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Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services  
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

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

February 27, 2026

Mr. John Smith, Administrator  
Office of Recovery  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mr. Smith:

**SUBJECT: DISCUSSION ON BILL 29 (2026), AMENDING FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET: DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT, OFFICE OF RECOVERY PROGRAM, CONDITIONAL LANGUAGE FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION AND IMUA FAMILY SERVICES (BFED-20(27))**

The Council's Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee plans to discuss Bill 29 (2026), at its meeting of March 3, 2026.

May I please request your response to the following:

1. What change in the Office's budget, spending plan, or work plan made funding available for this proposed amendment?
2. How does this proposal align with the Office's current recovery priorities and planned wildfire recovery work? Please identify the following:
  - a. The Office's current recovery priorities that apply, and cite where they are documented (for example, a recovery plan, program guidelines, or Council-approved budget narrative).
  - b. Please describe the process and criteria used to select the grantee, including who made the decision and when.

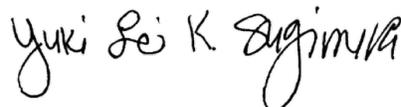
Mr. John Smith  
February 27, 2026  
Page 2

- c. Was there a public application, solicitation, or other notice that funding was available? If yes, please provide the notice date, distribution method, eligibility criteria, and application deadline. If no, please explain why not and describe any alternative process used to ensure fairness and transparency.
3. For each entity proposed to receive funds, please provide:
    - a. The requested amount.
    - b. An itemized budget for the proposed use of funds (major cost categories and line items, including any personnel, contracts, equipment, and overhead).
    - c. Any prior County funding for the same entity and program in the past five fiscal years, including the funding source, amount, purpose, and performance or closeout status.

May I further request you transmit your response to [bfed.committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:bfed.committee@mauicounty.us) by **March 2, 2026**. To ensure efficient processing, please include the Committee item number in the subject line.

Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Kirsten Szabo at ext. 7662, or Pauline Martins at ext. 8039).

Sincerely,



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

bfed:ltr:020(27)aor01:kes

Attachments

cc: Mayor Richard T. Bissen, Jr.  
Managing Director

**RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.**  
Mayor

**JOSIAH NISHITA**  
Managing Director



RECEIVED

2026 FEB 11 AM 10:19

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.maui-county.gov](http://www.maui-county.gov)

**OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY CLERK**

REFERENCE NO. BD-BA 26-68

February 11, 2026

Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr.  
Mayor, County of Maui  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

2-11-26  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Date

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Alice L. Lee, Chair  
and Members of the Maui County Council  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

**SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET  
(DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT, OFFICE OF  
RECOVERY PROGRAM, ADDING CONDITIONAL  
LANGUAGE FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN EDUCATION  
ASSOCIATION AND IMUA FAMILY SERVICES)**

On behalf of the Department of Management, I am transmitting a proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET, DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT, OFFICE OF RECOVERY PROGRAM, ADDING CONDITIONAL LANGUAGE FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (NHEA) FOR THE KE OLA HOU COMMUNITY RESILIENCY CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$390,000, AND IMUA FAMILY SERVICES FOR IMUA DISCOVERY GARDEN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$758,793."

The purpose of the proposed bill is to amend the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget, Department of Management, Office of Recovery Program, by adding conditional language for Native Hawaiian Education Association (NHEA) for the Ke Ola Hou Community Resiliency Center in the amount of \$390,000, and Imua Family

Alice L. Lee, Chair  
February 11, 2026  
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Services for Imua Discovery Garden and preschool building costs in the amount of \$758,973.

The funding for the Native Hawaiian Education Association will support the renovation of the Ke Ola Hou Community Resilience Center. This work is separate from the funding allocated under condition (iii) which is to fund Ke Ola Hou – The Lahaina Resiliency Center for health, education, and human services to wildfire survivors.

Imua Family Services encountered significant unforeseen costs during the permitting process related to offsite County infrastructure improvements that were necessary to receive permits. These unforeseen expenses required them to use donor funds intended for the preschool building and discovery garden to pay for these infrastructure improvements. This funding will supplement these expenditures and would return the County's contribution to the originally intended percentage of project funding.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at ext. 8239.

Sincerely,



LESLEY MILNER  
Budget Director

Attachment

cc: Josiah Nishita, Managing Director

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BILL NO. 29 (2026)

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET, DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT, OFFICE OF RECOVERY PROGRAM, ADDING CONDITIONAL LANGUAGE FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (NHEA) FOR THE KE OLA HOU COMMUNITY RESILIENCY CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$390,000, AND IMUA FAMILY SERVICES FOR IMUA DISCOVERY GARDEN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$758,973

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI:

SECTION 1. Ordinance 5816, as amended, "Fiscal Year 2026 Budget," Section 3.B.11.c, Department of Management, Office of Recovery Program, is amended by adding conditional language for Native Hawaiian Education Association (NHEA) for the Ke Ola Hou Community Resiliency Center in the amount of \$390,000, and Imua Family Services for Imua Discovery Garden in the amount of \$758,973, to read as follows:

<u>"FUNCTION AND PROGRAMS</u>	<u>A - Salaries</u>	<u>B – Operations &amp; Equipment</u>	<u>Total</u>
c. Office of Recovery Program			
(1) General	1,380,547	51,949,850	53,330,397"
(i) Disbursement for salaries and premium pay is limited to 15.0 equivalent personnel.			
(ii) Up to \$1,800,000 must be for The Lahaina Restoration Foundation for historical property restoration, including the Old Lahaina Courthouse, the Old Lahaina Prison, and Hale Aloha.			
(iii) Up to \$500,000 must be for Ke Ola Hou - The Lahaina Resiliency Center for health, education, and human services to wildfire survivors.			
(iv) Up to \$250,000 must be for LahainaTown Action Committee for incubation of displaced businesses.			
(v) Up to \$700,000 must be for Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement for workforce development and resiliency hub operations.			
(vi) Up to \$7,500,000 must be for Hawaii Community Lending, Inc.			
(vii) Up to \$1,000,000 must be for assistance with land acquisition in West Maui.			

- (viii) Up to \$120,000 must be for Na Kia'i O Maui for a property lease with The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation Incorporated for the Lahaina Resource and Recovery Center for August 2023 Maui Wildfires survivors.
- (ix) Up to \$200,000 must be for Maui Economic Opportunity Inc. to support the facilitation, coordination, and implementation of projects within the Economic Recovery Commission program.
- (x) Up to \$2,253,000 must be for wildfire-related expenditures.
- (xi) Up to \$2,100,000 must be for Hana Business Council, Inc. for the acquisition of 14.5 acres located at 20 Uwala Road, Hāna, Maui, Hawai'i, TMK: (2) 1-3-009-070.
- (xii) Up to \$13,137 must be for Festivals of Aloha, Inc. for a Lahaina Homecoming Event.
- (xiii) Up to \$390,000 must be for Native Hawaiian Education Association (NHEA) for the Ke Ola Hou Community Resiliency Center.
- (xiv) Up to \$758,973 must be for Imua Family Services for Imua Discovery Garden and preschool building costs.

SECTION 2. New material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance takes effect on approval.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:



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KRISTIE M. WRIGGLESWORTH  
Deputy Corporation Counsel

INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mrs. P. Lee". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Upon the request of the Mayor.

## BFED Committee

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**From:** BFED Committee  
**Sent:** Friday, February 27, 2026 3:09 PM  
**To:** 'John Smith'  
**Cc:** 'Michelle Santos'; 'Zeke Kalua'; 'Josiah Nishita'; 'Cynthia Sasada'; 'Erin Wade'; 'Didi Hamai'; 'lynette.kaona@co.maui.hi.us'  
**Subject:** DISCUSSION ON BILL 29 (2026), AMENDING FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET: DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT, OFFICE OF RECOVERY PROGRAM, CONDITIONAL LANGUAGE FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION AND IMUA FAMILY SERVICES (BFED-20(27))  
**Attachments:** Correspondence to Office of Recovery 02-27-2026.pdf