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COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI 200 S. HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.MauiCounty.us

April 4, 2017

Mr. Stewart Stant, Director Department of Environmental Management County of Maui Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mr. Stant:

SUBJECT: WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS (IEM-20)

At its meeting of March 20, 2017, the Council's Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee received a presentation from Steve Parabicoli, Wastewater Consultant, entitled "Options to Improve Wastewater Management in South Maui."

During the discussion Mr. Parabicoli referenced Act 120 amending Section 235-16.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Mr. Parabicoli noted that Act 120 allows tax credits for individuals that upgrade cesspools on properties located within 200 feet of the shoreline, perennial stream or wetlands. Mr. Parabicoli recommended the Council should support efforts to increase the distance allowed for receiving the tax credit to enable property owners within places such as Maui Meadows to take advantage of the opportunity to upgrade their wastewater systems.

Furthermore, Mr. Parabicoli referenced a dye study conducted in the Puako subdivision in the County of Hawaii that reached the ocean in a matter of hours. Therefore, to provide justification that the 200-foot radius from the shoreline should be increased for Act 120 purposes, can a dye study be implemented in the Maui Meadows area?

Another recommendation offered during the presentation was to connect Maui Meadows to the County Wastewater Reclamation Facility. Accordingly, in the 2017 Fiscal Year Budget Ordinance, the Department of Environmental Management included the Maui Meadows Sewer System in its long-range planning for future fiscal years, connecting Maui Meadows community to the County Wastewater Reclamation Facility.

Therefore, may I respectfully request that you respond to the following:

- 1. Explain what is required to perform a dye study to determine wastewater flows to the ocean from an area like Maui Meadows.
- 2. Does the Department of Environmental Management have the ability to perform the dye study on its own?
- 3. If the dye study can be performed by the Department, please provide estimated costs associated with the study.
- 4. Should the dye study require procurement of services, provide the estimated cost for such services.
- 5. Are there other areas within the County of Maui that have cesspools as wastewater systems that would benefit from a dye study?
- 6. What is the status of the Maui Meadows Sewer System project?
- 7. In the 2017 Fiscal Year Budget the Maui Meadows Sewer System project was estimated for \$1,500,000 for fiscal years 2018-2022. Is the Department still planning to include this project in future budgets?
- 8. Would the Department consider accelerating the Maui Meadows Sewer System project for planning and design phases sooner?

Thank you for your consideration of this request. May I also respectfully request that you provide your written response by **April 17, 2017**. To ensure efficient processing, please include the relevant Committee item number in the subject line of your response.

Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Gary Saldana at ext. 7137, or Stacey Vinoray at ext. 8006).

Sincerely,

ELLE COCHRAN, Chair

Infrastructure and Environmental

Management Committee

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