JUL 23 PM 4: 03
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Jeff Stark
(808) 283 8167
jstark@maui.net

July 12, 2020

Testimony for Maui County Council Resolution "PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE REVISED CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI (1983), AS AMENDED, RELATING TO ESTABLISHING A DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE"

Aloha Maui County Council Members:

Good morning and Aloha:

My name is Jeff Stark. I am submitting this testimony as a member of the volunteer working group supporting the Maui County Council Climate Action and Resiliency (CAR) Committee. I am also writing as the Chair of the Maui Chapter of Citizens Climate Lobby Public Education Committee.

I am writing to ask you to support the Council Resolution entitled "PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE REVISED CHARTER OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI (1983), AS AMENDED, RELATING TO ESTABLISHING A DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE."

During my nearly 30 years of writing about, and advocating for, responsible and effective environmental policies and programs agriculture has been a prominent and persistent subject of education, activism, research, policy debate and Council activity. However, due to the unique nature of our plantation-oriented agricultural industry real progress in creating a new paradigm for that industry was elusive.

But now we may have an opportunity to make real systemic changes and create an agriculture which is responsive to our community's needs and desires. When we survey the panorama of our central valley we no longer see field after field of a single crop. Instead we see the beginning of a diversified industry, an incubator for new and improved agricultural practices, new opportunities for all elements of our population to develop new careers which will enable our daughters and sons succeed right here on Maui.

With all this in mind it is clear that we would be remiss in our duties if we did not work together to capitalize on our new situations. One of the most effective ways to facilitate that cooperative movement could well be the Resolution we are now discussing. I believe that, if this Resolution is passed, we will then be involved in the long and time-consuming process required to establish, staff and launch a new cabinet-level department.

With this in mind I would like this body to consider some methods to begin the real work of this new department without having to wait on the myriad of bureaucratic tasks that are inevitable in a undertaking of this nature. In particular, I suggest you consider enhancing the ability for interested and capable citizens to band together and undertake the real work of the soon to be the Maui County Council Department of Agriculture. This is the path that has resulted in the working group supporting the CAR Committee. I believe this group has proved the practicality and production that we can expect from a similar effort in support of the Department of Agriculture.

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2020 JUL 14 AM 11: 12

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Our community has the good fortune to be home to many dedicated, experienced and capable citizens who are devoted to environmental and agricultural progress. I ask that you facilitate their ability to take part in an important and productive process.

RECEIVED

July 23, 2020

2020 JUL 23 PM 1: 22

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

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Subject: July 24, 2020 County Council Meeting – Testimony
Agenda Item I. Healthy Families & Communities Committee CR 20-93
Proposal to cut down 34 exceptional trees along Honoapiilani Highway

Dear Council Chair Lee and Members:

I am happy to see the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands developing much needed homesteads in Wailuku; however, I respectfully request the County Council seek alternatives to destroying the 34 exceptional monkey pod trees along Honoapiilani Highway. The trees are irreplaceable and they give character to the area. I understand the Arborist said they are in poor condition, but with some maintenance they could thrive.

Where I live, in the Waiolani subdivision in Waikapu, the trees along the highway were not destroyed. I hope that the 34 trees can remain and be integrated into the DHHL neighborhood.

With some creativity, the developer should be able to find alternatives to cutting down these trees. If there are absolutely no other alternatives, I hope the developer replaces them with new trees that will someday become exceptional.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,



Jacky Takakura
34 Ili Kupono Street
Wailuku, HI 96793



Warren Watanabe <warrenmcfb@gmail.com>

RECEIVED

CR 20-78 Protest

3 messages

2020 JUL 23 PM 4:03

sandy.howardsnurseriesmaui.com <sandy@howardsnurseriesmaui.com>

Thu, Jul 9, 2020 at 4:26 PM

To: "tamara.paltin@mauicounty.us" <tamara.paltin@mauicounty.us>, "Yuki.Sugimura@mauicounty.as" <Yuki.Sugimura@mauicounty.as>, "niki.hokama@mauicounty.us" <niki.hokama@mauicounty.us>, "Shane.Senici@mauicounty.us" <Shane.Senici@mauicounty.us>, "keani.rawlins-fernandez@mauicounty.u" <keani.rawlins-fernandez@mauicounty.u>, "alice.lee@mauicounty.us" <alice.lee@mauicounty.us>, "mike.Molina@mauicounty.us" <mike.Molina@mauicounty.us>, "Kelly.King@mauicounty.as" <Kelly.King@mauicounty.as>

COUNTY CLERK

Aloha all,

I am reaching out to you in an effort to encourage you to stop the introduction of CR 20-78 to establish a County Department of Agriculture.

As a commercial farmer of 40 years on Maui and a witness to the titanic loss of produce production over the last 2 generations, we can tell

you that this type of action will only further diminish what's left of our little farming community.

When we were growing up in the '50-'60s, Maui was known as the "Breadbasket of Hawaii". We enjoyed a robust and thriving agriculture

community that fed our Island and served the entire state. We had a dairy, chicken farms, egg farms, and pig farms. Our green beans and

cabbage were in every house in Hawaii.

Today, local milk, pork, chicken, eggs and green beans have all but disappeared. Pests, diseases, cheap imported produce from abroad, loss of labor,

government regulations, lead to the collapse of our local food supply and utter despair for our farmers. We were too quiet. Just like the group that

wants this program, we should have screamed out our needs. But that's not our nature and perhaps what makes us love our work.

Remember, all the while, there were strict State regulations for farmers. We've always followed the rules, were monitored strictly and another

entity doing the same thing is both redundant and more importantly wasteful. These monies should be directed to social programs to assist the less

fortunate.

This effort by that very loud minority is mean spirited and probably meant to target Mahi Pono, but really, it will inadvertently, harm all of us farmers.

It seems like every time there is a very loud voice, it is from the few that hate the big farmer. First HC&S and Monsanto and now, Mahi Pono. There

will always be that minority.

Remember us, the large majority of local people and the quiet farmers....we will count on you to protect us from this small group of bullies.

Mahalo,

Howard and Sandy Takishita

7/23/2020

Gmail - CR 20-78 Protest

Howard's Nurseries, Inc.

2301 Omaopio Road

Kula, HI 96790

☎ Phone: 808-878-4180

☎ FAX: 808-878-8409

✉ sandy@howardsnurseriesmaui.com

Warren Watanabe <warrenmcfb@gmail.com>
To: county.clerk@mauicounty.us

Thu, Jul 9, 2020 at 4:45 PM

[Quoted text hidden]

Warren Watanabe <warrenmcfb@gmail.com>
To: "Tasha A. Kama" <tasha.kama@mauicounty.us>
Cc: "Evan P. Dust" <evan.dust@mauicounty.us>

Thu, Jul 9, 2020 at 4:46 PM

Just noticed your name was missed on this submittal.
Thank you.
Warren

Confidentiality notice: This message, including any attachments, is intended for the use of the party to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, and exempt from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, any dissemination, distribution, or copying of the communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please contact the sender immediately by reply email, and delete the original and any copies of this message. It is the sole responsibility of the recipient to ensure that this message and any attachments are virus free.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: sandy howardsnurseriesmaui.com <sandy@howardsnurseriesmaui.com>
Date: Thu, Jul 9, 2020 at 4:26 PM

Subject: CR 20-78 Protest

To: tamara.paltin@mauicounty.us <tamara.paltin@mauicounty.us>, Yuki.Sugimura@mauicounty.as <Yuki.Sugimura@mauicounty.as>, riki.hokama@mauicounty.us <riki.hokama@mauicounty.us>, Shane.Senici@mauicounty.us <Shane.Senici@mauicounty.us>, keani.rawlins-fernandez@mauicounty.u <keani.rawlins-fernandez@mauicounty.u>, alicia.lee@mauicounty.us <alicia.lee@mauicounty.us>, mike.Molina@mauicounty.us <mike.Molina@mauicounty.us>, Kelly.King@mauicounty.as <Kelly.King@mauicounty.as>

[Quoted text hidden]



Maui County Farm Bureau <mauicountyfarmbureau@gmail.com>

Testimony against Item CR 20-78 to create a County Dept. of Agriculture

2 messages

James Tavares <tavaresjam@gmail.com>

Wed, Jul 8, 2020 at 10:43 PM

To: county.clerk@mauicounty.us

Cc: mauicountyfarmbureau@gmail.com

My name is James Tavares and I am a farmer in the Kula Ag Park. I have a BS in General Agriculture and an MS in Horticulture from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I left my job as an Extension Agent with the University of Hawaii to become a farmer which I have been doing now for over 30 years. I am against the idea of forming a County Dept. of Agriculture. The idea of inflating county government and spending more money at this time when county revenue is decreasing is ludicrous. We need to reduce government spending, not increase it. We also do not need another layer of government and red tape telling farmers what they can and cannot do. My ideas of farming are based in science not fantasy or emotion. I haven't heard or read any discussion of how this new department would actually help me as a farmer or the agriculture industry as a whole expand and flourish. All this talk about self sufficiency is bogus. It won't happen unless more people get out there and actually farm. And I mean big time farming, not home gardening. The Council needs to listen to the REAL farmers. If this amendment makes it onto the ballot, I will do my best to defeat it. Thank you for your time.

James W. Tavares

--

James W. Tavares
P.O. Box 3037
Kahului, Hawaii 96733
(808)579-8536
(808)264-1619

Maui County Farm Bureau <mauicountyfarmbureau@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 9, 2020 at 10:38 AM

To: Mae Nakahata <mnakahata@gmail.com>

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RECEIVED
2020 JUL 23 PM 4:03
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

County Clerk

From: Faith Tuipulotu <auli@hawaii.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:06 AM
To: County Clerk
Subject: Re: Possible Dept. of Ag

RECEIVED

2020 JUL 14 AM 11:12

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Aloha,

As the President of the Molokai Homestead Farmers Alliance, I have a few more comments to add.

1. Maui County Office of Economic Development has an Agricultural Specialist. Prior to Patrick Ornellas, what has this department accomplished that has directly helped farmers? About 8 or 9 years ago I was at a meeting with the Ag specialist. I was excited. I asked a few questions. I guess my idea wasn't good enough because I got the "brush off", but another person that was there got raving comments. That was very discouraging. Looking back at that experience, is that person still farming today, "NO".

2. What taxes will you raise to pay for these positions? Property taxes?

All types of farming is important conventional/organic. One is not better than the other, it's a choice. Concerning pesticides, organic or non organic, it's all about following the label. If used properly and you have FSMA rules in place, it's all good.

I think it would take less effort and tax payers monies, if we improve what we have now and connect the different agencies with the farming community. I don't think everyone knows the awesome resources that's available.

Mahalo,
Faith Tuipulotu
President, Molokai Homestead Farmers Alliance

On Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 7:13 AM Faith Tuipulotu <auli@hawaii.edu> wrote:

Aloha,
I am Faith Tuipulotu. My husband and I own and operate Tuipulotu Organics LLC on Molokai. We have been farming for over 20 years.

I do not support a Department of Agriculture for Maui County.

Where will the money to run this department come from? Will it be taking from what we already have coming from the state? Why create more positions when we have multiple agencies with experts! Like CTAHR, NRCS, FSA, DOA-Sharon Hurd and the gang to name a few. Sounds like we need to educate people on where to access the help. Will the money to run this department, be the same monies that would have been going to the farmers or programs instead of positions/experts that we already have? Sounds like another layer of wasting money.

Regards,
Faith Tuipulotu, Moloka'i Homesteader/Farmer