



**County of Maui
Emergency Management Agency**

200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793-2155
Phone: (808) 270-7285
Fax: (808) 270-7275

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Alan Arakawa
Mayor

Herman Andaya
Interim Administrator

December 7, 2017

Councilmember Kelly T. King
Chair, Planning Committee
Maui County Council
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793

Dear Councilmember King:

SUBJECT: MOLOKAI COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE (PC-02)

This is in response to your letter dated November 20, 2017 regarding the above referenced matter as it relates to emergency management.

Your committee specifically requests this agency's comments on "Issue number 2 on page 22" to which this agency concurs that there is currently a lack of sufficient emergency warning sirens, access, supplies (gas), and shelters[,] on the island of Molokai.

With respect to the emergency warning sirens, the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency ("HIEMA") is responsible for the installation and maintenance of warning sirens throughout the state. For the island of Molokai, HIEMA has identified the following locations as priority areas that remain in need of warning sirens:

1. Ka la e Picnic Area
2. Molokai High School
3. Kualapuu Park
4. Pu'u Hauola Park

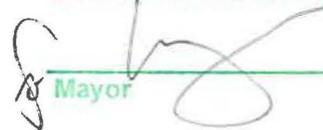
The following are the locations of warning sirens that were installed in the last month:

1. Papohaku Beach Park
2. One Ali'i Park

With respect to the committee's inquiry regarding access, this agency generally supports the availability of evacuation routes for our communities in times of emergencies. This agency defers to the traffic control expertise of the Maui Police Department to determine roads (existing or planned) that could be used as evacuation routes.

This agency continues to evaluate the fuel supply and distribution on Molokai. Our agency recognizes the limitation and vulnerability of Molokai's fuel distribution and storage infrastructure. Fuel is transported to Molokai by barge on an "as needed" basis. In a year, it is estimated that there are 17 deliveries of fuel to the island. As such, if the harbor is unable to accept the delivery of fuel by barge, the island would

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Mayor

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have a limited supply of fuel available. We will make our findings available to the committee once we have completed our evaluation.

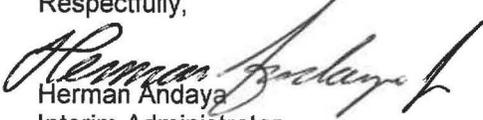
In the area of shelters, generally, there is an insufficient amount of shelter space on Molokai. Through studies conducted by HIEMA, it is estimated that 35% of the population will seek public shelters. The population of Molokai is 7,345, which means that we would need to provide shelter space for 2,571. Per the State of Hawaii's report on sheltering, the number of shelter space available on Molokai is 1,929 which means that we have a deficiency of 642. Please note that the number of shelter space is dependent on the type of emergency (e.g., a shelter located in higher elevations may be used for a tsunami event but may not be rated for hurricanes).

Section 11.5 specifically notes that "the only shelter on the West End is Maunaloa Elementary School, which is a tsunami shelter, but not a hurricane shelter. The closest hurricane shelter is the Molokai High School in Ho`olehua." Ideally, an emergency shelter should be located within the community, however, it is not unusual for residents to have to travel to shelters located in a nearby town.

The committee further requests the status of Action item 11.5.02 in Table 11.5. As of the above date, a new warning siren was installed by the State of Hawaii at the Papohaku area and is operational. A test of the new siren was held on December 1, 2017 and was met with success.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this matter. Should you have any questions, please contact our office at (808) 270-7285.

Respectfully,


Herman Andaya
Interim Administrator