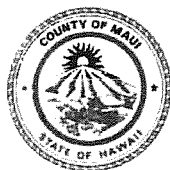


ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR



JEFFREY A. MURRAY
FIRE CHIEF

LIONEL W. MONTALVO
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & PUBLIC SAFETY

200 DAIRY ROAD
KAHULUI, HI 96732
(808) 270-7561
Fax (808) 270-7919
Email: fire.dept@mauicounty.gov

December 28, 2017

Honorable Alan M. Arakawa
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Riki Hokama, Chair
and Members of the Budget and Finance Committee
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

[Signature] 1/4/18

Dear Chair Hokama and Members:

SUBJECT: MAKENA LIFEGUARD SERVICES (BF-83)

In reply to your letter dated October 5, 2017, we have prepared a response that hopefully sheds light on your questions and concerns regarding Makena lifeguard services. We apologize for the delay with this response as we had a mix up in gathering the information in October when we received your request. The request puts us in a spot that we feel we cannot answer with confidence as the Fire Department does not control what the State of Hawaii wants to do and what the County of Maui is willing to accept. A meeting between the Maui County Council and Executive staff may be in order. The State of Hawaii wants to continue the payment of lifeguard services with the County of Maui but wants to continue to pay after the services have been provided.


The letter of intent to continue with the MOA process dated August 17, 2017 and signed by BLNR Chairperson Suzanne Case states, "*Department will reimburse the county for lifeguard salaries starting on July 1, 2017 until such time as the Amendment to the MOA is signed.*"

All communication with State Parks Director, Curt Cottrell, clearly indicates his desire to continue lifeguard services at all state parks throughout Hawaii but it isn't enough to solidify the process until the MOA is agreed upon and signed. It appears that payments will be billed and received quarterly by each county **after** services are performed. Both phone and email communication with State Parks on 10/03/17 (Exhibit A) indicate they are awaiting approval of the 1st quarter Maui contract/MOA mailed on August 24, 2017 (It has since been approved). State Parks will process 1st quarter payment and begin preparing the 2nd quarter contract/MOA with all four counties.

Until an annual agreement is signed, State Parks is proposing to do quarterly installments. A Statewide meeting in November 2017 with all Hawaii County lifeguards, confirmed the quarterly payment process. Corporation Counsel has been involved with the MOA review. Maui is scheduled to receive the largest amount of reimbursement with the Makena annual grant increasing from \$606,469 in FY-17 to \$1,056,059 in FY-18 as submitted by MFD and adopted by State Parks.

If you have any questions, please contact my office at (808) 270-7561.

Sincerely,



JEFFREY A. MURRAY
Fire Chief

Attachment – Exhibit A

Colin Yamamoto - RE: Lifeguard Costs and Contracts

From: "Cottrell, Curt A" <curt.a.cottrell@hawaii.gov>
To: Colin Yamamoto <Colin.Yamamoto@co.maui.hi.us>
Date: 10/3/2017 12:35 PM
Subject: RE: Lifeguard Costs and Contracts
CC: Gerald Kosaki <gkosaki@co.hawaii.hi.us>, Jeff Murray <Jeff.Murray@co.mau...

Hi Colin: This is a follow – up to your call with Pi'i and this email (Chief Westerman's as well – apologize for delay)

- The 1st quarter amendment to the Maui Contract/MOA was mailed by DSP on August 24th to Chief Murray with the revised quarterly cost based on the new annual total cost – which is of concern due to the increase. *Please let us know asap if there is a need to resend this...?*
- DSP staff is now preparing the 2nd quarter Contract/MOA for all four Counties based on the current annual cost.
- DSP will coordinate with all four Counties to set up a November meeting with venue support provide by Oahu Lifeguards to revisit the original MOA established in July of 2008 and frankly discuss the new current staff costs - this will involve a deep dive into what the actual staff costs will be moving forward in 2018. Additional equipment support will also be discussed. In a revised MOA, maps of the four associated beach areas of responsibility will be included, along with a discussion of how far of shore this expectation should be.
- A discussion of ancillary interest – the Act 190 Beach Warning Signage and the Beach Safety Task Force, will also be conducted. Jim Howe has a plan that may vastly streamline this process for BLNR Chair approval and end the need for site visits with an antiquated task force to approve new warning signage.
- We can also discuss the merits of rescue tubes – using Makena as the entry to the discussion.
- Representative Cindy Evans is a strong advocate for an new additional tower on the Big Island at Kua Bay, so DSP could have a sidebar discussion Darren and Melanio on what this new cost would be.
- DSP will be requesting for a substantial increase in general funds in the 2018 Legislative Session to 1) offset the increase in cost to DSP the general fund budget associated with the lifeguard pay raise and 2) Change the MOF of two contracts (Oahu and Big Island) from Land Division and DSP special fund income to general fund allocations.
- We can also add additional discussion of topics of mutual interest as warranted. This will be a long but productive meeting, long overdue I think....

Again and as always, DSP appreciates the patience of all 4 Counties while staff processes this increased cost element associated with this critical public service.