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

April 3, 2026

Mr. Jordan Molina, Director
Department of Public Works
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mr. Molina:

SUBJECT: **PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE
COUNTY OF MAUI** (BFED-1) (PW-02)

May I please request you be prepared to answer the following questions at the Council's Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee meeting of **April 10, 2026***. This will enable the Committee to comprehensively review the FY 2027 Budget.

May I further request that you transmit your response to bfed.committee@mauicounty.us by 4:30 p.m. on **April 9, 2026**. **Date is subject to change without notice.*

Overall

1. The Department notes workforce shortages are a challenge. Does the Department have a role in recommending the use of fringe benefits for supplemental agreements to increase salaries?
 - a. Does the Department have a supplemental agreement recommendation that could help make the County a more competitive employer? Please explain. (Page 730, Program Budget) (GJ)

2. Relating to the Administration Program, Goal #3, item 1:
 - a. Please confirm whether the FY 2027 goal of 15 voluntary employee separations applies to the entire Department. If yes, is the Department's target to keep the voluntary turnover at 4 percent or lower? (Page 734, Program Budget) (KB)
3. Relating to the Administration Program, Goal #4, item 1:
 - a. The reported number of service requests increased between FYs 2025 and 2027. How many requests have been received to date for FY 2026?
 - i. How many requests received in FY 2025 were satisfactorily resolved by the Department? Why does the Department not use resolving requests as a way to measure success? (Page 734, Program Budget) (KB)
4. Under the Special Maintenance Program's Key Activity Goals & Measures, there is an asterisk which states, "to be determined by analysis/estimates from special maintenance." Please explain why there is no corresponding asterisk in the table. (Page 746, Program Budget) (KB)
5. Relating to the Road, Bridge, and Drainage Maintenance Program, Goal #1, item 1:
 - a. For FYs 2025, 2026, and 2027, please provide the percentage of lane miles represented compared to the County's total lane miles. For example, does 15 lane miles represent 5 percent of the County's total lane miles? (Page 764, Program Budget) (KB)
6. Relating to the Traffic Management Program, Goal #1, item 1:
 - a. For FYs 2025, 2026, and 2027, please provide the percentage of signs, linear footage restriped, crosswalks repainted, and traffic signals inspected compared to the County's total. For example, do 2,000 signs represent 5 percent of the County's total signs in inventory? (Page 771, Program Budget) (KB)

7. Relating to the Traffic Management Program, Goal #1, item 2:
 - a. The left-turn signal at South Papa Avenue and South Kamehameha Avenue intersection only allows two cars to turn per cycle, causing traffic to backup. Can the Department extend the left-turn signal?
 - b. Can the Department add left-turn signals at the Lono and Hina Avenue intersection? (Page 771, Program Budget) (SS)
8. Does the Department's budget account for the proposed FY 2027 rate increases for sewer and water service fees? Please explain. (Pages 93 and 94, Program Budget) (TP)
9. What is the Department's involvement in the comprehensive conservation plan, or greenprint, under Code Section 2.82.050? Has the Department provided funding to help execute the greenprint? Why or why not? (GJ)

Salaries and Wages (Category "A")

1. Tree trimming and procurement costs are rising, as reflected in the \$800,000 expansion request under the Department of Parks and Recreation. Does the Department support adding unfunded Arboriculturist and Tree Trimmer E/Ps to its budget?
 - a. Which E/Ps would the Department recommend adding to combat these rising costs? How many E/Ps or funding would be needed in FY 2027 to support hiring for these roles or for the Department to reduce the need to contract out tree-trimming services? (Page 17-25, Budget Details) (GJ)
2. Why was an additional Lāna'i Utility Worker not included in the FY 2027 Budget? Please explain. (GJ)
3. Please explain how Executive Order 2025-02 provides the authority for salary increases. (Page 735, Program Budget and Pages 22-3 & 22-51, Budget Details) (TC)

4. Please explain whether the FY 2026 expansion positions are ready to be posted for recruitment, including both General and Highway Funded positions. If not, what stage of the process are they currently in? (Page 748, Program Budget) (TP)
5. Please list all expansion positions the Department has never filled, including positions that were never posted. Is a reorganization required? (TP)
6. Will a reorganization be required for the FY 2027 expansion positions requesting 6- or 8-months of funding? Have their position descriptions or minimum qualifications been created? Please explain.
 - a. In light of the recent Kona Low storms and immediate Department needs, could the following positions be 89-day non-civil service hires instead?
 - i. P-00752 Civil Engineer III, Index Code 916023A;
 - ii. P-00742 County Building/Ground Utility Helper, Index Code 916124A;
 - iii. P-00753 Janitor II, Index Code 916124A;
 - iv. P-00754 County Building/Ground Maintenance Supervisor II, Index Code 916124A; and
 - v. P-00755 Facilities Maintenance Coordinator, Index Code 916124A. (Pages 22-8, 22-10 & 22-11, Budget Details) (TP)
7. Please explain what the Department means by proposed FY 2027 “vacancy savings.” (Pages 22-13, 22-28, and 22-67, Budget Details) (TP)
8. In FY 2026, the Department explained its Recruitment Incentive Agreement, which was comprised of a signing bonus, travel and transportation incentive, and pre-employment physical reimbursement incentive.

- a. Does the Department still offer these recruitment incentives? If yes, how effective have they been in improving recruitment?
- b. Does the Department believe additional incentives are needed? (Page 3, PW-02 (FY 2026)) (TP)

Operations and Equipment (Category “B”)

1. For Professional Services, Index Code 916023B:
 - a. Has the new flood data management tool, permit, and certificate tracking system been created? Have operating procedures been standardized to ensure compliance with National Flood Insurance Program and Community Rating System requirements? Please explain.
 - i. If it has been created, how did it assist the Department during the Kona Low storms?
 - b. Has a survey map of the burn zone been completed? If not, what percentage has been completed to date?
 - i. Has the Department hired a licensed surveyor to complete the work? (Page 740, Program Budget and Page 22-14, Budget Details) (TP)
2. For County Garages Maui, Index Code 916114A: (Page 748, Program Budget and Pages 22-19 – 22-21, Budget Details)
 - a. Please explain the changes regarding County Garages Maui. Why did the positions move to the Special Maintenance Program? (NUH)
 - b. What is the Department’s intended outcome for dividing County Garages Maui into individual districts? How will the Department measure its success? (TP)
 - i. Will this change cause the Department’s budget to increase, decrease, or stay the same? (TP)

- ii. Will there only be four district garages – Hana, Lahaina, Makawao, and Wailuku? If yes, will the 916114A Index Code no longer be used starting in FY 2028? (TP)
3. For R&M – Services/Contracts, Index Code 916215B:
 - a. Please provide details regarding service or contracts resulting in the contractor falling out of compliance. What catch-up work needs to be done? (Page 22-36, Budget Details) (NUH)
4. For Professional Services, Index Code 916369B: (Pages 745 and 751, Program Budget and Page 22-37, Budget Details)
 - a. Please provide details on the MS4 program and an update on drainage maintenance efforts. (NUH)
 - b. Has the Department inspected all County and regulated dams, flood, and sediment control structures under its jurisdiction in West Maui? Please list structures which have been inspected and when, and which have not. (TP)
5. For Other Equipment, Index Code 916115C:
 - a. How many vehicle frames have been compromised over the past five years? Will the frame machine be able to service vehicles island-wide? (Page 22-39, Budget Details) (TP)
6. For County Garages Lahaina Equipment, Index Code 916116C:
 - a. Please clarify if the diagnostic scan tools are new, replacements, or both. (Page 22-40, Budget Details) (TP)
7. Please list where the handheld radios purchased under Other Equipment, Index Code 9165202C in FY 2026 were distributed. For FY 2027, are the requested 6, 12, and 20 handheld radios the same type of radio, and where will they be assigned?
 - a. Other Equipment, Index Code 916389C;
 - b. Other Equipment, Index Code 916528C; and

- c. Other Equipment, Index Code 916601C. (Pages 22-79, 22-80, and 22-93, Budget Details) (TP)
8. Please list all current Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant awards, indicating which have been appropriated, awarded, and obligated. Please indicate which awards now require the 20 percent match and which do not. (Page 743, Program Budget) (TP)
9. Please explain the source of the significant increase from FYs 2026 to 2027 for the Federal Highway Administration, Federal-Aid and Other Transportation Grants. Is the increase related to negotiations by the Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization? Please explain. (Page 743, Program Budget) (KB)
10. How much of the amount budgeted in FY 2026 for new machinery and equipment has been expended to date? (YLS)
11. Has the Department budgeted for rising fuel and utility costs across its programs? If no, how does the Department plan to meet its needs? (YLS)
12. For 1st Quarter Unbudgeted Equipment FY 2026:
 - a. What will the Department use the 2025 Toyota 4Runner SR6 4WD, Funding Source 916528C, for and where will it be used? Please clarify if the vehicle is new or a replacement. (Page 4, County Communications 211-25) (TP)

Capital Improvement Projects

1. CBS-1926 North South Collector Road – Lokelani School to Auhana Road:
 - a. What is the status of the project? If the project has not started, please explain why not and provide the anticipated timeline.
 - b. Were Federal funds appropriated for this project? If yes, please state the amount of funds and when they expire. (Page 977, Program Budget) (TC)

2. For CBS-6069 Countywide Bridge and Drainage Program:
 - a. Can private lands be acquired under this CIP, such as bridge approaches near Pi‘ihana Farms, to alleviate traffic from Waiehu? (Page 979, Program Budget) (SS)
3. For CBS-7232 Countywide DPW Baseyard Facilities Program: (Page 985, Program Budget)
 - a. Provide a breakdown of each project listed with anticipated costs and project timeline. (YLS)
 - b. After the recent floods, is the Department considering a baseyard facility in South Maui? Please explain. (SS)
 - c. Has the Department considered relocating the current Hāna baseyard location near the Hāna Landfill on Waikoloa Road? Why or why not? (SS)
 - d. Have parcels been identified for the Molokai Cemetery Expansion and Central-South Baseyard Relocation? Provide a timeline for the acquisition of these parcels. (YLS)
 - e. Does the Department have the permits to proceed with construction repairs on the Lalo Street warehouse and Molokai Veteran Cemetery? (YLS)
4. For CBS-1023 Countywide Road Resurfacing and Pavement Preservation: (Page 989, Program Budget and Page 13, Appendix C)
 - a. Is Uakea Road in Hāna included in the pavement preservation program to receive funding? Please provide details if paving is planned for Kīpahulu and Kaupō areas. (SS)
 - b. Please provide a status update of all ongoing work under Pukalani Terrace Subdivision Pavement Reconstruction that remains unfinished from prior FYs. Provide a timeline for completion of the unfinished work. (YLS)
 - c. Please explain why Hina Avenue in Kahului needs a retaining wall replacement. (TP)

5. For CBS-5022 Countywide Federal Aid Program: (Page 991, Program Budget and Page 13, Appendix C)
 - a. What percentage of projects listed will go to outside contract bidding? (SS)
 - b. Please provide details about the planned improvements for Keawe Street in Lahaina, including anticipated start and end dates. (TP)
 - c. Please list the planned Federal Highway Administration Emergency Relief Projects in Lahaina. (TP)
 - i. Please also list every Countywide traffic project in Lahaina due to the August 8, 2023, wildfires, including anticipated start and end dates. (TP)
6. For CBS-2309 North South Collector Road (Waipuilani Street to Kaonoulu Street): (Page 995, Program Budget)
 - a. Please provide a timeline for this project. (YLS)
 - b. What is the status of the project? (TC)
 - c. When do Federal funds expire? Can an extension be granted? (TC)
 - d. Please provide a detailed timeline for the acquisition, design, and construction. Please also list the approvals that have been received and the approvals that are pending. (TC)
7. For CBS-1069 Waiale Road Extension: (Page 997, Program Budget)
 - a. When is construction anticipated to begin? Please provide a timeline. (YLS)
 - i. Will the Department project construction begin in July 2026 and complete by the end of 2027? Is this realistic? Please explain. (KB)

- b. Is this project fully designed and permitted? If not, will permitting be completed before construction begins? (KB)
8. For FY 2026 2nd Quarter CIP Reports:
 - a. Why does the West Maui Greenway Phase I comments state, “Contract suspended, pending cancellation?” Please explain.
 - b. What is the status of the Kahana Nui Basin Modifications and Lahaina Watershed – Supplemental Plan – ED? (Page 27, County Communications 59-26) (TP)
9. Relating to the March 2026 Kona Low Storms: (Pages 977 and 978, Program Budget and Page 28, County Communications 59-26)
 - a. Would the Department postpone or reduce any CIPs to accommodate emergency infrastructure repair needed, but not included, in the FY 2027 Budget? If yes, please provide a list of CIPs that can be delayed and the revised funding request. (YLS)
 - b. Please provide a status update on the resurfacing of Unahiole Street and Ala Moana Street in Lahaina. Resurfacing was anticipated to be completed before the August 8, 2023, wildfires. Following the storms, is there a need for dredging at Mala Wharf? (TP)
 - c. The Department provided a status update on Job #23-03, Temporary Shoreline Protection at Lower Honoapi‘ilani Road Between Puamana Place and Hui Road E, and Job #25-16, Lahaina Drainage Master Plan Update in County Communication 59-26.
 - i. Will the Department need to adjust these projects because of the recent storms? Please explain and provide the Department’s plan if adjustments are required. (TP)

Appendix A, Part II

1. Relating to the Open Space, Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, and Scenic Views Preservation Fund:
 - a. Does the Department plan to apply the condition providing “up to \$5,000,000 must be used to acquire parcels in Kihei containing wetlands to support implementation of the Kihei drainage master plan”? Please indicate whether the Department already has plans to acquire land.
 - b. Please explain the process to use these funds and clarify the Department’s role in the process. (Page 57) (GJ)

Appendix B

1. If Bill 48, FD1 (2026), entitled “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLES 2, 12, 14, 16, 18, AND 20, MAUI COUNTY CODE ON FEE WAIVERS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING,” passes second and final reading at the April 2, 2026, Council meeting, will Appendix B need to be amended to include the fee waiver exceptions under Account 3240, Fees: Building & Construction Permits? Please advise. (Page 37) (TP)

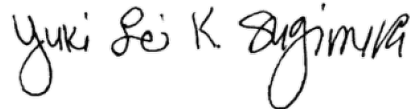
May I also request that you restate each question followed by your corresponding response. Include any attachments or exhibits. Please ensure your response is clear and legible by using a minimum 12-point font throughout so Committee members and the public can easily read the document once it is posted.

To ensure efficient processing, please duplicate the coding in the subject line above for easy reference.

Mr. Jordan Molina
April 3, 2026
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Thank you for your attention to this request. Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Kirsten Szabo at ext. 7662, James Krueger at ext. 7761, Jarret Pascual at ext. 7141, Clarissa MacDonald at ext. 7135, or Pauline Martins at ext. 8039).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yuki Lei K. Sugimura". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, Chair
Budget, Finance, and Economic
Development Committee

bfed:2027bgt:260330apw01:clm

cc: Mayor Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Budget Director

BFED Committee

From: BFED Committee
Sent: Friday, April 3, 2026 11:50 PM
To: 'Jordan Molina'
Cc: 'Michelle Santos'; 'Zeke Kalua'; 'Lesley Milner'; 'tiare.p.horner@co.maui.hi.us'; 'kristina.cabbat@co.maui.hi.us'; 'Shirley Blackburn'; 'Janina Agapay'; 'Summer Enfield-Carlos'; 'Paul Barany'; 'Kaila.Mafatini@co.maui.hi.us'; 'public.works@co.maui.hi.us'
Subject: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1) (PW-2)
Attachments: 260330apw01 (PW-02).pdf
Importance: High