

BF Committee

From: Vickie Caraway <vcaraway@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 07, 2018 1:01 AM
To: BF Committee
Cc: info@mnbg.org
Subject: FY2019 budget deliberations

April 7, 2018

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council

Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama

200 South High St., 8th Floor

Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2019 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. Without the dedicated staff of this woefully underfunded gem on the island of Maui, many of the native plant species found only on Maui Nui would be extinct.

One example of the Garden's integral role in Hawaii's plant conservation is their participation in saving *Kanaloa kahoowawensis* from certain extinction. The Maui Nui Botanical Garden has had one of only two remaining individuals of *K. kahoowawensis* in captive propagation for many years. Recently, in cooperation with the Lyon Arboretum Rare Plant Program, cuttings of this plant (an IUCN critically endangered species) were returned to Maui for further propagation and growth (USFWS Five Year Review 2014).

Maui Nui Garden has also been a central cooperator in efforts to save *Kokia cookei*, considered by many as one of the "living dead" as it was so rare that the plant lost the ability to produce viable seeds. This small tree with beautiful hibiscus-like flowers survived only as a graft on another IUCN critically endangered plant, *Kokia kauaiensis*. Recently when seedlings of *K. cookei* germinated (after many years of attempts by numerous cooperators) and survived for several years, Maui Nui Gardens was a major partner with USFWS, Lyon Arboretum, the Plant Extinction Prevention Program and DLNR to establish these seedlings in appropriate protected areas (IUCN Red List 1998).

These are only two of many stories of the importance of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens in plant conservation in Hawai'i. I have been a contributor to this worthy organization for many years and I hope the Maui County Council will continue to support the Maui Nui Botanical Garden, as will I.

Sincerely,

Vickie Caraway

849 Kealahou St.

Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

808 395-8730

BF Committee

From: dottì <dottibranch@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 07, 2018 2:06 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: Truth in advertising
Attachments: IMG_1106.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Really? You talk about diversity, and then want to slap a .23 cent per gallon tax on biofuel?

Please rethink this boneheaded idea and put some thought where your mouth is.

I am a resident and I vote.

Every time.

Dotti Branch

Kihei



MAYOR'S OFFICE OF

**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**



ifying our Economy, Strengthening our Community

BF Committee

From: Lucy Feinberg <feinbergl002@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 07, 2018 2:46 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: Letter of of Support for Maui Nui Botanical Garden (MNBG)
Attachments: MNBG Letter of Support ltr (FY2019).docx

please find my letter attached. Thank you.

April 8, 2018
Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2019 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

I have learned a lot about MNBG in the last year and a half since I have been one of 436 volunteers who have contributed 4,900 hours of service to the Garden in the last year. To have such a dedicated volunteer base, an organization has to be doing a lot right and MNBG is definitely doing a lot right to get volunteers to come out week after week, rain or shine to help take care of this tremendous community resource.

Native plants are a significant part of the history of Hawaii and the fact that many are endangered make it even more significant.

I have lived on Maui since 1986 and saw the transformation from the sad zoo to a place of esteem in our community. It is unique and such a wonderful opportunity for visitors as well as residents to appreciate part of our history and become a stakeholder in a better and sustainable future for Maui. It is especially exciting to see large groups of school children tour the Garden with a knowledgeable guide who can help them appreciate what we have to offer. When they leave, they understand how important the Garden is to understanding Hawaiian culture, past, present and future.

Sincerely,

Lucy Feinberg
129 Hooowaiwai Loop #2104
Wailuku, HI 9693

BF Committee

From: Carl LeVecke <carl@cnlsvcs.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 08, 2018 2:32 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: BF-1

Hello,

My name is Carl LeVecke, and our family owns the Haliimaile Distillery and just recently took over Maui Gold Pineapple Farm....I ask that you say "no" to the proposed increase in fuel tax for biodiesel...we are interested in going to biodiesel with our farm equipment and vehicles....to help our community and environment.

Thank you!

Carl LeVecke
clevecke@levecke.com
808-561-7411

BF Committee

From: Ruth Dresher-Brown <ruthandvern@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 08, 2018 8:53 PM
To: BF Committee
Cc: Ruth and Vern
Subject: BF-1

Although I live in CA, my sister-in-law lives up country in Haiku. A family member is also one of the co-founders of collective, non-profit noted by the reference subject line. This is one of the most well thought out, win-win actions to aid in renewing formerly productive land, now fallow, to thriving farms with opportunities for impoverished land owners. It allows people to become involved in solving a sustainable local food base issue, not just for indigent community members but all Maui county residents. It holds opportunity for community as a whole to become more unified with fellow citizens and feel pride in accomplishment whether it is toiling in the soil, enrolling new landowners to become part of the movement or showing up at educational events and celebrations. Spreading the word can only increase the reach more thoroughly so more of Maui county feels ownership in what has, and will become - especially with committed funding and support of the county representatives. You are the extra straw that can tip the scale and allow this public project to blossom and grow. This would be part of your legacy in the time you were entrusted to do the best things, the right things for your island county. If not you, now? Who else? How long? I support this non profit financially, and have believed in the wholesome, naturally flowing energy behind its inception. I urge you to support this community based group with so many winning plans and potential projects to aid your lands. Never give up on your land, or some non-local entity will slide in and remove this precious opportunity to enrich your people and your sacred land.

Most Sincerely,

Ruth Dresher-Brown
10300 Colony Rd
Wilton, Ca 95693
+1 916-479-4434

BF Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 10:17 AM
To: BF Committee
Subject: FW: Affordable Housing Request for your consideration

From: Suzanne Lahl [mailto:SLahl@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 10:09 AM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Affordable Housing Request for your consideration

Dear Maui County Council members,

As a Maui homeowner I ask you to address the affordable housing situation by taking the following actions:

1. Fund new positions to enforce the short-term rental rules;
2. Use the affordable housing fund to provide infrastructure to 100% affordable housing projects in areas that are designated for housing by the community plans;
3. Stop approving unaffordable residential, commercial and tourist developments that use up infrastructure capacity that should be reserved for truly affordable housing

We have to take care of our people who live here!

Thank you.

Suzanne Lahl
Kihei resident
#808-879-8812

BF Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 10:19 AM
To: BF Committee
Subject: FW: please improve affordable housing on Maui

From: terry [mailto:termc1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 10:12 AM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Subject: please improve affordable housing on Maui

As a long time Maui resident that rents, I see this is an obvious neglected problem. I understand that the people that are capable of making a decision to rectify this situation probably can't relate because you more likely own but try for at least a moment to put yourself in our shoes. If you do you maybe more motivated to change this problem that can be stifling to resident renters. Thanks for your time.

Aloha

Terry McAuliff - Kihei

- Fund new positions to enforce the short-term rental rules; - Use the affordable housing fund to provide infrastructure to 100% affordable housing projects in areas that are designated for housing by the community plans; - Stop approving unaffordable residential, commercial and tourist developments that use up infrastructure capacity that should be reserved for truly affordable housing

BF Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 12:17 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: FW: please improve affordable housing on Maui

From: Susan Douglas [mailto:sd3@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 10:28 AM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Subject: please improve affordable housing on Maui

- Fund new positions to enforce the short-term rental rules;
- Use the affordable housing fund to provide infrastructure to 100% affordable housing projects in areas that are designated for housing by the community plans;
- Stop approving unaffordable residential, commercial and tourist developments that use up infrastructure capacity that should be reserved for truly affordable housing

Warmest Mahalo and Aloha!

Susan Douglas
Healthy Life Coach
Temple of the Spirit
Kihei, Maui, HI 96753
808 879 1112(You can call 24/7, if you get my machine leave a long message. NO texts please.)
sd3@hawaii.rr.com



BF Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 12:43 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: FW: please improve affordable housing on Maui

-----Original Message-----

From: calitman@gmail.com [mailto:calitman@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 11:03 AM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Subject: please improve affordable housing on Maui

Please:

- fund new positions to enforce the short-term rental rules.
- use the affordable housing fund to provide infrastructure to 100% affordable housing projects in areas that are designated by the community plans

Sent from my iPhone

BF Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 12:43 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: FW: Affordable housing on Maui

From: Milena Kari [mailto:milenakari@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 10:44 AM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Affordable housing on Maui

Aloha,

An email from the Maui Tomorrow Foundation prompted me to finally say what has been bothering me for a long time, the issue with the discrepancy between low wages and high rental costs on Maui. I work at the airport and can testify that full time of hard, extremely exhausting work, after taxes can barely cover the cost of renting a two-bedroom unit. Which means you are working for your landlord. And a lot of the time the landlord is a non-resident investor.

Therefore every month we have multiple people deciding to leave the islands and look for a better life somewhere else. Housing has been mentioned as the main issue, along with the high cost of food, gas, etc.

So please take some action on the following:

1. Fund new positions to enforce the short-term rental rules;
2. Use the affordable housing fund to provide infrastructure to 100% affordable housing projects in areas that are designated for housing by the community plans;
3. Stop approving unaffordable residential, commercial and tourist developments that use up infrastructure capacity that should be reserved for truly affordable housing

In addition to that something needs to be done about out of state and even foreign investors buying real estate here merely as a vacation home unoccupied most of the time or being used to generate income while the local residents who are in essence the labor force that supports the tourist economy are struggling to survive.

Thank you for your consideration,

Milena Kari
Kahului, HI

BF Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 12:44 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: FW: please improve affordable housing on Maui

From: Bill or Bobbie Best [mailto:bestb002@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 12:43 PM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Subject: please improve affordable housing on Maui

Because affordable housing is a crisis here, Please:

- fund new positions to enforce the short-term rental rules.
- use the affordable housing fund to provide infrastructure to 100% affordable housing projects in areas that are designated by the community plans

& Stop approving unaffordable residential, commercial and tourist developments that use up infrastructure capacity that should be reserved for truly affordable housing

Mahalo
Bobbie & Bill Best
280 Hauoli
Wailuku 96793

BF Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 12:44 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: FW: please improve affordable housing on Maui

-----Original Message-----

From: Piet Vanderhorst [mailto:janpiet7@icloud.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 11:30 AM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Subject: please improve affordable housing on Maui

- Fund new positions to enforce the short-term rental rules;
- Use the affordable housing fund to provide infrastructure to 100% affordable housing projects in areas that are designated for housing by the community plans;
- Stop approving unaffordable residential, commercial and tourist developments that use up infrastructure capacity that should be reserved for truly affordable housing

Sent with iLOVE...

BF Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 3:07 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: FW: Affordable housing for Hawaii Residents concerns

From: jan purvis [mailto:purvis.6853@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 3:00 PM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Affordable housing for Hawaii Residents concerns

Please take the following steps to address this continuing housing problem in Hawaii. Maui resident, Jan Purvis. Mahalo!

1. Fund new positions to enforce the short-term rental rules;
2. Use the affordable housing fund to provide infrastructure to 100% affordable housing projects in areas that are designated for housing by the community plans;
3. Stop approving unaffordable residential, commercial and tourist developments that use up infrastructure capacity that should be reserved for truly affordable housing

EUGENE C. WASSON III, MD

2984 AINA LANI DRIVE

PUKALANI, HI 96768

APRIL 5, 2018

Mr. Riki Hokama, Chair

Budget and Finance Committee

Maui County Council

200 S. High Street, 7th Floor

Wailuku, HI 96793

2018 APR -9 PM 3:21
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY COUNCIL

RECEIVED

Dear Mr. Hokama and Committee Members.

I write to express my feeling that the Mayor's proposed Real Property Tax Rate for Residential property with an assessed value of greater than \$1.5M is far too great as a single step up. I base this on a property I own in Kihei, an in-fill parcel zoned R-3, which I've had for many years and remains "raw and undeveloped." It is completely surrounded by residences. I have watched the assessed value rise, exceeding \$1.5M in 2016 (to \$1.6+M), and for 2018 to just below \$1.8M. It would seem that a graduated rise in valuation and thus tax, perhaps as that from the current \$500,000 to \$1.5M, would be much more appropriate. The Mayor's proposal would make a 50% increase in the tax rate applicable to all residential properties above \$1.5M, presumably to any far greater valuation of many millions of dollars.

I am not nor want to be a developer and am attempting to sell the property for residential or affordable housing. The County's difficulty in provision of water, in particular, seems to be a major problem at this time for residential. And despite visiting with the Affordable Housing folks at the County, there remain, what appear to be, many time consuming steps and little assurance that ultimate approval can be obtained. This seems counterproductive given our serious need for work force/affordable housing.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter and am happy to provide any additional information if you'd like.

Sincerely,


Eugene C. Wasson III

BF Committee

From: Lily Barnett <barnettlily@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 4:13 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: Common Ground Collective

Aloha Maui County Councilmembers,

My Name is Lily Barnett, I live in Haiku . I am writing to you, to request that you fund Common Ground Collective (CGC) in the 2019 County Budget. CGC will be providing services to the community that will benefit myself and many others. Our small island needs to invest in food security, and economic opportunities, to be a healthy and thriving community. Please consider my request to support this much needed organization so that residents like myself, may benefit from their much-needed services.

Thank you in advance for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Lily Barnett

Barnettlily@yahoo.com

808-281-7098

BF Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 7:10 AM
To: BF Committee
Subject: FW: Housing

From: Kachina Palencia [mailto:kachinala@outlook.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 4:48 PM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Housing

Fund new positions to enforce the short term
Rental rules. Pam Palencia

BF Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 7:12 AM
To: BF Committee
Subject: FW: please improve affordable housing on Maui

From: romananda@aol.com [mailto:romananda@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 7:15 PM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Subject: please improve affordable housing on Maui

- Fund new positions to enforce the short-term rental rules; - Use the affordable housing fund to provide infrastructure to 100% affordable housing projects in areas that are designated for housing by the community plans; - Stop approving unaffordable residential, commercial and tourist developments that use up infrastructure capacity that should be reserved for truly affordable housing

BF Committee

From: Netta Kanoho, R(S) <tita@maui.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 7:16 AM
To: BF Committee; Maui Nui Botanical Garden
Subject: Maui Botanical Gardens

April 10, 2018

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Arakawa's FY2019 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

MNBG has been doing an incredible job over the years. As an educational resource for learning about Hawaiian culture and the ecological system of our islands, it is a wonder that does our community proud. It serves our children, and residents and visitors as well, and there is a great deal of community support for the assorted workshops and events that are always lively and interesting. The garden itself is lovely and a good place to just rest.

Please continue to support this exceptional community asset.

Yours truly,
Netta Kanoho
1065-D Pookela Road,
Makawao, HI 96768

--
p: (808) 878-1001
f: (808) 876-1772
c: (808) 269-3939

BF Committee

From: Mark Hyde <hydem001@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 7:39 AM
To: BF Committee
Subject: A Tale of Two Cities, Island Style

While we have pursued tourism with attention and funding (even while saying we need to diversify our economy), half of our residents are in poverty. [See quotes from the Maui News, 2018].

Should county government continue to give \$4 million of our tax receipts annually to bring more tourists here? Is the tourism-driven economy working for us? If not, what must the council do through the budget process to acknowledge and address this state of affairs?

Mark Hyde



mauinews.com



OBITUARIES **JOBS** **CLASSIFIEDS** **TV**

More than half of Maui County's families live in poverty or don't have enough income to pay for housing, child care, food, transportation and health care, according to a report released this week by Aloha United Way.



mauinews.com



OBITUARIES **JOBS** **CLASSIFIEDS** **TV**

Visitor spending hit a record \$4.8 billion in 2017, the sixth consecutive record-setting year. The total was 5.2 percent more than 2016. In December alone, visitor expenditures of \$483 million were 16.1 percent higher than the previous December.