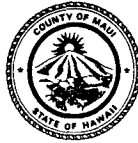


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COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

March 10, 2020

Mr. Eric Nakagawa, Director
Department of Environmental Management
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mr. Nakagawa:

SUBJECT: CENTRAL MAUI LANDFILL PURCHASE (EDB-48)

At its meeting of February 6, 2020, the Economic Development and Budget Committee considered a proposed resolution to amend the Fiscal Year 2020 general obligation bond authorization ordinance under the Department of Environmental Management, Wailuku-Kahului Community Plan Area, Sanitation, by adding the Central Maui Landfill Land Purchase project in the amount of \$200,000, for an environmental assessment and land entitlements for 17 acres. The 17-acre parcel would allow for the development of a dedicated emergency debris sorting and recovery site and other ancillary facilities for the Central Maui Landfill.

During discussion, the Committee considered whether acquiring 17 acres or the entire 63-acre parcel, owned by Alexander & Baldwin, would be most beneficial to accommodate future landfill and composting needs of Maui.

The Committee received appraisal reports for the two parcels prepared by Fukuda Valuation & Consulting LLC. The 17-acre parcel was appraised at \$720,000. The 63-acre parcel was appraised at \$1,860,000.

Concerns about the current and future needs of Maui EKO Systems were discussed as it relates to the completion of Phase III of the Central Maui Landfill which would reduce operational space for Maui EKO Systems by a number of acres. The Committee also discussed whether the initial proposed purchase of 17 acres would adequately satisfy the necessary space needed for Maui EKO Systems to operate.

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According to Maui EKO Systems Plant Manager Ruben Fonseca, the 63-acre parcel would adequately accommodate the future growth of Maui in terms of greenwaste, commercial waste, composting, biosolids, and expansion into foodwaste collection. He said the larger parcel would also provide the Department with the opportunity to further expand their Solid Waste Division operations to include trash collection, a larger lot for abandoned vehicles, and a dedicated emergency debris collection site for natural disasters and emergencies.

Please outline the intentions of the Department as it pertains to Maui EKO Systems' operations if the purchase of the 63-acre parcel is approved. Maui EKO Systems' current contract expires in June 2020, with an extension to August 2020. Therefore, a timely resolution to this matter is needed.

As County Communication 20-168 is being considered by the Council at its meeting of March 13, 2020, may I please request that you or a Department representative attend the meeting to answer questions relating to this matter. If attending the meeting is not possible, please transmit a written response referencing EDB-48 no later than March 12, 2020.

Sincerely,



KEANI N.W. RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, Chair
Economic Development and Budget
Committee

edb:ltr:048aem01:ske

cc: Mayor Michael P. Victorino
Budget Director