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**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

April 4, 2025

Mr. Marc Takamori, Director  
Department of Transportation  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mr. Takamori:

SUBJECT: **FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET** (BFED-1) (TD-02)

May I please request you be prepared to answer the following questions at the BFED Committee meeting on **April 14, 2025**.<sup>\*</sup> This will enable the Committee to comprehensively review the FY 2026 Budget.

May I further request that, after approval by the Office of the Mayor, you transmit your answer to [bfed.committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:bfed.committee@mauicounty.us) by the end of the day on **April 14, 2025**. *\*Date subject to change without notice.*

**Overall**

1. With the opening of the Kahului Transit Center, will the Department implement a new route system to accommodate higher peak-hour frequency? If yes, where is this recognized in the FY 2026 Budget? When will the new route system be implemented? (Page 787, Program Budget) (TK)
2. Please provide an update on the PARK MAUI Program. Has it been a success? What are the total costs versus anticipated revenue for this program for FYs 2025, to date, and 2026? Please consider staff, contracts, and CIP in your analysis. (Page 778, Program Budget) (GJ) (TC)
  - a. Is there a plan to make the program budget-neutral and sustainable? Please share the plan. (GJ)

- b. For FY 2025, what was the breakdown of parking revenue received from residents, nonresidents, neighborhood residents, low-income, and employees? Please also clarify if employees include County employees and employees from neighboring businesses, and if so, please delineate them in your breakdown. (GJ)
3. Does the Department plan to apply for any Transportation Ferry Program grants? If yes, please indicate the specific grants. (Page 770, Program Budget) (GJ)
4. Please provide a list of grant awards applied for by, and awarded to, the Department. (Pages 768-769, Program Budget) (TC)
5. The Department of Finance noted that the Maui Bus is expected to have an estimated revenue of \$1,000,000 for FY 2026, \$500,000 more than FY 2025. They indicated this might be due to more tourists riding public transit. Does the Department agree with this assessment? How might the Department increase revenue from tourists to offset costs for services for residents? (Page 789, Program Budget) (GJ)
6. The County Food and Nutrition Security Plan recommends aligning public transportation routes and schedules with key food access locations. Does the Department have plans to adjust routes to improve services and ridership? If yes, will any funding or staff resources be dedicated to this in FY 2026? (Page 756, Program Budget) (GJ)
7. Does the Department have a wish list of future studies or projects to expand multimodal transportation, routes and ridership, considering trends in micro-mobility such as bike share, scooter share, and microtransit? (Page 756, Program Budget) (GJ)
8. The Department is anticipating \$20,300,000 more in grant revenue in FY 2026 compared to FY 2025. With most of the grant revenue coming from Federal sources, what is the Department's plan if that funding is no longer available? (Page 769, Program Budget) (YLS)
9. Does the PARK MAUI Program currently only manage the Wailuku Garage? If no, where else? (Page 758, Program Budget) (SS)

10. The Administration Program notes that not all bus stops will be eligible for shelter amenities. Should a feasibility study be done to determine which bus stops are eligible for a shelter? (Page 761, Program Budget) (SS)
11. Under Goal #1, item 1 for the Air Ambulance Program, please provide a breakdown of the emergency air ambulance service program for FY 2025, including the locations served and the number of residents that used this service compared to the number of visitors. (Page 774, Program Budget) (SS)
12. What percentage of County transit amenities are compliant with the Federal Transportation Administration and Americans with Disabilities Act? (Page 755, Program Budget) (TC)
13. As noted under the Administration Program's strategies, please provide a link to the annual report that the Department submits to the National Transportation Database under Title 49 U.S.C. 5335(a). (Page 755, Program Budget) (TC)
14. Is the Department anticipated to complete a follow-up study to the 2021 Maui Bus Rates and Fee Study? If yes, when will this follow-up study be completed? (Page 756, Program Budget) (TC)
15. The Department's total expenditures have risen exponentially since FY 2023 to present. Please explain the continual large increase every fiscal year. (Page 760, Program Budget) (TC)
16. Under Goal #1, item 1 for the Administration Program, what is the most common type of passenger complaint? (Page 762, Program Budget) (TC)
17. Under Goal #3, item 1 for the Administration Program, would the Department consider the implementation of a digital or automated farebox collection system that would allow Maui Bus ridership to pay their fare via tap card or digital tap payment? If no, what are the challenges to implementation? (Page 762, Program Budget) (TC)
18. What geographic areas are being served by the Human Service Transportation Program that are not served by public transit? (Page 771, Program Budget) (TC)

19. The following relate to Goal #2 for the Ferry Program: (Page 780, Program Budget) (TC)
  - a. Under item 1, what types of permits, entitlements, and approvals are needed for implementation of the Ferry Program?
  - b. Under item 2, what staff positions are needed? Please also describe their roles.
  - c. Under item 3, what maritime vessels have been identified so far?
  - d. Under item 4, please describe the policies and procedures that need to be developed.
20. There will be an estimated 122 completed emergency air ambulance trips in FY 2026, a notable decrease from the estimated 162 trips in FY 2025. What are some factors contributing to this projected reduction? Are there specific operational changes, improved efficiencies, or shifts in service demand that influenced this estimate? (Page 774, Program Budget) (NUH)
21. The Department anticipates five necessary entitlements and permits for the Ferry Program and the hiring of three additional staff, including a Program Specialist III, Accountant III, and Administrative Assistant II. Please clarify what types of permits are expected and what qualifications will be required for the additional staff. (Pages 764, 780; Program Budget) (NUH)
22. Please provide a status update on the Maui Fixed Bus Route advertising. As noted to the Committee last year, please confirm that the Department of the Corporation Counsel advised your Department to amend the Maui County Code related to advertising to enable the fixed bus route advertising program to go out to bid. (TP)
23. Is the Department open to working with the Office of Recovery to create transportation routes that align with the needs of West Maui workers who often work late evenings and early mornings? Is the

Department willing to create bus schedules that align with residents' needs? (TP)

24. The Office of Recovery has said that they will be enforcing on-street parking restrictions if road widths are too narrow. Will this effort be in collaboration with your Department and PARK MAUI? (TP)
25. The Department of Transportation released their Ferry Feasibility Study on March 14, 2025. Please provide a summary of the Department's findings and recommendations and the Department's progress on implementing the Ferry Program. Does the Department consider a County-owned ferry system feasible? Please explain. (YLS) (TC)

#### **Salaries and Wages (Category "A")**

1. For the expansion positions funded in FY 2025 that are requesting full year salaries in FY 2026, how many have been filled? (Page 23-3, Budget Details) (TP)

#### **Operations and Equipment (Category "B")**

1. Under Index Code 917722B-6316 County matching funds, please elaborate on how the \$27,100 will be allocated. (Page 767, Program Budget) (TC)
2. Under Index Code 917748B-6112 Contractual Service, will expenditures include computer programs and software licensing? (Page 23-9, Budget Details) (SS)
3. Under Index Code 917740B-6160 Transportation services, please elaborate on how the \$50,000 for "various administrative Public Transit expenditures" will be allocated. (Page 23-6, Budget Details) (TC)
4. Under Index Code 917745B-6317 County grant subsidy, Human Service Transportation Program; and Index Codes 917760B-6160, 917762B-6160, and 917764B-6160 Transportation services, Public Transit Program, what are the prevailing wages for transportation services contracts and grants? Do driver staffing levels pose a problem for the Department or its contractors and grantees? (Pages 23-10, 23-16, Budget Details) (GJ)

5. The following relate to Index Code 917765B-6112 Contractual Service: (Page 23-11, Budget Details) (NUH) (YLS) (GJ)
  - a. Please elaborate on the Department's plan with these contracts, including the specific scope of these services and provide the anticipated timeline for completion. (NUH) (YLS)
  - b. Is \$2,000,000 adequate for the environmental review and consulting fees for the Ferry Program? (GJ)
  - c. Does the County plan to purchase the vessels in FY 2027? (GJ)

### **Capital Improvement Projects**

1. CBS-5021 Kahului Transit Center is appropriating \$200,000 in FY 2026 and a total of \$750,000 over the six-year program. Please provide a cost breakdown of the \$200,000 for "Other" activity. What other additional improvements may factor into the \$750,000 appropriation? (Page 1005, Program Budget) (TK)
2. CBS-8917 Vevau Street Improvements is appropriating \$200,000 for "Other" activity in FY 2026. Does the "Other" activity include public outreach to impacted residents who rely on existing street parking on Vevau Street? When is design expected to start? (Page 1008, Program Budget) (TK)
3. The following relate to CBS-1039 Bus Stops and Shelters: (Page 1003, Program Budget) (TC) (YLS) (NUH)
  - a. Please provide a list of all bus stops and shelters, noting which are ADA-compliant, non-ADA-compliant, and anticipated to be renovated to make them ADA-compliant. (TC)
  - b. Aside from ridership, is there any other the criteria for a bus stop shelter to be constructed? (TC)
  - c. The Maui Bus Stop Planning and Design Services study recommends prioritizing stops with 25 or more boardings per day for shelter installation. How many bus stops with ridership equaling or exceeding 25 boardings per day meet

- this threshold? How many bus stops do not have shelters?  
(TC) (YLS) (NUH)
- d. How many new bus stop shelters have been constructed to date in FY 2025, and at what total cost? (YLS)
  - e. How many bus stops are projected to receive improvements in FY 2026? (NUH)
4. The following relate to CBS-7255 Parking Benefits District: (Page 1002, Program Budget) (YLS) (TP)
- a. Please provide a list of all locations where parking equipment and signage are planned to be installed using FY 2026 funds. Will installation be completed at all planned locations? What other projects will be funded under this CIP? (YLS)
  - b. Is there a list of County-owned properties that will be prioritized in the PARK MAUI Program due to high demand? (TP)
5. The following relate to CBS-7244 Transportation Baseyard Facility: (Page 1007, Program Budget) (NUH) (TK)
- a. Given the County's goal to transition to 100-percent renewable fuel sources by 2035, how will this facility accommodate the shift to an electric bus fleet? What specific charging infrastructure and maintenance capabilities will be included in the design? (NUH)
  - b. Since the project relies heavily on Federal Transit Administration funds, what contingencies are in place if Federal funding is delayed or not secured as anticipated? (NUH)
  - c. What are the projected employment opportunities resulting from the construction and operation of the Baseyard? (NUH)
  - d. In FY 2025, \$2,600,000 was appropriated for this project. Were these funds encumbered? (TK)

- e. Resolution 22-243 authorized the acquisition of 12.49 acres identified as a portion of tax map key (2) 3-8-102:001 in Kahului, Maui, for \$17,413,152, for the Baseyard. Has the parcel already been subdivided? (TK)
- f. Does the Department have concerns about the Baseyard's location near Pu'uhonua o Nēnē? (TK)
- g. The Department anticipates \$40,000,000 appropriated for FY 2027 for new construction. Is the Department confident that the Baseyard will be constructed by the end of calendar year 2027? (TK)

#### **Appendix A, Part II**

- 1. Does the Department have any plans to spend from the Parking Revenue Fund in FY 2026? (Page 60) (GJ)

#### **Appendix B**

- 1. In Account 3493 Public Transit Fares, please provide the specific authority in the Maui County Code to establish rates for microtransit services. If the Code does not expressly reference microtransit, please explain the legal basis for including microtransit fares in Account 3493. Further, indicate whether a Code amendment is anticipated to clarify this authority. For purposes of interpreting this account, please provide a working definition of "microtransit" as used in the context of Maui County's public transportation system. (Page 52)
- 2. In Account XXXX Fees: Beaches and Parks Parking Passes, please provide the specific authority in the Maui County Code to establish rates for Beaches and Parks Parking Passes. If the Code does not expressly permit the fees, please explain the legal basis for including the fees in Account XXXX and indicate whether a Code amendment is anticipated to clarify this authority. (Page 53)
- 3. Is the plan for all County beaches and parks to implement the paid parking program? When will the program start and how will fees be collected? (Page 53) (TP)

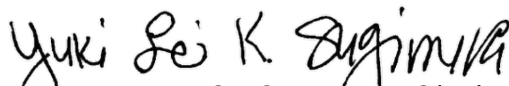


Mr. Marc Takamori  
April 4, 2025  
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To ensure efficient processing, please duplicate the coding in the subject line above for easy reference.

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,



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

bfed:2026bgt:250401atd01:jpp

cc: Mayor Richard T. Bissen, Jr.  
Budget Director  
Deputy Director of Transportation

## BFED Committee

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**From:** BFED Committee  
**Sent:** Friday, April 4, 2025 11:34 AM  
**To:** Marc.Takamori@co.maui.hi.us  
**Cc:** BFED Committee; Diane.Yogi@co.maui.hi.us; Cora-Lyn Dumlao; 'Michelle Santos'; 'Zeke Kalua'; Lesley Milner; kristina.cabbat@co.maui.hi.us; tiare.p.horner@co.maui.hi.us; Janina Agapay  
**Subject:** FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET (BFED-1) (TD-02); reply by 4/14/25  
**Attachments:** (TD-2) Correspondence to Transportation 04-04-2025.pdf