

## **EDB Committee**

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**From:** Irene Newhouse <einew@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 22, 2019 8:50 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee; Tamara Sherrill  
**Subject:** EDB-1: in support of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

I work part-time at Hawaii Nature Center as a substitute educator, Maui volunteer coordinator, and site landscaper. HNC's landscaping supports its educational mission of hands-on interactive nature education for Maui children from pre-school through 5th grade, aligned with the state science curriculum for each grade level, by including to the furthest extent possible native Hawaiian and Polynesian-introduced plants. As a non-profit ourselves, we have no budget for expanding the variety of plants we have.

Maui Nui Botanical Gardens has been extremely generous in providing us plants. Just this week, I obtained samples of 3 additional Hawaiian varieties of sugar cane for HNC, as well as 5 other plants. When HNC was shut down because Iao Valley Road was closed to all but local traffic due to flooding, MNBG generously permitted HNC to move its Kindergarten classes to the garden.

From a more general view, MNBG is a unique resource for Maui County. There is no other place such a variety of native plants can be experienced - it would take many trips to isolated areas to equal the experience, and many are not open to the general public. The cultural activities MNBG presents, the Arbor Day give away, all would be much missed if MNBG were not funded.

Sincerely,  
Irene Newhouse  
129 Walua Place  
Kihei HI

## **EDB Committee**

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**From:** Judy Locke <JudyLocke@hawaii.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 22, 2019 10:28 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Cc:** info@mnbg.org  
**Subject:** Maui Nui Botanical Garden Support  
**Attachments:** Maui Nui Botanical Gardens Letter of Support Template (FY2020).pdf

Judy Locke

March 22, 2019

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council  
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez  
200 South High St., 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

Please support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

The garden is a gem on our island of Maui. It provides a wonderful outdoor space for so many families and community activities. The garden is a source of cultural and scientific education for everyone from keiki to kupuna. The events that I have attended this year at the garden include the ulu festival, the Punana Leo fundraiser, the Arbor Day event and a few other native plant classes. Each event was well attended and full of smiling faces enjoying the natural environment and participating in meaningful activities. As a retired DOE teacher I wholeheartedly support the funding of this enriching program and organization.

Sincerely,

Judy Locke  
Grow Some Good  
& Maui Master Gardeners, UHMC/CTAHR  
1417 Kilohi Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

## EDB Committee

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**From:** Gemma Medina <gmedina@imuafamilyservices.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 22, 2019 10:33 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Cc:** info@mnbg.org  
**Subject:** EDB-1: in support of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

My experience with the Garden has been outstanding. I work for a local, non-profit preschool and we have had the pleasure of visiting the gardens every week for "Forest School Friday." The staff at MNBG have welcomed us with open arms and allowed us to utilize the space to help the children of Maui build a connection to the 'aina. Research suggests that when people feel a sense of place and connection as a child, they are more likely to grow up to take care of that place. Our children have learned so much about Hawaiian culture and plant identification that they are teaching their parents!

I believe that MNBG is the best place on Maui for visitors and residents to learn the cultural history of Maui County's unique plants. The gardens play an integral role in our inclusive, place-based educational program.

I am so thankful for the gardens and all of the opportunities afforded to my young students-as well as our college interns who see the benefits of immersing children in nature thanks to our time at MNBG.

Sincerely,

Gemma Medina

*Gemma Medina, M.Ed*

**Education Director**

Phone: (808) 244-7467 ext: 309

Address: 161. S.Wakea Ave., Kahului, HI 96732



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Imua Family Services provides comprehensive early childhood developmental services to children and their families with the support and resources needed to achieve their full potential in life.

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## **EDB Committee**

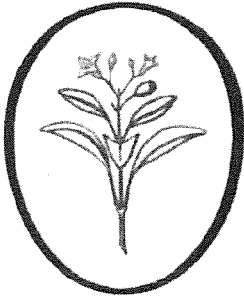
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**From:** Irene Newhouse <einew@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 22, 2019 3:29 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee; info@mnbg.org  
**Subject:** EDB-1: in support of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens  
**Attachments:** FY2020MNBGSupport005.pdf

Honorable Council Members, please find in the attached a letter of support for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens from the Native Hawaiian Plant Society.

Thank you.

Irene Newhouse  
NHPS Sec'y



## NATIVE HAWAIIAN PLANT SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 5021 , KAHULUI, MAUI, HAWAII 96733

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*Nanea mā pua o ka 'āina aloha*

March 23, 2019

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council  
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez  
200 South High St., 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

The Native Hawaiian Plant Society is dedicated to educating the public about native plants, preserving habitat for native plants, and restoring native plants. We also advise people wishing to use native plants in their home gardens. All these goals are also furthered by Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

MNBG's collection of traditional Hawaiian crops is a unique resource for the community.

The Gardens also sponsor weekend activities that preserve traditional practices like cordage making, imu, kapa making and dying, use of 'ulu, and, of course, the Arbor Day tree give away. The gardens' central location makes broad participation convenient.

Sincerely,

Irene Newhouse  
NHPS Sec'y