

**BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 8, 2024

Online Only via Teams

CONVENE: 9:06 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Vice-Chair (in 10:05 a.m.)
Councilmember Tom Cook, Member
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Member
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member (out 11:35 a.m.)
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member
Councilmember Nohelani U'u-Hodgins, Member (in 9:12 a.m.)

STAFF: James Krueger, Senior Legislative Analyst
Jarret Pascual, Legislative Analyst
Clarissa MacDonald, Legislative Analyst
Carla Nakata, Legislative Attorney
Megan Moniz, Legislative Attorney
Yvette Bouthillier, Senior Committee Secretary
Lenora Dineen, Council Services Assistant Clerk

Additional staff

Executive Assistants for Councilmember Tom Cook:

Jared Agtunong
Stacy Takahashi

Executive Assistants for Councilmember Gabe Johnson:

Kate Griffiths
Axel Beers

Executive Assistant for Councilmember Tasha Kama:

Evan Dust

Executive Assistant for Councilmember Alice L. Lee:

Michele McLean

Executive Assistant for Councilmember Tamara Paltin:

Angela Lucero

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Executive Assistants for Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez:

Sarah Sexton
Haunani Madela

Executive Assistant for Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci:

Gina Young

Executive Assistants for Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura:

Michele Yoshimura
Jordan Helle

Executive Assistants for Councilmember Nohelani U'u-Hodgins:

Laura McDowell
Susan Clements

Residency Area Office (RAO):

Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, East Maui Residency Area Office
Roxanne Morita, Council Aide, Lānaʻi Residency Area Office
Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Molokaʻi Residency Area Office
Bill Snipes, Council Aide, South Maui Residency Area Office
Jade Rojas-Letisi, Council Aide, Makawao-Haʻikū-Pāʻia Residency Area Office

ADMIN.: Lesley Milner, Acting Budget Director, Office of the Mayor
Kate Blystone, Director, Department of Planning
Ana Lillis, Deputy Director, Department of Planning
Connie Gouveia, Administrative Officer, Department of Planning
Jordan Hart, Planning Program Administrator, Department of Planning
Jacky Takakura, Planning Program Administrator, Department of Planning
Danny Dias, Planning Program Administrator, Department of Planning
Scott Forsythe, Planning Program Manager, Department of Planning
Andrew Martin, Prosecuting Attorney, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney
Shelly Miyashiro, First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney
Brandie Shimabukuro, Administrative Officer, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney
Jordan Molina, Director, Department of Public Works
Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: Others (10)

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PRESS: *Akakū:* Maui Community Television, Inc.

ITEM 1: **PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET FOR THE**
COUNTY OF MAUI (BILL 60 (2024), BILL 61 (2024), BILL 62
(2024), BILL 63 (2024), BILL 64 (2024), BILL 65 (2024), RESOLUTION
24-66, RESOLUTION 24-67, and RESOLUTION 24-68)

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . The Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee. It is now 9:06 a.m. My name is Yuki Lei Sugimura. I'm the Chair of this Committee. And this meeting is being conducted in accordance to the Sunshine Law. And as a reminder, if you are a Councilmember and not in the Chamber, please identify yourself and anyone else in your room, vehicle, or workspace. And minors do not need to be identified. So, this morning, Member Kama is going to be a little bit late, so we'll get back to her. Next, we have Member Cook. Good morning. Oh, we got to ask Chair Lee what her greeting is after you.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning. Chair Lee, what is the greeting today?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: The greeting is pryvit from Ukraine.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Pryvit, Chair, Councilmembers, community members. There's no testifiers at the Lāna'i District Office, and I am here and ready to work. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Great. Next, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha kakahiaka kākou and pryvit kākou.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka kākou. I am at my residence on Moloka'i. My camera is not working at the moment. I think I may need to restart my computer for my camera to be enabled, so I'll...I'll do that while we continue roll call. Oh, and I am here alone.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Pryvit. Member Sinenci? Is he here? I don't see him. Okay. Member Sinenci, we'll see...see him shortly. Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, are you here?

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha kakahiaka. Yup.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And pryvit, Chair. I'm here at my home office, I'm here by myself, and no testifiers in Hāna, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we do not see you on video, but we heard you. And --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. I'll--thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. And Member U‘u-Hodgins will be here. So, from the Office of the Mayor, we have Lesley Milner, Acting Budget Director. Nice to see you every single day. . . .(laughing). . . . Department of Planning, Kate Blystone, Director; Ana Lillis--oh, how cool is that--Deputy Director; Connie Gouveia, Administrative Officer; Jordan Hart, Planning Program Administrator; Danny Dias, Planning Program Administrator; Jacky Takakura, as well as Scott Forsythe, Planning Program Manager. Department of Prosecuting Attorney, we have Andrew Martin in force. Nice to see you here, Mr. Martin. From the Department of Public Works, we have Jordan Molina; Department of the Corporation Counsel, Kristina Toshikiyo. And Committee Staff, thank you very much, Yvette Bouthillier, James Krueger, and Jarret Pascual, Clarissa MacDonald. Carla Nakata, Legislative Attorney; Megan Moniz, also Legislative Attorney; and Lei Dineen, Council Services Assistant Clerk. Please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity. And Members, thank you very much for attending today's meeting. And we...as you all know, we have one item on today's agenda, which is BFED-1, Proposed Fiscal Year 2025 Budget for the County of Maui. Members, today we'll continue our deliberations for Fiscal Year '25. Budget, Planning, and presentations from the Department of Prosecuting Attorney--who's here in force in the Chambers. Thank you very much. Then the Department of Planning. And last, we'll hear from the Department of Public Works. We will take public testimony and proceed with questions and answers for the departments in that order, from the Prosecuting Attorney, Planning, and then we'll go to Department of Public Works. We will adjourn today at 4:00 because we will all be traveling to West Maui for the residency area meeting there, which will convene at 6:00. And if we do not complete our schedule today, we will recess today's meeting and...and reconvene tomorrow. Right now, I have it at 9:00. At this time, I'd like to invite the Director of Public Works--I'm sorry, Prosecuting Attorney Andrew Martin--to provide a presentation on the Department and introduce any personnel with you today. Initial letters, Members, are in Granicus 24, and Department questions and answers are number 72 in Granicus. Good morning, Prosecuting Attorney Martin.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

MR. MARTIN: Good morning, Chair, and good morning, Members. Nice to see you all this morning, and nice to be here. We're here this morning to present on our approximately \$10.98 million budget for Fiscal Year 2025. About \$9.66 million, we are requesting in funds from the General Fund, with about \$1.32 million coming in the form of grant revenue this year. You know, we--I...I think we pride ourselves on presenting every year what we like to refer to as a lean-and-mean budget to this Council. Before our most recent issues with the Old Wailuku Courthouse, which I know you're all aware of, we had actually proposed a budget that cut about 1.25 percent from last year's budget, which we were proud to put together through a variety of different strategies. But unfortunately, we are requesting a slight increase over last year, and that increase is due to the circumstances of the Old Wailuku Courthouse, are--which require us to move out of that building, temporarily...temporarily rent three other spaces, as well as pick up a variety of costs related with that temporary move while the Courthouse issues are remediated. But I'd like to go through with you here . . .*(inaudible)*. . . about our Department. We have a number of department divisions. Our Administration Division, nine members, including two of the members that you see here in front of you this morning in that Division. With me here, from our Administration Division at the Department is our amazing Administrative Officer, Ms. Brandie Shimabukuro, and our incredible First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Shelly Miyashiro. We--After the Administration Division, really, the...the Department is split up based on responsibilities within our responsibilities as the Prosecuting Attorney and with...with the courts. So, we have our Felony Prosecution Division, which is made up of a number of different areas. First, our Circuit Court Division, which is our felony trial area. Our Family Court Division is...is wrapped into Circuit Court, but they have the added responsibility of handling domestic violence-related cases. We have our Felony Screening Division, where all of our felony matters come in for intake to the Department, review, and ultimate charging decisions are made on all felony matters. We have our District Court Division. Our District Court Division handles all misdemeanor...petty misdemeanor violation and traffic offenses within the County. Our Appellate Division, four attorneys and a paralegal are in that Division, handle all of our appellate matters, both the appeals that we file on behalf of the people of the County of Maui and defending ourselves, the State, against appeals filed by defendants. Our Victim Witness Services Division is one of the backbones of our entire Department in helping us provide services to victims and coordinate witnesses for trial and hearings. And, of course, our Investigative Services Division helps us...assist us on evidentiary matters and investing...investigating all matters in which the Department is engaged in. So, we are actually doing quite well with respect to our vacancies on non-attorney staffing. Our--we have a Victim Witness Program Services Director position, which we have already closed interviews on. We are going to make an offer on that position this week. Our Investigator III position, one of our...and one of our

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Legal Clerk III positions, we have closed interviews on those as well and...and extended offers to candidates on those last week. And then, really, the focus for us, as you know from reading our presentation, is that our Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys--we have eight current vacancies. As I indicated in my response to the initial round of questions, I invited you all just to simply Google on your phones or your iPads national prosecutor shortage. The number of articles that come up is...is pretty informative of what we are seeing on a nationwide basis and...and currently in the State of Hawai'i. At a more than 20 percent vacancy rate of our attorneys right now, it's somewhat alarming to hear that we have among the lowest vacancy rate in the State. I was recently--Brandie, myself, and one of our deputies, Brandon Paredes, were in Washington, DC at the end of January. We had an opportunity to meet a number of wonderful potential candidates to our Department, but also to talk to the other DAs and prosecutors from around the Country. One such conversation really stuck out to me because we're all facing the same thing. It's the reason why this job fair was put together in the first place. But a conversation I had with Darcel Clark, who's an incredible DA. She's the DA for Bronx, New York. When they're fully staffed, they have 500 attorneys. She needs to hire 120. It is an issue that we're all dealing with, but we've been very creative in our approach. And over the last couple months, we've had 40 applications come into the Department. We've been able to interview a large number of those individuals, make 11 offers. We've had three written acceptances. The first one, which will be starting in June. We anticipate that we'll have another deputy starting in June and one other starting in the fall. I've had a verbal acceptance of a fourth individual, and we anticipate that if we are able to finalize. I haven't received his written acceptance yet, but we'll anticipate he'll be starting sometime in either September or October, depending on when his family can make the move to Maui. So, we are making progress there. With the April 1st bar exam deadline having come and gone, our strategy will have to change somewhat as any candidates from this point forward into the fall will have to be barred in the State in order for us to be able to offer them acceptance between now and...and, really, probably November or December of...of...of this year. So, as you know, we've had a number of issues over at the Old Wailuku Courthouse. The--one of our deputies lost...as so many others have in our community, lost her home, all of her belongings in the August 8th fires. She took quite a bit of time off from the Department while she and her family recovered. During her time outside of the office, we closed her...her office door, which was on the first floor of the Old Wailuku Courthouse. When she came back and opened the door up, she found that mold had started to take hold on her clothing and the other items within her office. We immediately ordered testing in that particular area on the first floor. When the results came back, I asked for testing to be done for the entire building. Based on the results of those tests, while there wasn't necessarily immediate harm to the individuals who were working there, it was more of given the levels, it would be kind of on a case-by-case basis. Some people are more sensitive to these things and would experience symptoms, while others would not experience any symptoms at all. However, given what was seen

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by the firm that came in and did the testing--they went into the ceilings, they tested the moisture content in some of the walls--we knew we had a major issue that needed to be addressed, and sooner rather than later. We made the decision very quickly that we were going to move everyone out of the office while these matters were being remediated. This building was originally constructed in 1907. I think the additions were made in the 1950s or '60s. The HVAC system is the main culprit, and once they start digging into the ceilings, and the walls, and other things, we have no idea what they're going to find. And I just thought the best move going forward was, for everyone's health and safety, to get everyone out of the building and as fast as possible. So, the expenses you've seen related to this move at the time of submission were our very best estimates. We are just now finalizing the final of...the last of the three leases, which need to be made so that we can move our...all of our employees into new spaces as we have been able to finally get to the bottom line of what the terms of these three leases will be, as well as the related expenses. We are going to have to request additional funds related to this move. It will be in the neighborhood of an additional \$90,000, which we'll submit to the Acting Budget Director to submit to you at the appropriate time. But I wanted to let you know that this morning, that we are anticipating submitting an additional \$90,000, and we can answer your questions about that at the appropriate time here this morning. It's a bit delayed, but other than that, that is the overview of our budget presentation for Fiscal Year 2025. We have submitted answers to all of the questions that were submitted to us. I know on Friday, the second set of questions, we went ahead and submitted those late to the Mayor's Office. I don't know if they've made their way to you yet, but we're prepared to answer all your questions that you've...you posed to us and any others that you might have. Thank you for your consideration, and we'll see you in a little bit.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much for your presentation. And that was, Members, in...in Granicus 105, which is...which I don't see it on Granicus yet. I guess you would have to post it, Jarret? You do have it? Okay. Oh, okay. Okay. Thank you very much. I appreciate that. So, the next department that we have is Planning, and I guess everybody is online, yes? Okay. Director Blystone, you can start your process. You can introduce whoever's going to do the presentation with you, or if you're going to take this now on your own, please proceed.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

MS. BLYSTONE: Well, pryvit and aloha kakahiaka, Committee Chair Sugimura, Council Chair Lee, and Councilmembers. Mahalo for this opportunity to share insights into our Planning's or Planning's portion of the Fiscal Year '25 Budget. I do not have a PowerPoint for you today. I...I intend to be brief in my remarks because I imagine we have several questions to go over with you later today. I want to save as much time for that as possible. I will be joined later today by most of my leadership team: Deputy Director Ana Lillis; Administrative Officer Connie

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Gouveia; Planning Program Administrators Jordan Hart with ZAED, Jacky Takakura with Long Range Planning, and Danny Dias with Current, and also program...Planning Program Manager Scott Forsythe. First, I...I want to thank this team in the Planning Department for pulling together to get ready for this day. When I started in this position, the budget was nearly finalized. And from day one, my team has been indispensable as I've gotten up to speed so I fully understand what our predecessors intended and the history behind these numbers. So, what I don't know, my leadership team should be able to answer, and whatever we can't answer collectively, we commit to following up with you as you engage in your process. We are also nearly finished with the response to your letter that we received last week, and we will provide that to you later today. It's literally just being put into the format and it has to run through our system. We had some numbers that we had to dig up. In short, our \$9.2 million budget is modest. The increase that you see is largely due to programmed increases in salaries and some projects that are priority for the Administration, including funding to entitle County lands for housing. So, the budget in front of you today reflects the funds that we need to accomplish the tasks we expect to complete in Fiscal Year 2025. We cannot predict everything that will come up, but we did our best to prepare a budget that meets our needs, and we hope you see the value in all of our line items. So, like I promised, I will be brief. I just wanted to say, again, mahalo for your time. We are grateful for your attention to this issue and look forward to answering your questions later today.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you very much. So, Members, for the Planning Department in Granicus, initial letter responses are number 24, and then the Department question letter is number 72 in Granicus. So, thank you very much. So, the last Department that we'll hear presentation--oh, sorry. Member U'u-Hodgins, good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U HODGINS: Good morning. Good morning, everyone.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning. Good morning. So, the last Department we're...we'll be hearing from is Public Works. Jordan Molina. Director Molina is online.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

MR. MOLINA: Hi. Good morning.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning.

MR. MOLINA: Just give me a sec...all right. Is the presentation --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes. We can --

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MR. MOLINA: -- displaying for you folks?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We can see it. Yes.

MR. MOLINA: Okay. Perfect. All right. Good morning. Jordan Molina, I'm the Director with Public Works. Thank you for your folks' time today. Yeah. So, for today, what I'll be covering with you folks in my presentation is just a very high-level overview of our operating budget, as well as our CIP budget. And then I'll touch on some of the responses to your folks' questions that we've been able to prepare responses to thus far. So, for FY 2025, the kind of highlights of what's in our budget, you'll see is, of course, the restoration of the salary adjustments that was made in FY '24, our effort to try and maintain our spending levels consistent with FY '24 of which we've been able to keep that within a 0.9% increase from...from current fiscal year. And there's actually a typo here. We have actually nine expansion positions we're requesting, increases in professional services, and various new equipment for our expanded operations. So, within Public Works, we have our Administration Program, which houses my...my office to oversee the...the...the Department. We have for our salaries, so our Business Administrator expansion position from last year would be expanding into a full-year funding. And we are requesting a Secretary II expansion position in our Department. This would be to support the Deputy Director. And I think we're probably the only Department that does not...or that has one secretary supporting both the Director and the Deputy. And then, you know, in light of the emergency response functions of the Department, we've had...been having to support the need for that additional administrative support became obvious. So, that's the request for this year. For our B and C accounts, no change is proposed. Within Engineering Program, we have a couple moves on position descriptions to better fit some of the applicants we've been getting. So, downgrading our Engineering positions to an unlicensed position, and hope we can attract some applicants. And then previously, we had adjusted one of our survey positions into a Right-Of-Way Agent, again, to kind of match the applicants we were getting. So, that will be reflected in the Engineering Program A account. For their B account, a large increase in professional services as a strategy to work around our vacancy issue. So we have a GIS effort, which became evident of the need through the fire response to improve our GIS Integration. Of course, we have the Flood Program Permitting Support coming over from the Planning Department, and one of the big lifts for Engineering is the surveying services needed to support Lāhainā rebuilding. For equipment, we have two printers getting replaced and a utility cart for building maintenance staff, again, in line with the expansion from recent years as we've grown the campus base that Public Works oversees. Special Maintenance Program. So, this is the group that's under the Highways Division that catches everything else that Highways does that is not your highway-funded type activities. So, within there, we have Fleet Mechanic I, Fleet Technician II. These are expansion positions to support our garage operations and support the growing fleet, as well as the evolving of the fleet to become a lot more electronics,

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a lot more computer-based systems on these equipments that require sort of a different specialty to help...you know, help us keep up with all the repairs and maintenance of the fleet. We have an Administrative Assistant reallocation to--we think we can...we need a higher-level Admin support for the Highways Division, which comprises, of course, 250-plus employees. So, that higher-level Admin support will help us better keep up with trying to hiring...hiring and filling vacancies. And then the last one in this group is an Equipment Operator Trainer position. So, not only do we have to keep up with our Equipment Operator trainings for the various pieces of equipment we operate, but we also provide training to other the departments that have equipment operators. So, that need has grown, and so this trainer position would be dedicated to providing that support to both Department and other...the other departments of the County. And then related to that, increasing auto repairs. As noted here, inventory is getting harder to get access to just with the supply chain issues that we continue to see from COVID. Also, we've been asked by Parks to expand the support that we provide them, and so we anticipate that increase coming in the fiscal year, and so we budgeted for that. C equipment-- so replacement of some of our mobile lifts. Again, these are vehicle lifts that we use to do services on vehicles. Because of our capacity issues in our garages, we have to do work outside of the garages, and so these mobile lifts allow us to utilize our space outside the garage to do repairs. Mechanic truck for FY '24 expansion position, which we didn't request last year's budget. A new dump truck for the Veteran's Cemetery to improve the operational efficiencies there. And then related to the Operator Trainer expansion position, a truck tractor for training, and then the computer equipment for that position as a workstation. So, moving on to DSA. Of course, DSA oversees our development processes, our subdivision codes, grading permits, building code, electrical, plumbing. For this coming year on salaries, we have the expansions from last year being budgeted for full-year salaries. We had two last year, Engineering Support Tech II and our Land Use Plans Technician. We are also going to move the Plans Tech up into a Building Plans Examiner just based on kind of the hiring we've been able to do recently and the need now for the Examiner position over the Tech. B account, no changes. And C account, replacing a copy machine, as well as the workstation for the expansion positions from prior years that we had not budgeted previously. Highways Administration Program. So, this is the team that oversees the Highways Division. So, no changes on salaries or operations, and they are just requesting to replace one of their trucks that's already reached its useful life in accordance with the County's vehicle policy. Road, Bridge, and Drainage Maintenance Program-- so this is the...the big crew, all the district operations out of this program. So, in our A account, we are requesting a Utility Worker position for the Pavement Preservation crew. Excuse me. This is an efficiency measure. So, part of paving--excuse me--involves some utility work. Notably, your manholes that are in the street need to get fixed. Curb, gutter, your concrete-type structures that are typically encountered when you do a paving project. So, having that position dedicated to that team allows them to keep moving on their paving projects

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without delays while they address those types of activities that the Utility Worker would support. Then with Lāhainā, we are seeking additional laborers and an additional supervisor. In a lot in response to what we saw from the fire, as far as the demands on that district, as well as the growing workload for them in their district as well, additionally, again, because of how things happened with the fire and us learning about how Lāhainā needs to operate when a major disaster strikes. In addition to the complexity of facilities on the West Side. So, we have a lot of...we have four major flood control dams out in the West Side. So, all of that dynamic together we felt was justified to elevate the District Supervisor out in Lāhainā from a Supervisor I to a Supervisor II. This would be consistent with our larger districts, Makawao and Wailuku, that also run under a Supervisor II for those districts. B account. So, no change. We actually were able to reduce spending by a little under 4 percent from last year. And for equipment, Moloka'i replacement truck for a supervisor, new truck for some of the crew that was from the previous expansion positions. In Hāna, we're seeking a dump truck replacement, light tower, new mowers, and new radios. And Lāhainā, the expansion truck and computer for the expansion position for the supervisor. Continuing on equipment--oh, sorry. Please excuse the error on this slide. Pavement Preservation--so a few new pieces of equipment, a new milling machine that will help...that's an efficiency measure to allow us to basically remove the road surface in one pass, where with one machine right now, it takes two passes. And so, it's...it allows us to increase our production on the pavement side. Message boards is just part of the safety messaging and the notification when we're out on the streets working. And then, of course, the truck related to the Utility Worker expansion. For Wailuku, a new crew truck, mini excavator, and wheel loader, primarily for our growing needs in Kihei to help support us to be able to operate separate crews out of...out of Kihei to better manage both Lāhainā and Kihei from the Wailuku District. And then the other three, I had just previously gone over. So, our Traffic Signs and Markings Group is another group under our Highways Division. Of course, these are the guys that do the road painting, do all our signage replacements for the Department. We are seeking an additional Traffic Signs and Marking Supervisor, and that is kind of a gap we realized in our structure, where we do not have that direct supervisor for that team. So, requesting that supervisor position. Again, no operational increase. And then we have equipment related to the expansion positions, and a replacement of a crew truck, and there's various small equipments being requested as part of the painting operations that this section performs. So, moving into the CIP Program in--for this coming year, we have an \$8.2 million request, which is a large increase from last year. What's mainly driving this increase is last year, we kind of had a small budget. We didn't have too many major construction projects hitting in FY '24, where in FY '25, those projects that were in design are now being ready for construction. So, some of the major ones noted here that'll attribute to this increase, Kanaloa Ave and Lower Honoapi'ilani Road are two big construction projects that will be funded this year. Additionally, we have Federal Highways Emergency Response Funding for Lāhainā that we're

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budgeting for in this upcoming budget. And additionally, we are reappropriating the Front Street Railing Repair Project, which we had previously been funded, but due to the fires, we did not pursue the project, and so we're coming back to pursue that project in the coming year. The--we added funding in our DPW baseyard's facilities to start giving some attention to our aging facilities, as well as trying to recover some capacity out of them due to the growth in recent years. East Maui Rockfall and Embankment Repairs is a newer program we just started working on in light of the...the needs out in the East Side. And so, in this coming year, we have a larger construction project that is hitting the books, which is contributing to the increase for the CIP Program. And then the last notable area is our Countywide Traffic Safety Program for Lāhainā recovery-related activities. So, I did want to try and touch on some of your guys' questions that we have been able to get through so far. So, out of the PW-1 letter--and this is just kind of my summary of kind of the key points. As far as our Departmental priorities, you know, keep...keeping support for the wildfire recovery, maintaining continuity of operations in light of the increased demands on the Public Works Department for the wildfire recovery, and then just trying to keep up with our CIP load, which is immense. Regarding the vacancy questions, just--the recommendation is to continue if there is cuts to the approach taken last year by Council, where it was a cut off the top as opposed to individual positions and allowing the departments to manage within a budget. We think that's a reasonable approach to getting a handle on the vacancies. Some of our grant revenues we got. So, in FY '24, we received 13.4 million for the Keawe Street Improvements Project. And we have 67.9 million that we are actively pursuing, either in grant applications submitted or in applications to be submitted later this summer. There was another question regarding FEMA reimbursements. So, roughly, to date in FY '24, we have about 3.4 million expended, and the potential reimbursement from the Feds for that amount is approximately 2.8 million. In FY 2025, we--this is just an estimate at this point--of approximately 15 million for us, primarily in your road repairs, of which we anticipate 11.6 million is the potential reimbursement amount. That's just based on how the programs are structured with the 75/25 for FEMA and the 80/20 for Federal Highway Emergency Response. CIP priorities-- so I previously spoke to you folks about--you know, our...our program is a lot of repair and maintenance, keeping things running, and, of course, we feel that is the best...best use of County funds, to keep existing investments producing for us and not letting them fall behind where the repairs get more expensive. And so, of all our projects in the CIP Program, the least critical would be our baseyard facilities. We can get by. It's not ideal, but it's definitely not as critical as some of the other project needs on our roadways that directly address health and safety issues. So, for PW-2, there was a question about the rates and fees. So, yeah, I appreciate that question from Staff because there...there are revisions for the plumbing code and the building code updates that needs to be addressed, and so the response is forthcoming for that one. There was also a question about the flood permit fees, given the transfer from the Planning Department to Public Works. At this point,

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the fees as proposed are sufficient, but we did...you know, through the question, we did recognize that we omitted addressing the fees in the ordinance that move the program out of Title 19 and into Title 16, so we do have to pursue an amendment to clarify the fees for those flood reviews. And unfortunately, I haven't been able to work through PW-3 very much yet, and so we'll be working on those letters this week or that response this week for you folks. And that's all for today. Thank you very much.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much, Director Molina. Do you think you could submit that to Staff so it could be posted on Granicus, your presentation?

MR. MOLINA: I'll get that out right after this.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, do we have any testifiers that have signed up?

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, there's currently no individuals signed up to testify. If there's anyone out there in the Chamber or on Teams that would like to testify, please come up to the mic and begin your testimony, or use the raise-your-hand function on Teams and Staff will unmute you. This is the last call for oral testimony. I will provide a brief countdown. Three, two, one. Seeing none. Chair, no one has indicated that they wish to testify.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. All right. So, Members, I'm going to then take the departments in the order that they just did their presentations. Prosecuting Attorney, do you want--I see Director still here. Prosecuting Attorney Martin, you want to set up again? And then Planning and last with Public Works.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair? Oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah?

MR. KRUEGER: Could you just confirm with the body if testimony --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

MR. KRUEGER: -- can be closed, or --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Sorry about that. Yeah. May I close --

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No objections. Thank you. I'm going to close public testimony, receive written testimony on any item on the agenda. So, thank you very much.

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. . .CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, at this time, we have--Director Andrew Martin's setting up. And I'm going to do two rounds of questions, four minutes, and then three minutes per round. And if we need a final, we can do two. So, we'll see based upon your--how many questions you may have for the Prosecuting Attorney. For your reference, in Bill 60, Operations are on page 18, Appendix A, Part 1. Grants on page 41 to 42. All right. Members, at this time then--let me get out my sheet. Member U'u-Hodgins, I'll start with you to see if you have any questions for your Department. So, three minutes.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thanks, Chair. Thank you for being with us this morning. It's kind of a scary thought to think how short the nation is with prosecutors. I know that's not necessarily our problem to solve today, but I appreciate you letting us know. On Budget Details 21-3, where it says Victim Witness Director, that person has a \$38,000 increase for collective bargaining, where everybody else is relatively not as big, I guess, you know, \$7,000 at most. I wonder if you could kind of describe how come that section has such a big increase, please?

MR. MARTIN: Yes. Thank you for the question. And Chair, the position of Victim Witness Director has been a tough one for us to keep someone there. It is one of the key positions within the Department, the responsibilities are significant, and two of our last three directors have left the position for significantly higher-paying jobs of the same title and responsibilities in other jurisdictions. So, when I originally recruited for this position, the first time during my term as Prosecuting Attorney, it was my understanding that I was restricted to offer the position at the lowest end of the range of salary for this EM-03 exempt position. I came to find out after making that hire and...and really convincing that individual, Ms. Anita Ahuja, handwringing to get her to take the job a lower...much lower salary than she was earning at the time in California, that I was...that...that wasn't exactly accurate. It...it was under the way we recruited. It was under the way the Personnel Department had posted that job on this occasion and many occasions in the past. But because it is...is an exempt position, the Department can hire within the range, and that is what we asked Personnel to approve on this recruitment. So, we...we...we submitted a request to Department of Personnel to allow us to recruit within the entire range of the EM-03 classification, which for Maui County--it differs from county to county. But for us, I think the range is somewhere in the neighborhood of just under \$84,000 to up to \$119,000 currently.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

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MR. MARTIN: So, as a result, they approved that request, we recruited within the range, and then can make an offer based on an individual's experience and qualifications that takes into account the importance of the position and hopefully will result in us . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . being able to retain that individual --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you.

MR. MARTIN: -- here with the Department.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I appreciate that offer and response because we've been hearing that a lot --

MR. MARTIN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- from several departments. So, thank you for doing that.

MR. MARTIN: Absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thanks, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Next, we have Member Sinenci, then we'll have Chair Lee, Paltin, Johnson, Rawlins-Fernandez, Cook. That order. Thank you. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Chair. And mahalo, Director, for the presentation on the...on the update, on the opioid settlement funding. And has it been, I guess encumbered?

MR. MARTIN: So, what--thank you, Member and Chair. What--our most recent efforts with the opioid settlement--obviously, this is one of those areas that took a back seat to...to--the August 8th wildfires was kind of put on...put on hold for a while. But we just recently, at the end of February, sent a community delegation of ten individuals utilizing State opioid settlement funds to the Island of Hawai'i to be able to participate in a Statewide fentanyl task force training. This ten group...this group of ten individuals from the community is not only important in being able to now take the next step of taking what they learned on the Big Island, starting up a fentanyl task force here on Maui, which is also happening on the other three neighbor islands. But I think this key group is--and what I've asked them to...will be asking them to do in the near future is...is be the group that can help us devise the community-wide strategy for how Maui County can apply for additional opioid settlement funds to be able to best address the situation that the State is facing. Hawai'i is unique--and I've said this before I won't take up too much time--but we are unique in that I think we have the

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opportunity to get out in front of this crisis. We are not seeing it on levels that it is on the mainland. However, we are seeing it. And so, that's where we are right now. We're back up and running with things. That group of ten individuals went to that training at the end of February, and then will be meeting again to discuss the next steps and what proposals should be made to the State for additional funds coming to Maui County.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: All right. Great. Mahalo, Mr. Martin. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next, we have Chair Lee, followed by Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I don't really have any questions, Chair. I just wanted to just make a comment that I'm very disappointed in...in the shoddy job that was done when the prosecuting...the Old Courthouse was renovated probably not more than ten years ago. And so, I'm...I'm hoping that a complete and thorough job is done this time around for the safety of our employees. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Paltin. Member Johnson to follow.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I was wondering the status of that State v. Obrero.

MR. MARTIN: Yes. Thank you, Member Paltin and Chair. Act 1 of the last Legislative session offered the amendment to Section 801-1 of the Hawai'i Revised Statute. So, it's not a problem anymore. We did work with the Legislature and the Governor's Office to make sure that that passed. It was great that the Governor chose to make that the first Act he signed last year. And that's not an issue that is affecting the Department anymore.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you. And then the Community Outreach Coordinator; did that ever get off the ground?

MR. MARTIN: So, we...we were ready, as I said, during the last Budget Session to go ahead and submit that, put that grant out for a bid. Before we could do that, the Judiciary actually found a Volunteer Case Coordinator to take the role. So, we went with that option first, and I think there was some success and some improvement there. I had the opportunity to recently meet with our team, and actually just recently ran into Judge Christopher Dunn, who's now taken over the program. You know, we have a new Judge, a new Prosecutor, and a new Public Defender now all being--having the opportunity to participate in that program. We did eliminate that funding request from this year's budget, in part due to the fact that we had a Volunteer Coordinator, but also in part, as I've stressed to this body before, you know, I...I...I want--and I believe we should all be asking the State to step up and do what they're doing for O'ahu and fund this program. Two of the three agencies that are part of this collaborative effort are

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State agencies. The State Legislature funds this program in Honolulu, and they should fund the program here on Maui, especially when the funding for that grant went ultimately to fund a position that should be housed within the Office of the Public Defender, a State agency. And it was a very cumbersome way...although creative, very cumbersome way to make that happen, and one that was not without its critics, even within the Department of the...or the Office of the Public Defender.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Keep us posted on that.

MR. MARTIN: Will do.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Also, the Victim Witness Counselor that has VOCA funds; are you able to say, like, you know, if...if we have all these Victim Witness Counselors and different sources of funds, are we able to prioritize the grant-funded positions, and then the General-funded positions, or is that not how it can be done?

MR. MARTIN: Oh, yes. And I think...I think that's what we do. As you see, we--and I know this is one of our...our questions and in...in . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . PA-2, was the--there was a question about whether or not we were --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That was me.

MR. MARTIN: -- cutting Victim Witness --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, that one wasn't me.

MR. MARTIN: -- Counselors from the Budget. We're...we're not. We're just moving them from general prosecution back to the grant revenue side, in part because we are going to an increase in funding...in funding from our SNAP Grant Program. It's not back to previous levels, but it is back so that we can again prioritize those positions are going to be grant-funded, primarily.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. I don't know if that was exactly my question. Like, if there's vacancies, can we keep the vacancies in the General Fund side than the grant-funded side so we save taxpayer dollars' monies?

MR. MARTIN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I'll follow up next round because there was a bell.

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you. Member Johnson, then Member

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Rawlins-Fernandez, then Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Mr. Martin. Yeah, that was my request...question regarding the Victim Witness Counselor being cut. Now I understand that. Thank you for that. So, I'm going to switch to-- has the Department considered purchasing temporary structures to be situated on the County-owned land, which you could later repurpose for other departments or emergency housing? And that's in regards to moving out of your space because of the mold.

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. I mean, we...we had a couple different plans we were working through that...that was one of them. The other one was moving into already County-owned buildings, right? The...the one that...that came up and was the only one, really, of the size that could have benefited us was the...the old Wailuku Credit Union.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right. Okay.

MR. MARTIN: We did consider both those options. In the end, this was the one that I think allowed us to move forward fastest --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MARTIN: -- and I think most...of most benefit and most...was most fiscally responsible.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you. What--on one of your slides, you mentioned you have about three people you hired this month or, you know, about that much. When do you expect them to be, you know, in the office working? Because I know sometimes the process takes so long for these folks to actually--you might hire them, but they--by the time they get here, by the time they're getting paid, there's a big gap. When do you think they'll be working with you?

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. We...we've hired a number of people, but I think you're referring to the Deputy Prosecuting Attorney positions.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Um-hum.

MR. MARTIN: We've hired three...three of those recently. So, two of them we expect to start--one of them I know already has a start date of June 3rd. The other has indicated an expected date of...start date of June.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MARTIN: That is a current Richardson law student --

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: All right.

MR. MARTIN: -- who will come on board as a law clerk first, study with the bar for us, take the bar at the end of July, and then, upon receiving his results, move into a DPA position.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. That's pretty soon then. I know during COVID, a lot of departments worked from home. How--is that something you could do while...another option you could do while the mold is being fixed? You can work from home?

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. Thank...thanks for the question. And thank you, Chair. The...the--that...that's a part of our plan.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MARTIN: I mean, we--even with the three current rental spaces we're moving into, it's less space than we have right now at the Old Wailuku Courthouse. And of course, as you all know, we're cramped there.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It's tight. . . .(laughing). . .

MR. MARTIN: So, that's a part of our model --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MARTIN: -- is we're incorporating work from home with...with our deputies.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Great. Since I got a little time here, I got a question about the funds that you have called the Asset Forfeiture Program. You expect to double that this year according to...to this sheet on page 727. You know, I...I always get nervous when we talk about Asset Forfeiture Programs. Where does that money go when it gets to you?

MR. MARTIN: So, let me...and...and let me say a couple things to hopefully put you at ease. So, since I've been the Prosecutor, you know, I've taken a much different position with respect to Asset Forfeiture in making sure that on the Federal side of things, we are strictly adhering to the . . .(timer sounds). . . equitable sharing guidelines put forth by the Federal Government, which they just amended and will be continuing that approach, and also making sure that our approach under the State forfeiture guidelines is timely and appropriate under those statutes as well. We use those funds primarily for training opportunities for our deputies on the mainland. And so, as you know, that's a significant expense, but the...the training opportunities offered on the mainland are of such incredible value to our deputies --

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Um-hum.

MR. MARTIN: -- that obviously, we don't want to miss out on those opportunities. That is what we...we use --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MARTIN: -- those funds for.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. Thank you very much. Next, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, then Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Aloha--oh, sorry--Prosecuting Attorney and team. Mahalo for being with us today. I--most of the questions I had have been asked. I...I just wanted to follow up on Chair Lee's question about the Courthouse. I imagine mold is pretty difficult to completely eliminate because it just takes, like, one spore, right? From what you've experienced, do you think this will be a forever battle?

MR. MARTIN: So, thank...thank you, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, and thank you, Chair. I'm not going to pretend that I'm an expert in mold, but I've certainly learned a lot over the last couple months. You know, the thing to remember, that is mold's everywhere in our environment. It's...it's outside. It's in our homes. It's in this...these Chambers right now. It's really do--is there an environment for that mold to take hold and replicate, or multiply, or really create an issue. And so, you know, we had a similar issue when I first came into office at our 2103 Wells Street building. We were able to get on top of that and handle it quickly. It was also an HVAC, was the source of those issues. So, I know it is possible to come in to effectively remediate and eliminate the...the health concerns that these types of issues present. I have no doubt we'll able to...be able to do the same in the Old Wailuku Courthouse. To what extent that requires an overhaul, or replacement, repairs to the current HVAC system, that's the unknown, right? And as I said before, some of the photos that we've included in one of our responses, I mean, is our photos of older pipes that show evidence of having leaked for some time. And when the...whoever the ultimate contractor in that comes in and starts taking down ceilings and walls, we don't know what they're going to find and what those issues will be. It is certainly something that can be remediated and resolved. The timeline for that and the extent of repairs is the unknown.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That's...that concludes my questions.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. Thank you. Member Cook. Then I think I see --

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Member Kama here on --

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- online.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. My questions--I have a few of them, but we'll--just short. Maybe not yes or no, but the Courthouse mold issue; are there permitting issues because of the historic nature of the building?

MR. MARTIN: There may be. I don't want to sit here and say there won't be, but I mean, most of the permitting issues with respect to the historic nature of the building have to do with the exterior, not the interior.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Good. Good. Well, that's why I was wondering on the interior, for any restrictions. So, the--and have you researched the contract and the warranty for the existing HVAC system, if previous renovations had been done? I would suggest that. And then a way that they utilize nowadays is ultraviolet light, UV lights, either in the docks or in the system. I guess I'm not asking any questions. I'm kind of giving a little lecture.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Basically, mold will not grow unless there's moisture. You can have mold spores, but the moisture and the dampness and the condition--so, leaks usually end up doing that. So, if--I commend you for being and encourage you to be very aggressive and thorough in the assessment. It's better to take things off that don't need to be taken off and to repair things that didn't necessarily need to be repaired and have it be...and have a really thorough understanding of it. So that's that one speech.

MR. MARTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MR. MARTIN: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: My other question is when we went to the Pā'ia community meeting and there was--there's--different parts of the island have a consistent

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issue with stealing cars, burning cars. So, to me, that sounds like career criminals. Like, that doesn't necessarily sound like a whole bunch of people doing it, a handful of people doing it. How does your office address that? And...and I guess this is it. I've heard from the police, and not necessarily a complaint because everybody's understaffed. You arrest people, you do things that--and the...the...the court system doesn't do anything with them. It's sort of a waste of time. So, could you help me with that, please?

MR. MARTIN: Yes. No, thank you for the question. And thank you, Chair. That...that is one of the areas that we've been working on in terms of both the community--the...the...the exchange of information and what information is exchanged between the Police Department and...and our office. You know, there are certain things we can control and certain things we don't, right? I mean, we control how our Department handles any case that comes through. I think what sometimes gets misunderstood is that, you know, with respect to issues of bail, pre-trial, we make the arguments we make. The courts, however, ultimately decide whether or not individuals are going to be released back into the community pending trial. And then for sentencing purposes, it's...it's much the same thing. You know, we...we have to make reasonable, sound arguments for sentencing on any of...on any individual. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . . What I think can improve the process--and we're already engaging in this somewhat--but is the ability for us to communicate with MPD to hone in on what individuals are driving particular aspects of crime within our community so that we can build cases against those individuals in order to get the stronger sentences against them. Now, that's a big part of our Crime Strategies Unit initiative, which for the current time, has been shelved. But the communication and the work with MPD on a case-by-case basis continues with the same mindset going forward. And I know last year we had a successful prosecution of an individual who was in a car theft ring, so --

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay.

MR. MARTIN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you. My time's up, so I'll --

MR. MARTIN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- save it for the next round.

MR. MARTIN: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much. Member Kama, welcome.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Good morning, Chair. It's good to be here.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning. Thank you. So, do you have questions for the Prosecuting Attorney?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I do not, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I have a question. Well, first of all, in your questions and responses, you are on a four-day work week, ten hour a day. Is it a pilot program, or how...how is that going?

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. So, it's...it's--we...we put it on pause. It was supposed to go into effect at the...the beginning of the year. However, we put it on pause knowing that we were going to have to move almost, you know, two-thirds of the Department to new buildings. So, we anticipate in...in May, we'll probably start that program. It is an experiment --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Um-hum.

MR. MARTIN: -- because the courts are open five days a week. But I think I'm a relatively risk-averse individual--or...or I'm a risk taker, I should say, not a risk-averse individual.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)* . . .

MR. MARTIN: I'm a risk taker. And I think we need to find new ways to provide better work-life balance for our employees, not only those who work for us now, but in order to attract the top-level employees we want to come in. And so, this is very much an initiative that we are pushing. The...the key for us is going to be in the way that we schedule it, right? So, we work in teams and--assigned by courtroom and court schedule. And so, we've worked hard to make sure that the 4/10 schedules will work in a way so that we maintain staffing levels that serve our operational needs while allowing individuals to work an extra two hours a day, four hours...or four days a week so that they can earn that...get that extra day off if they want. It is voluntary. Not all employees have to participate. But for those that do, we're...it's a program that we're very excited about.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Excellent. So, keep us posted. That's...that is something that's important, right? And it'll keep your employees maybe more fulfilled by having a well-rounded, you know, home life and work life involved also. So, I also--if you could go to Details page 21-9 and also 10, other services, utilities, rental--this...this is this is about the mold remediation. So, utilities, rentals, costs associated with relocating due to the mold. How long will this project take, and what is the cost to the mold remediation and where is it budgeted?

MR. MARTIN: So, the...the ultimate cost for the mold remediation actually

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will...will...will come from the Department of Public Works.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MR. MARTIN: Our...our expenses that we've listed here in our current budget are really, number 1, the...the...the cost of actually moving out of the Old Wailuku Courthouse into these three new spots, and then the costs associated with leasing these three spots and the additional expenses we're going to have to incur, such as janitorial services, maintenance fees, I think one of the units will be responsible for ongoing maintenance to the air conditioning unit and some other things that have come up. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . So, that's really where those costs are...are...are going.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, thanks for that clarification.

MR. MARTIN: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I have run out of my time. And we'll go back to Member U'u-Hodgins for two minutes if you have questions.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I do, Chair. Just one quick question. On page 7-21, goal 1, item 3, make...make timely charging decisions within set deadlines. And it's 65 percent of the charging deadlines...or the charging decisions will be made within the deadline. So, can you first tell me how long is the deadline? Can you, secondly, tell me what happens to the other 35 percent that aren't made on time? And then what does this do to the rates of crime?

MR. MARTIN: So, yes. Thank you. Thank you, Member, and thank you, Chair. So, these...these deadlines are internal guidelines that we set. And I want to I want to make sure that we make that differentiation because there are legal deadlines such as statute of limitations, which if we don't meet those deadlines, result in basically our inability to prosecute cases. The guidelines being asked about here are the deadlines that we've set our own internal...internal deadlines to encourage the swift administration of justice. So, for those, we set the following deadlines--and I've indicated this in our written responses. For family-adult cases, 21 days, for felony cases, 61 days, misdemeanor cases, 30 days, and traffic offenses, 61 days. The impact on our ability to meet those internal deadlines is influenced by a couple of different things that are going on. First of all, since I became the Prosecutor, I've initiated a new written screening policy. The importance of bringing that up at this point is that the ethical responsibility that a prosecutor must meet in order to charge a case is we must be able to establish probable cause. But under our guidelines that I've set, cases should not be charged by our deputies unless a rational basis can be determined such that we can convince a jury beyond a reasonable doubt that the case occurred because ultimately, that's what we're going to have to do at trial. And so, what we were

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seeing in previous years . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . was a lot of cases being charged at that low level and us having to take a bath later on or even dismiss cases because they weren't provable beyond a reasonable doubt. Because of that additional threshold or increasing the threshold with which we are screening cases, oftentimes cases require additional investigation, follow-up investigation. Sometimes we even completely send the cases back to the investigating agency for more work. But because of that, it is taking more time to get those cases to that level that we want to get them to. But I think the key is that if we do surpass these deadlines, it's not resulting in cases being dismissed, but I am asking our deputies to work harder at building better and stronger cases, and I think that's the number one influence. So, we are short-staffed in every division which screens cases, but hopefully as we increase those levels, that will also, I think, put us in a position to better meet our own internal guidelines.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. I appreciate that answer.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, great. Thank you. Member Sinenci, then Member Kama, Chair Lee, Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No questions, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Martin.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you. Member Kama, do you have a question?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I just wanted to ask about the Community Court.

MR. MARTIN: Yes. So, the Community Court is going well, Member Kama. I know you've been our biggest supporter and cheerleader in that program, and we appreciate that. As I explained previously, we did eliminate the funding for the Case Coordinator position for a couple of different reasons. Number one is that we did...we were able to find a volunteer. But, you know, there are, I think, other steps that we can take to continue to move that program forward in a way that doesn't require additional funding from the County. Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No questions. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Paltin, Johnson, Rawlins-Fernandez, Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. For the Victim Witness Counselors funded under VOCA, does the fringe benefits come from that funding or from General Fund?

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MR. MARTIN: So, we commit the funding from VOCA to salary first. If there's funds left over to cover the fringe, then it covers a part of the fringe.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then when the grant part was not allowed and we covered it with General Fund, was there any additional processes that you had to go through besides asking us to put it in the budget? Because, like, just comparing Housing and Human Concerns--have a number of grant funded positions, and when they don't get the grant money, they just don't have the positions. But you did something different where you converted it. Was there any extra things that needed to be done to do that, or you just ask us for the money and we gave it to you?

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. We just asked to offer those expansion positions under our General Prosecution Program, and then fund them that way.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Wow. And then any update on the Local Domestic Violence Hotline since October?

MR. MARTIN: So, we've...we do continue to see elevated numbers of cases. In our...our response to PA-2, I did list a number of different things we're doing. So, one of those is that the Executive Director of Women Helping Women, myself, and Shelly met, I believe, at the end of last year to discuss ongoing services to domestic violence victims and how they were being impacted by the fires and...and really, the...the aftermath. And out of that has come an initiative between Women Helping Women and our office. We started at January 19th. We kicked it off, where we brought together all of our community partners in order to have a really full-scale evaluation . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . of the current community response to domestic violence, what other initiatives are available in other jurisdictions so that we can learn about what other places are doing, and then the...the final goal is going to be to implement new strategies in order to assist domestic violence victims, bring those numbers down in general, but also best serve those individuals who have been affected by the fire as well.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. I heard the bell. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Johnson, then Member Rawlins-Fernandez, then Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. My questions have been answered. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All of my questions have been answered. Mahalo.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. I just want to speak strongly in favor of the Community Court issue when that presentation last year was very enlightening and moving, that there was a path forward for people to be able to get back into the system. And if it cost the County some money, you'd probably be well-paid. And then not to take up any more time. I'd like if...to request if you could--your experience with DPS and how you hired this at a more competitive rate, the way that you described it. If you could do a brief memo for that for us so that we could review it. DPS and hiring is a challenge for all of the departments. Coming up with creative, legal, appropriate methods to pay...pay people a competitive wage will enable all the departments to move forward. So, that's it. Thank you, Chair. Thank you very much for your service.

MR. MARTIN: You're welcome. Thank you. I'd...I'd be happy to do that. And I'll just note just real briefly, it...it was a situation that was unique to that classification, but we'd be happy to explain our whole process for that.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Hopefully we can discover a lot of unique situations --

MR. MARTIN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- to enable us to hire people.

MR. MARTIN: Yes. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, I guess Member Kama and Member Cook talking about the Community Court. So, right now, based upon what you said, that there is a challenge, that we want the State to fund a position to help move this forward? Or I wonder if you could explain to us, because Legislature is in session, so maybe we could help be your advocate.

MR. MARTIN: Well, thank you, Chair. Yeah. Well, I think it's the responsibility of the State to fund that Case Coordinator position, because ultimately they work out of the Office of the Public Defender, which is a State agency. But, you know, and...and this--coming out of my conversation with, you know, Judge Dunn recently, I mean, I...I don't know that that's the number one issue that needs to be resolved with respect to Community Outreach Court. I think there are other things that...that...that the County can take care of that I think will...will really result in better outcomes for the participants. We currently have 15 participants in the program. I think that's about what we had expected, and that is at levels where the Office of the Public Defender, the Judiciary, and the Prosecutor's Office can manage that with current staffing levels. The addition of services, wraparound services to the program will, I think, catapult it forward. And we're working with the Mayor's Office and Naomi Crozier to be able to use her contacts

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to kind of build that out. That's what we will be doing in the future. And then there are some other things, I think, that need to be addressed that will really impact the program. I...I can go into this if you want, but I'm not...I'm not sure if you want to do that now.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. I thought maybe there was something, but it sounds like we just need to wait. Is that what we need to do? It...it's happening though, right?

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. Yeah. There's no waiting because we're--the program is up and running. We're going. The--you know, there's...there's...there's a hurdle to current participants due to certain fees that are imposed with relicensing that needs to be addressed. . . .(timer sounds). . . . But beyond...beyond that, the program is continuing on and...and we can propose solutions to that at a later date and when it's appropriate.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much. All right. So, we're done with two rounds. Anybody has three rounds for two minutes, the need for that? Member Paltin, you said you had a question? Anybody else?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I can...I can wait for the written response.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just was wondering, like, you guys are still going to do that thing with the highlighting, and that you got it, and then we can print it out?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You...you want to know where the--what number the questions are on Granicus? Is that --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And when we get them.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Because we didn't get it yet, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: He said he finished Prosecuting Attorney II, but we didn't see it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. It was transmitted during the meeting. It should be on number 72 in Granicus now.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: So --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Cool.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's on Granicus? Okay. So, we'll submit it. Member Paltin, you want to...you want to look at that and then ask your question, or are you...you're fine? Then we can move on?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I think we can move on. It's still the same where if we have additional questions based on their questions --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Tomorrow.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- email it by 9:00.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I'll follow that procedure.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Great. All right. Thank you very much, Andrew Martin and your team, for being with us. Appreciate all the work that you do in...in our behalf. So, now we have the Planning Department. It looks like you're here in force, so we will do a changeout. Planning Department, Kate Blystone, you want to come down here? Wait, I think we need to set up a table. Look at how many of them there are. So, at this time, I'm going to take a short recess. So, come back at--five--okay. So, we're going to come back at 10...let's come back at 10:30. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 10:23 a.m.
RECONVENE: 10:32 a.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(gavel). . . .(inaudible). . . Department here in force. So, I wonder if Director Blystone would first introduce the members of your team, and then we'll have the Members start with questions after.

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. As you know, Kate Blystone, Director of the Planning Department. I'm joined today by our Administrative Officer, Connie Gouveia, and our Deputy Director, Ana Lillis. I'm just going to go down the order here. We are also joined by our PPA, Planning Program Administrator for Long Range Planning, Jacky Takakura; our Planning Program Administrator for Current Planning, Danny Dias; and then our Planning Program Manager for Plan Implementation Division, Scott Forsythe. And on the far end, we have Jordan Hart, our Planning Program Administrator for Zoning Administration and Enforcement Division.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, at this time then, for Planning Department, four minutes

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for the first round, three minutes for the second, and if we need another round, two minutes for the third round. So, Member Kama.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, I'm page 667 of the Program Budget, page--and I'm on goal 2. And it says number 3, the update to the Community Plan Website "We Are Maui", and the Community Corridor Master Plan website with information pertaining to their process, event surveys, et cetera. So, can you explain the number of website updates, and the number of respondents to website surveys, and number of visits to the website? Can you explain that?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. So, I'm just going to make sure I have it right in front of me as I'm talking to you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. BLYSTONE: All right. Here. Did it go through? Yeah. There it is. Okay. So, for the community plan process, we do--and you wanted...just so I clarify, you wanted the number of website update...updates, respondents, and the visits to the website, some clarity on those --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. BLYSTONE: -- those questions.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. BLYSTONE: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

MS. BLYSTONE: So--certainly. So, just as a description of website updates, those are...those can be tiny little things as much as just changing some verbiage out. It can be big in...in adding a whole new section. So, those numbers are really just reflective of how often we think we will be doing those kinds of updates, given what we have on our plate. As you can see, the actual for Fiscal Year '23 was significantly higher than those numbers. They're...they're just--as a--it's a matter of what happens. We guess, we make a good guess, and then we do our best to meet that. Respondents to website surveys, we expect to be higher because we are beginning fiscal year...we're beginning the community plan update for Central Maui during this fiscal year. We started it. We did the kickoff in February, but the real bulk of the community engagement work will happen at that time. So, respondents to website surveys, we anticipate going up, and also number of visits to the website. That just seems like a reasonable number for us to achieve,

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and...and that's why that number is in there. I do want to, if it's all right with you, ask Jacky Takakura to --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yup.

MS. BLYSTONE: -- add anything if she'd be willing.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you.

MS. TAKAKURA: Thank you, Chair. So, regarding website inquiries, we have completed, as you know, the West Maui Community Plan, and we've completed the major part of the community engagement for the South Maui Community Plan. Later on this year, which will probably be in FY '25, we will begin the...the Central Maui Plan, but that will just be launching and that will ramp up, as...you know, as we get more involved in that plan. And regarding the West Maui Community Corridor, we just finished that one. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, do you--and...So, do you not--I mean, to me, I would think that you'd want to increase the number of website updates. I mean, the amount of times that you would update it because based upon people wanting to look for information. And if it's not updated often, then they're going to be calling somebody over here or calling us, you know? So, it makes...and it just makes sense to me that the anticipation of more updates in terms of the website, but also in terms of the...the visits to the website. I mean, the idea of the website is to get more people to visit it, right? So--and then so, 2023, there was 7,000 visits, actual visits, but yet you...you...you guesstimate that in '24 and '25, there's going to be even less. I mean, isn't the intent to have more people visit it, so why would the numbers be so low?

MS. BLYSTONE: Of course. Thank you for that question. I...I think it's important to note here that the number that we report here is...is a best guess, . . . *(timer sounds)* . . .but we...we will not be held to these numbers. So, if...if we need to make 75, 100 updates to the website, or 139 as we did in Fiscal Year '23, we're not going to allow these numbers to...to be a ceiling for us. We'll update as necessary. And the...and the Long Range team is very aggressive with their website updates. They're constantly making those and getting information out to the public as much as possible. I think the number in Fiscal Year '23 was largely related to the Community Plan Advisory Council for South Maui. So, those were updates on a weekly basis almost. So, we were constantly updating. So, even though these numbers do seem lower, we--it won't...we won't be beholden to that number. We will constantly--the visits to the website number will be increasing, I'm sure will...will go far beyond 3,000. But that was the number at the time of putting together this budget that seemed reasonable.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Next year, I'm going to expect higher numbers in those categories.

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More realistic. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. All right. Chair Lee, Member Paltin, Johnson, Rawlins-Fernandez, Cook, U‘u-Hodgins, Sinenci, in that order. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. I have no questions right now. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. As you must know that Lāhainā burned down, and wondering going forward if we can find a solution to aggressive cosmetic salespeople?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. I'm going to ask Jordan Hart to respond to this question as the leader of ZAED.

MR. HART: Chair, thank you. As you may be aware, there...there are existing settlement agreements pertaining to that. However, for the reconstruction of commercial operations in Lāhainā town, mostly they're in the special management area. Special management area evaluations assess social impacts, as well as environmental impacts. So, there could be conditions of approval that could be proposed to address those if those are stated as concerns for the area pre-fire for post-fire reconstruction. There could also be legislation proposed by this body for how commercial engagement or enticement may be conducted outside of the structure itself. But, you know, there...there should also be consultation with Corporation Counsel about how prior agreements may affect any of the proposed steps forward.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, maybe, like, would you guys--I guess for the Director or Deputy, or would you guys be working on that, or would you prefer me to put in a PAF that people stop touching folks, or putting things on them, or coming outside of their store and telling people they look old, or whatever it is?

MS. BLYSTONE: I think that we should work together. I think we can work together on that. I think from the moment of my confirmation to this moment and beyond, I still think it as much as Council and the Department can work together on legislation, we should. And so, happy to work with you on that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. That's a priority I know from LTAC. And then the GovOS, how is that one working out with finding stuff? Because I had people coming into my office when it was still standing saying, like, this is illegal, this is illegal, this is illegal. Mostly in the Pohailani mauka side. And we would be, like, turning those in. Is that something that GovOS is now addressing?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. I'm actually going to turn it over to Jordan

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Hart, who will talk extensively about both Pohailani and...and the work with GovOS.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And Maui Lani Terraces?

MR. HART: Chair, thank you. So, we are engaging both of those properties mentioned. That...that's been ongoing. That was going on before our contract with GovOS was operational, and it's continuing. So, we--the Department has a clearly established position on those two properties, the mauka side of Pohailani and Maui Lani Terraces, the transient vacation rental use is not permitted there. And we are enforcing and...and dealing with existing cases where we've initiated enforcement according to that position. Regarding the...the vendor, they are operating. All of the bugs aren't worked out yet. We have been in direct correspondence with them on the issues of concern, and we're trying to...to get those things hammered out. They are giving us leads, but we're in the process of trying to increase the quality of those leads. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And is the scope simply browsing online ads, or would they do any kind of entrapment? Like, hey, I'm having a wedding. Do you think I can stay at the property or something like that? Because I feel like that's kind of a loophole of, you know, venues, wedding venues, if they book a short-term rental through that or something. Because, you know, we all know of weddings that occurred where they're staying at a place that's clearly not legal.

MR. HART: Sure. I...I...and I actually don't even really honestly know what an entrapment actually means, but we don't try to do any sort of sting or...or...or engage people under the pretenses that...that we're . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . trying to do the use that they...they--we suspect they're offering. And the contractor isn't doing that. The...the...the summary of what they're supposed to be trying to do for us is, first of all, documenting the advertisements because advertisements are...are proof of violation, and then give us the leads that the documentation of advertisements results in. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Because it's illegal to try and falsely book a place that's illegal, or too much work?

MR. HART: First of all,--okay. So...so, the question was whether or not the contractor is doing that. The contractor is not doing that. I can't go...I...I don't know the true answer of why the Department doesn't do that. I know that the Department did investigate doing that previously and doesn't do it now prior to me coming in. So, there--I mean, I'm not opposed to any kind of discussion about that. I just don't know --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

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MR. HART: -- what has been vetted and evaluated in the past so far.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next, we have Member Johnson, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, then Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Departments. So good to see so many of you, we...so we can get all our questions answered. Director, on your slide, you mentioned \$9.2 million for helping out County-owned lands get entitled for housing. Can you explain that? Which...which lands?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. I--so, to be clear, 200,000 is what is in our budget to entitle County lands, not 9.2 million.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: That's...that's our overall budget, so --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, okay. I'm sorry.

MS. BLYSTONE: That would...that would be incredible, but --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah. I think my questions kind of melded together. So...

MS. BLYSTONE: . . .*(laughing)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, the entitled...the...the lands that you're looking to work on getting a title; which ones are they?

MS. BLYSTONE: So, we are in the process--so, this was a very...this was a very last minute add to our budget --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: -- literally the day I started.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: So, we haven't begun the process of figuring out exactly which lands. We do know that there are several large...large areas that are owned by the County that could be utilized for housing and to go through that entitlement process. So, we are beginning, very, very beginning of this process. It's very similar to what Kaua'i did for Lima Ola, which is an affordable housing project

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that they did there. Entitling projects and then RFPing for the vertical.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

MS. BLYSTONE: So, we have a couple lands that we know about, but haven't done nearly enough due diligence to talk about them out loud.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. In...in your questions--thanks for that clarifying question. In...in your questions talking about some of the priority projects, you mentioned Title 19 rewrite.

MS. BLYSTONE: Yup.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Can you give us an update on the Title 19 rewrite?

MS. BLYSTONE: Certainly. And just because I want everyone up here to talk, I'm going to turn it over to Scott Forsythe, who will be able to. He's our Planning Implementation Division Lead, and he is the lead for this project.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Great.

MR. FORSYTHE: Hey. Good morning. So, for the Title 19 rewrite, there's no doubt that it's behind schedule, and there's been several reasons for that. COVID, of course, took, you know, a big hit on our time, staffing as well. But bringing us up to speed to today, there has been quite a bit of progress made on the rewrite of the document. However, it needs to be vetted internally, the technical details of it before we start bringing it out to the public, and to the people, and to you guys as well. And so, for the majority of this year, that's what we'll be concentrating on, is within the Department really vetting the information within the...within, you know, the code that's being adopted. If things go as planned, there will then be a first round of field testing that will be later on this calendar year, in which we'll go out to the Planning commissions, the public have public workshops, and there will be a second round of field testing, but that'll be later in 2025, in which we'll then involve the Council into that.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: If I can follow up, what your internal...your internal section; are you going to work with other departments, or are you going to strictly stay in in your Department? And within the County departments is what I'm referring to.

MR. FORSYTHE: The way that it is set up right now, the review structures, we have an internal technical advisory committee. That's not to say that we won't be reaching out and coordinating with the other departments because it does have implications on Title 18, the subdivision code.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

MR. FORSYTHE: You know, there's other implications that --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

MR. FORSYTHE: -- Title 18 has, and so we do need to cross-coordinate --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

MR. FORSYTHE: -- on that.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I know you...so, you do need to, but you're not...you don't have it scheduled or you don't have, like, a person designated to work between departments or anything like that?

MR. FORSYTHE: In an ideal world, if there were more people helping out on this, that'd be a lot easier to do.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

MR. FORSYTHE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thanks for that. All right. I'm going to jump into some other questions here about the Climate Action and Resiliency Plan, the CARP. Is your Department initiating any CARP-related projects, such as developing a threshold-based system built on a degree of climate change, vulnerability, and risk exposure . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . for manage--I'll just read the question and maybe we'll answer it later, okay? Develop threshold-based system built on the degree of climate change, vulnerability, and risk exposure for managed retreat of coastal infrastructure so that the risk to physical structures and infrastructure across Maui County can be addressed with the least possible disruption to residents and the economy over time? I know it's a long question, so it would probably get a long answer. I'll just wait for my second round. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, then Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Aloha, Director, Deputy, team. Mahalo for being with us today. Okay. Wait. First, I am at the Moloka'i District office, alone on my side of the office. Okay. My first question is regarding the Moloka'i position, the Planner IV--re-described as Planner V in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement. We--I have been asking, the community has been asking for an enforcement position for Moloka'i or to share with, like, Lāna'i or Hāna. Do you have any thoughts on...on that?

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MS. BLYSTONE: I will start answering this question, and then I will...I will pivot to Jordan to get into the details. But the basics--so, we described this...redescribed this position as a Planner V because the planner who had been serving in that position...was promoted into that position. So, she'd been serving with distinction and we wanted to recognize that. So, that's what that is. To the...to the question of enforcement, right now we have an enforcement officer who goes out there to...to...goes to Moloka'i to do enforcement right now. And I'll...I'll pass it on to Jordan to see if he has anything to add.

MR. HART: Chair, thank you. Currently, the Inspector who's assigned to go to Moloka'i is also assigned to go to Lāna'i. Those trips are supposed to happen once a month. And I--it...it appears to us that that's sufficient capacity to address the issues at this time. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Hart. So, to follow up on that--your...your last comment, they're supposed to come out once a month, are they coming out once a month? I...I don't know, that's why I'm asking.

MR. HART: Chair, I'd have to look at the records of travel. I...I do approve them, but I...I wasn't keeping a tally. I can check in with the Supervisor and reply...reply to the Director. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. Okay. My next question is about rates and fees. Are we on track with the planned rates and fees schedule?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. Yes, we are on track. And for some greater detail on that, I'm going to pass it on to Jacky Takakura.

MS. TAKAKURA: Okay. Thank you, Chair. So, back in 2020, the Department hired a consultant, Matrix Consulting Group, to prepare a report on the Planning Department cost of services user fee study. And currently, we are following their five-year phased schedule, and we are currently in year three. Next year we'll be in year four, which is a 60 percent increase. So, it's an incremental increase starting with 30 percent, 40 percent, 50 percent, which is where we're at now, and then 60 percent is...which is what we're proposing for next fiscal year. This is in Attachment C of this report, which is available online, and we can send you the link to that report. Thank you.

MS. BLYSTONE: And just a follow up to that, we will also be including in the letter that we provide to you later to get today a link to that report so you can access it directly.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. Okay. And then my next two questions are regarding community plans. Okay. So, the Charter requires

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our community plans be updated every ten years, and the reality of how long it takes each community plan doesn't match that requirement, not without supplementing the Department with contracting work. Is...is there a plan to contract that work for the next community plan update?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your . . .(timer sounds). . . question. So, just--we have gotten into the practice of contracting for every community plan update. It just helps us. It extends our...our reach, it...it makes the...it makes the planners able to focus...the local planners able to focus on local answers to local questions, and the bigger stuff they--we can pitch to a consultant, and they can write these kind of larger documents that then we review with local eyes so that we are responding to--we are actually writing them in the way that they need to be written. So, yeah. We are in the practice of...of hiring consultants and will continue to do so.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. I heard the timer.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Next, we have Member Cook, then Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Director, Deputy Director, and all of you, for all of your service and to be here today. I have a lot of questions. I'll try and be...talk fast and be quick. GIS; who spearheads GIS? I understand that, you know, Real Property utilizes it, Public Works utilizes it, you folks utilize it. Is the Planning Department the main caretaker of that?

MS. BLYSTONE: Oh, that's a difficult question to answer, but I will say that we have GIS--and I'm going to have Jacky go into greater detail--but we do have GIS within our Department within the Long Range Planning Division, and they assist primarily with community plans, but they also assist with any GIS needs that we have. Jacky, I...I'd love your help.

MS. TAKAKURA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Cook. So, ITSD is the main overseer of GIS for the County. In Long Range Division, we do have three GIS analysts, and they, as Director mentioned, are primarily for the community plans, but they do a lot of other things to and assist wherever needed, like, for example, they're assisting Water Supply with the Wellhead Protection Overlay. So--but it's mainly ITSD in answer to your question.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. So, looking at Lāhainā's particularly, a lot of the conversations that we've had about roads, identifying the width of roads, locations of cul-de-sacs, having a very accurate perspective of it all, and then the lot sizes and the impacts and all of that. So, is Planning utilizing those tools? Is that--where...where does Planning come into all of that to help the Administration navigate these times?

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MS. TAKAKURA: Thank you, Chair. So, ITSD is assisting Public Works, and FEMA is also assisting in that very large project. We've been assisting more on the sidelines with other related mapping. But the roads are primarily ITSD's responsibility.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, you're basically shoreline...shorelines, SMA, historic, zone--commercial, residential? All the zoning and all the land use facets?

MS. BLYSTONE: Correct. And for...that's for GIS, though. I will say that we have been actively engaging with the road width question and...and cul-de-sacs and connections questions from a community planning perspective because it's important that we don't just widen all the roads and expect that to solve the problem. That creates other problems, so we have been actively engaging with Public Works, Fire, MEMA, Police, all of them from a higher-level perspective than just...just GIS.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Oh, cool. So, I'm just...I look at GIS...GIS as the tool for everybody to communicate it with. Next question if I have time. Does the Department--do you currently track the dollar value of all of the pending permits in your office? And--because that's--it's basically that matrix is in a way--our economy moving forward is how much...how busy we are, the--anyway, a lot of different ways to look at it. I'm just curious if that's something that you track, and if you don't, if you could.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Department?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. I don't believe that we track that. I do want to see if Jordan has anything to add. There--I mean, when you talk about permits, Councilmember, there are multiple types of permits, right? And there's...there's some that we manage directly, SMA, there are many that we're just a commenting agency on. So, it's more difficult for us to track those kinds of things, and it --

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, that'd be more DSA?

MS. BLYSTONE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: Yes, sir.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you.

MS. BLYSTONE: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: And if you don't have time--now I'm...I'm curious, how many

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special management area shoreline permits were approved in FY '23/'24 to date to address shoreline emergencies? And if you don't have that at the tip of your fingers, you could give it to us.

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo for your question. So, we have three. . . .(timer sounds). . . I also have--there...there were three that we were able to track down. Danny will be able to give you numbers. And when we send our letter in, there will be numbers...permit numbers for that as well.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Great. And my next--I'll follow up on the County's need for that in the next round. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member U'u-Hodgins, then Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. Hello, everybody. Thank you for being with us today. For operations, on page 664, we talk about--or you guys--it talks about the advisory committees to the Planning Commission, specifically Hāna, Pā'ia-Ha'ikū--or South Maui. So, when we were sitting people on boards and commissions in my Committee just a few weeks ago, we realized they really don't meet too often. How come? And is this not an effective Board or Commission?

MS. BLYSTONE: Thank you, Chair. And thank you for your question. So, to--I...I will let Danny answer a little bit, but I would like to...to just start out. For those advisory committees, those are--they're referred...so, items will be referred to them by their various commissions. In this case it will--Maui...Maui Planning Commission.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Um-hum.

MS. BLYSTONE: It has to be up to the Planning Commission to decide to do that, and they have not felt inclined to do that in the case of Pā'ia-Ha'ikū and...and South Maui.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Right.

MS. BLYSTONE: So, Danny, I don't know if you want to add any additional to...to this question, but the answer is...for the why is they have not felt inclined to do so.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MR. DIAS: Thank you, Chair. I'll just add a little bit. So, like Kate mentioned, basically they're advisory to the Maui Planning Commission, so the Planning Commission is the one that determines whether or not they want an item to go before these advisory committees.

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Um-hum.

MR. DIAS: So, with Hāna--essentially, the Planning Commission sends everything to Hāna because, you know, it's...it's, you know, isolated, et cetera. In my experience with the other advisory committees, the Planning Commission felt that--you know, they're familiar enough with Pā'ia-Ha'ikū and South Maui to not have to send something there. So...so, so far, they...they haven't had any meetings. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So, are these not needed then? Are we asking people to volunteer their time, and wasting our time in Committee sitting people on these boards?

MR. DIAS: I guess the way I would look at it is if we look at the history of how much items have been referred, you know --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I know.

MR. DIAS: -- I think that --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I just wanted you to say it for me. Thank you. Okay. This is about parking in Pā'ia. So, I've been going back and forth with the...the merchants, and I really--not necessarily the people of Pā'ia, because I would just be talking to my household, but, you know, it's a town created before, really, cars and automobiles. And so, we see narrow roads, we see no parking, really. I--but County does have two parking lots, which, again, I remember when that first parking lot in Pā'ia was made, and I thought to myself, oh, my God, that's never going to be full. And apparently, whoever designed the parking lot also thought so. That's why there's no place to turn around at the end.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Anyway, that's no...that's no longer the case, right? I mean, literally, I grew up being called a Pā'ia rat, and I was like, oh, my God, you live in Pā'ia. Yay. So, I know. I'm just super frustrated about parking in Pā'ia. But anyways, what can we do better to allow reasonable variances in Pā'ia related to parking? Because as you know, it has a ripple effect. I mean, we had to settle a case in my Committee...in our Committee for the shave ice because we had to define what a restaurant was, right, Mr. Hart? And, you know, we had to pay somebody because we have a hard time figuring out parking in Pā'ia, which means people are not getting building permits and they are just doing some rogue night-time building. We know that it happens. I'm not going to call anybody out. But realistically, what can we do to adequately address the parking issues in Pā'ia?

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MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. I'm going to start off.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah.

MS. BLYSTONE: We are having this conversation internally in the Department. So, within the first week --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Right. Let's have it externally, too.

MS. BLYSTONE: . . .*(laughing)*. . . We can. We can have it externally. There are a number of things that we can deal...to deal with parking. One of the things that I think hasn't really been adequately discussed is...is . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . figuring out a way to get...for people to get to and engage with Pā'ia in a way that doesn't require them to get into their car every single time. So, we're broadening the discussion from more parking lots to how do we get more frequent access by bus to Pā'ia? How do we put--the other...the other aspect is if you look at the parking lots that are in Pā'ia right now, the ones that are full are the free parking.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Um-hum.

MS. BLYSTONE: The...the paid parking --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: The paid parking lot is --

MS. BLYSTONE: -- is not.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I know. I park there.

MS. BLYSTONE: So--yeah. So do I. . . .*(laughing)*. . . Yay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MS. BLYSTONE: So, this is a robust discussion that we need to have and something really worth having. It is up to the Director to decide whether or not there's adequate parking in Pā'ia to do a variance, to do a...to do a waiver parking reduction waiver.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: When you say Director, are you meaning you? Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: That's me.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Just need to clarify.

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MS. BLYSTONE: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Yeah. That's correct. So, I want to understand this problem better, and so we're...we're in the process of working through that collectively. And then, yeah, absolutely we need to go out to the community a little bit.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. And I...and I will note that not all of them have certificates of occupancy, which creates a problem. So, you know, the problem goes quite deep because we don't have parking. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo, Director Blystone, and Deputy Lillis, and team. Just following up on Member Johnson's previous comment on entitlements. Did you mention how many has the County initiated?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo for your question. We have not initiated anything yet. This is--we're very early in the process of--this was a --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: -- late addition to the budget, so we haven't initiated anything yet.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, got it. And that's...that's the reason for the additional professional services, to implement that?

MS. BLYSTONE: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Got it. Thank you. And then how many TVR violations were found last year?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. I'm going to give it to Jordan Hart to answer that question.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

MR. HART: Chair, I apologize, I don't have that stat with me right now. We could report that later.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: I may be able to track it down.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: One second if you...if you would. Or we can return to it.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And then if...if--maybe how many enforcement follow-ups were also taken --

MS. BLYSTONE: So --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- that.

MS. BLYSTONE: -- I have--mahalo for your question. I have tracked it down. So, year to date, we've had 57 complaints for--involving transient vacation violations. And each of these... *(audio interference)* Oh, echo. . . *(laughing)*. . . Each of these is in a different phase of completion right now. So, some of them--yeah, we're verifying...we're verifying them right now and going through the enforcement process. That's year to date.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. Okay. Great. So, 57, you said?

MS. BLYSTONE: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: All right. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is that it? Okay. So, I just have one question, then it will go back to Member Kama. The Planning Director, part of your duties in sections—Charter 8-8.3(7) is to review the list of proposed Capital Improvement Projects contemplated by the County and recommended the order of their priority to the Mayor. So, I wonder if you have done that or if the Department has done that, and if...

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair, for your question. Yes, we have done that in coordination with this budget process, and we transmitted a letter to the Mayor with...with our recommendations.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, did you also transmit that to us?

MS. BLYSTONE: I'm not sure how it goes. I...I apologize, Chair. I'm new to this process. But I...I assumed that it would go along with the rest of the budget. And if not, I can make sure that you get a copy of it. I will say that we...we focused--you know, in our analysis of those items, we focused--you know, it's very high-level what we're proposing. We're saying the...the most need first--I'll...I'll have to find the letter to be sure, but the most need first, and then moving down.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Ms. Milner, can we get a copy of that letter? Or is it...

MS. MILNER: I'll confer with the Planning Director and we'll get you the information.
Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, rebuilding of Lāhainā Town, which we all, I think, sit in the same place, that we want to see it happen. So, one of the HRS 53, which is what guides the Maui Redevelopment Agency, which is primarily established for Wailuku Town. I wonder if the Administration is looking at a process like that to help the rebuild of Lāhainā Town. Is that...is that your Department, or would it be Management?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question, Chair. I think that's a question for Management. We--I don't have...we haven't had specific conversations about this that I feel that I can share.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, that's it, and I'll save that for Management. So, round two. Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, this is a scenario and I just would like you to help me to walk through it. So I'm a DHHL lessee, and I want to build my house on my homestead. Can you walk me through the process of getting the building permits that are needed and what are the costs?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo for your question. So, we don't...we don't do building permits for DHHL lands. That's not something that we're involved in.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay. Thank you. So, here's--okay. So, here's my...my other question. So, on--I'm on page 672, and I wanted to start with the GIS Analyst VI. So, in 2022, there was one position that was adopted, and in '23, there was zero, '24, there's zero, '25, there was zero. And then there's no change according to this. So, does that mean that you are not going to have a GIS Analyst VI? Is that what that means? Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: Correct. For this budget, we are not proposing a GIS Analyst...GIS Analyst VI.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So, coming down to Planner I. So, you have...in '22, you had two of them, and then in 2023, you have one, and then throughout '24, '25, you have zero. So, you're not going to have a Planner I either? Is that right? Am I reading that right?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. I'm going to turn it over to Connie to answer.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

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MS. GOUVEIA: Thank you for your question, Chair. Yes. So, in the budget, it reflects that we do not have Planner Is because we have anticipated reallocating our current Planner Is to Planner IIs within this fiscal year that we're in now, and also next fiscal year. So, we like to always accommodate that because it's usually a six-month window that they remain as ones, and then can be reallocated to twos once we get them out of the kind of training phase.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So, then if you continue on for the Planner II then--so, for '24, you adopted...it was five positions adopted in '24, and then you expect to get two more in '25; is that correct? Yeah. Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: Thank you for your question. That's correct.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. And so, are the five adopted positions on board, or no?

MS. BLYSTONE: We are in the process of hiring three additional Planner Is right now. And in fact, I think we may even have-- . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . We're just wrapping up interviews for those. So, we're very close to planning three. So, they're not--they...they will all be filled shortly.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So...so, let me understand what you're saying then. So, if you go to the next line where it says Planner III-- you have three in '22, 4.5 in '23, 3.5 in '24, 3.5 in '25, and no changes. So, it all equals out across the board?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Department.

MS. BLYSTONE: I believe that's correct, yes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. And then the Planner IV for Moloka'i. So, you plan on not having a Planner IV for Moloka'i; is that right?

MS. BLYSTONE: This position was reallocated to a Planner V position.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. I see that. Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: Because --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, that's what you've done. You've reallocated most of your people. Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, Chair Lee, Member Paltin, Johnson, Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Still no questions.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin, then Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I just wanted to follow up on Member U'u-Hodgins. When we created these advisory committees, I think it was Director McLean at the time said, we're going to need more secretaries to boards and commissions because now you're adding on--but they...they haven't ever met. And it seems that you have, out of maybe five secretaries, two boards and commissions, two are vacant. And so, I just was wondering if you need those because they're not meeting?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. I'm going to turn it over to Connie for--to clarify some--anything, and then I will opine on the second part of your question.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Opine away.

MS. GOUVEIA: Thank you for your question. So, yes. The Department currently has four Secretary to Boards and Commission IIs and we have one Secretary to Board and Commission I. We did just recently fill, April 1st, our vacancy for the Boards and Commissions II, so we're fully staffed on the IIs. And then the Secretary of Boards and Commission I primarily focuses on the advisory committees. However, if they do not meet, they then--their duties--get they help assist the other commissions. And so, they're kind of a--I want to say a trainee, but they...they help assist and can do the other boards and commissions that we staff in the Planning Department. That position is currently vacant but is posted online, and we hope to receive a list within the next month here.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: And just briefly opining on whether or not we need them. We absolutely do. I mean, those --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then --

MS. BLYSTONE: Yeah. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I also wanted to follow up on the APO. I think in the last answers to the questions, they said that it couldn't be in, now it's a supervisory. And so how did you work that out that it's still going to be an expansion? Who are they going to be supervising?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. Chair, we are in the process of reallocating that position to a Planner V, the expansion position to a Planner V. We already have an APO position, and that person supervises our plans review section. For now, we are also looking at a reorg in 2025 to...to put them in a different category

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so that they're doing more of what...what they're designed to do.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, that would mean that you have six vacant Planner Vs if you're able to redescribe that APO to a Planner V?

MS. BLYSTONE: Yes. That's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then previously, I don't know if the Deputy Director recalls that we had tried to get the tax information on the TAT from the State. I think it was Ige...Abercrombie to Ige, and now it's Green. Should we send another letter, or are they not going to give us that info?

MS. LILLIS: The County now has the opportunity to look at our County TAT data, and so that is something that I have been thinking about.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. To compare our County TAT to the State TAT. So, maybe send them another request. Or is there any legislation . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . you know that we could enact to, like, compel them to give us that information as a Government-to-Government kind of solid?

MS. LILLIS: Thank you, Chair. I think that a letter in collaborating with you folks would be appropriate, and we can have that discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Maybe James got a couple follow-up letters from the questions we asked, or should I do it myself for the 9:00 deadline?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. James, you got that? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: You got it?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Got it. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The two?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: James, you got that? He's nodding his head.

MR. KRUEGER: If...if...if your follow-up question is relating to that line of questioning about the TAT, yes, we have that noted.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then the other one was aggressive cosmetic sales.

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MR. KRUEGER: Oh, yes. We have that noted too. But perhaps if you could send it in writing again, too, that'd help us out as well.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thanks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Johnson, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, then Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. My last question, I read--do you...do you want me to read it again for you so you can respond to it, or do you remember?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. It would be great if you read it --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sure.

MS. BLYSTONE: -- one more time. I apologize.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I know. There's a lot of questions thrown at you. I totally understand.

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, is your Department initiating any CARP--that's the Climate Action Resiliency Plan--related projects, such as developing a threshold-based system built on the degree of climate change vulnerability and risk exposure for the managed retreat of coastal infrastructure so that the risk to physical structures and infrastructure across Maui County can be addressed with the least possible disruption to residents and the economy over time?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. I...I will start out, and then I will pitch to Danny to fill in anything that I leave behind. So, we are involved working across the County to address climate resiliency through plans and through policies and Capital Improvement Projects. We have the...the joy of hosting the UHC grant folks, and they assist us regularly. Some of the initiatives in--that we have that are...that we're working on right now is a Shoreline Setback Policy, and I will have Danny address that. Regional Resiliency Plans, Managed Retreat Plans, Emergency Response and Managed Retreat Plans and community plans. And I can talk more extensively about community plans. We are now in the process...or in the--having--in the habit of including climate change as a significant portion of our community plans. That's...that--there are policies related to it. There are action items related to it, and so those action items go into our work plan for--to the extent that they are our responsibility to go into our work plan...plan for the Plan Implementation Division. For these other items, I'm going to turn it over to Danny and...and see if he wants to add anything.

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MR. DIAS: Thank you, Chair. So, the Department is responding to this letter that was sent to us by the Committee, and so there...there'll be more details in that.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. DIAS: So, our shoreline team sent me a laundry list of things to address your question. I won't go into all of them, but just sort of piggyback on Kate. So, some of the things that we're doing--just, you know, in the interest of time, I'll just list three of them, the main components. As Kate mentioned, our new shoreline rules now incorporate sea level rise. In the past, it was basically based off of, you know, shoreline erosion rates, which with sea level rise, obviously, that, you know--the setbacks would go up. In some cases, the Department is requiring applicants develop site-specific Managed Retreat Plans. That's not something we did in the past, but now we're, in some cases, requiring people to factor in, you know, what the future holds for their property.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. DIAS: And then lastly, I'll just mention, as Kate also said, all community plan updates include information about sea level rise...sea level...sea level exposure and climate impacts, along with policies and actions that support mitigation and adaptation activities.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you for that clarification.

MR. DIAS: You're welcome.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It goes well with my next question, which is regards to the status of the \$100,000 update for a Coastal Erosion Study at Mā'alaea, including a feasibility study and design for Kanaio Stream restoration. And that's on . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . Page 49 of the Budget Ordinance. Will the Department initiate or complete this project this year is the question.

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo for your question. So, in...in our letter, there's quite an extensive thing. But just to...to give you an overview, we engaged a consultant at the close of 2023...or close of Fiscal Year 2023, which is why there--we didn't have any work on this item in that year. Its fullest...full steam ahead right now.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Great.

MS. BLYSTONE: And we anticipate completion by Fiscal Year --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Great.

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MS. BLYSTONE: -- in Fiscal Year 2025.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you.

MS. BLYSTONE: So, there's greater detail on that.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Next, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, Member Cook, Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. I just had one last question regarding community plans, and that's the community plan for Kaho'olawe. Do you have any updates on that? I...I understand that KIRC handles that update, but does our Planning Department correspond with KIRC to ensure that update happens?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo for your question, Councilmember. This is...this is a bit of a curveball. I...I haven't...we haven't talked about this in the Department in the time that I've been there yet. I imagine the Department will be actively engaged in that...that update to the extent that KIRC wants our engagement. Of course, we're more used to doing community plans with community and with no residents on Kaho'olawe than not. It's a different...it's a different animal for us. But certainly, the Department will be engaging in that effort. It is--community plans are our responsibility.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. Sorry, I didn't mean to throw you a curveball on that one. . . .*(laughing)*. . . I...I did run into the Executive...the KIRC Executive Director at opening day of State Leg. and asked him about this question as well because I...I think in our Code, it says that the Kaho'olawe Community Plan is as of 1995--was...was its last update, so I--yeah. That's all.

MS. BLYSTONE: So, mahalo, Councilmember. Just to add on to that, it is the last plan. Among the updates that we have to do, it's the last plan on that list.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Director. Oh, and then would you mind sending that list? I...I was trying to find it. Unless you know where it is, and I can find it online. I--because on...in the Code, it doesn't have the order which we'll be taking it. And I remember seeing it somewhere, and I always lose it.

MS. BLYSTONE: Of course. Jacky, do you have the number?

MS. TAKAKURA: Yes. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember

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Rawlins-Fernandez. On our Planning--or on the County...County's webpage, if you go to the Planning Department and then go to Long Range Planning, I have a link to that list from the community plan...plans page because that order is approved by the County Council.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Takakura. Amazing. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Cook, Member U'u-Hodgins, then Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Director, Deputy Director, and the whole wonderful Planning team. Following up on my--the shoreline emergency, it's--I'm thinking of the North Kihei Road washout that the Department of Public Works experienced, and the Department of Water Supply had to repair a water line and had to repair the road. My understanding is that they were restricted when they replaced...when they repaired the road just to simply put sand there, and they had to take sand from the dune sand in the same area. It's pretty...pretty restrictive. There's a number of comments in the community about basically kind of making us, the County--like, why would they put sand back there, it's just going to wash away again, et cetera. But I believe that that's the rules; is that correct?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo for your question. I think I'm going to--it...it is a good question for us. We may have to follow up with you on it.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay.

MS. BLYSTONE: I want to talk with our shoreline team.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, I'll give you a suggestion. I understand if they don't want to harden the shoreline. It's not touching the water. I don't know if you're familiar with the big precast blocks that you'll see by the Wailea Fire Station and all over the place. They cost like \$350. They weigh 5,500 pounds. You can pick them up with a hook, and they're like little building blocks. You could trench along the side of the road. You could put four or six, whatever. Barium, never see them there. It's not a permanent improvement. I'm just striving that we collectively can address sea level rise and shoreline retreat while we're also being practical and pragmatic about how we can be solution-oriented for our infrastructure during the transition. And so, anyway, that's that one. And one last one I had was sidewalks. Was there a rule change in an SMA area? Does the County of Maui have to get...I mean, does the County of Maui have to get an SMA permit to do a sidewalk in Kihei? Previously, that was a delay, I believe, in part of the permitting. I think there was a legislative action to avoid that. And I don't know what the status was, but there's--I want some sidewalks in my area, and I'm hoping that SMA doesn't eliminate them--or doesn't delay and make them

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more expensive.

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. I just want to confer with my team. Mahalo for that moment. Mahalo for your question...or your question. And so, we drafted legislation. My understanding is we drafted legislation. It was passed, and now it's an exemption.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: That would be applicable for the Director...for Public Works for the municipal...municipality to do curb...curb, gutter, and sidewalks, and not have to--that's not an additional permit they'd have to get?

MS. BLYSTONE: Correct. I'm going to give it to . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . Jordan to answer that question.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: That...that's--I'm just oversimplifying.

MR. HART: Very briefly, we basically initially identified the issue with Public Works, then went to all the agencies to identify they're repeat maintenance-type things that they have to do. And then we made a full list of...of reasonable ones for everybody, and then submitted to the Legislature two sessions ago, and then it was passed in the last session. So, it's a...it's an exemption that does not require a permit.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you so very much for your efforts and for that answer. I'll follow up with Public Works. That's--I have a lot more questions but I'm not going to keep you here longer. Thank you all very, very much.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member U'u-Hodgins, then Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. I...I just--this is a super quick question I think, so maybe we can just clarify. But on page 669, the amount of zoning complaints investigated has significantly decreased for this year and the upcoming year. I'm assuming this is kind of post-fire changes that we're looking at now? 669, goal one, I guess item, like, four. It goes from 857 to 400, and then 400.

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. There...there are a couple reasons for this. I'm going to hand it over to Jordan and look back at my notes. I think Jordan has the answers to these questions, so hold on.

MR. HART: Thank you, Chair. As...as best as we can figure, we think that it came from the transition from Kiva to...to the COM Connect system --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh.

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MR. HART: -- because nothing else changed at the time. But there was a dramatic drop off, and it stayed consistent with...with--there was an initial drop, and then it's relatively stayed.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So, is the change then because the platform is not user-friendly, or--because I'm assuming the same amount of complaints are probably still in existence, or what would you assume is the issue then?

MR. HART: I have no idea of the real reason. We've had this discussion internally. Like, we've seen it, but --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah.

MR. HART: -- but don't--we--aside from the transition of MAPPS and COM Connect, there wasn't anything else that changed --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh.

MR. HART: -- on our side.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh, in my head, I was like, oh, maybe that's due to the fire. There's lots of complaints in Lāhainā, but I didn't see this answer coming. Interesting. Thank you. And what's the length of time do you guys have to investigate these complaints and then when can people expect an answer to their issues?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. I'm going to have Jordan answer this question as well.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thanks.

MR. HART: Chair, thank you. There's...there is not a specific length of time. I will say that...that the way that the complaints come through, that they're assigned to--they go to the Mayor's Office, they come to the Planning Department. They're immediately assigned to an Inspector. The Inspector goes on SeeClickFix and gets the information and engages the complainant.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Um-hum.

MR. HART: Final resolution of the issue can be complicated. It depends on what we can prove or whether or not they appeal and how long it goes. So --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MR. HART: So, sometimes the time that the individual complainant gets satisfaction is...it's not always consistent.

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MR. HART: But we do engage them and let them know that we're working on it, or...or maybe that we verified that what they said is not actually a violation.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Further down on the same goal, we have a number of sign and banner permits issued. This is kind of a niche situation, but I know I think for a while, we only had one person doing sign and banner permits. And as we look forward to the rebuilding of Lāhainā, if we still only have one person, it's going to take a long time for people to get their signage. . . .(timer sounds). . . I know you have to have a sign contractor to be able to apply for these permits, and it's...it takes a long time. Are we going to see some changes with that?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. The--we haven't discussed that internally, and so I...I hesitate to opine on that subject right now.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member...Member Sinenci.

MR. PASCUAL: Member Sinenci, you're...you're muted.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, we can't hear you. Oh, there.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Sorry about that. Yeah. On Budget Details 19-9, it looks--there's an expansion for travel costs for training. And I know we normally attend some conferences, so I was just curious what types of conferences does the Department or the Director normally attends. And then it also says for Planning Commissioners as well.

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo Chair. And mahalo for your question. This is a really important budget item to me. I know it seems like a small thing, but it's a...it's a big thing, that doing training is really important for retention. It keeps people motivated even if there's not a place for them to go in...in the Department, a higher position for them to go. They're still growing and changing. So, the--to answer your question, there are a couple conferences that we are targeting for Fiscal Year 2025. The first is the Hawai'i Congress of Planning Officials. That conference happens every year. And this year...for this year, it'll be in--on Hawai'i Island. This fiscal year it will be on Hawai'i Island. It's been a while since we've been back to Hawai'i, so I imagine there will be a few folks of us from the--in our budget numbers, we've put in some funding for us to attend for the...for the staff to attend, but also two to three planning commissioners to attend. We think it's really important for the...for our planning commissioners to understand how

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planning works elsewhere. And so, that's...that's one of the things. The other conference that we are trying to get more traction for is the Congress for New Urbanism, which is an incredible conference. This year, it's in Cincinnati. That's in May. We're not sure...certain where it's going to be in the coming year. So, our budget is really our best guess based on this year's numbers, where...where we might go. This conference brings in planning professionals from across the world. It's an incredible resource for us. What I love about going to that conference--I went last year with Hawai'i Community Foundation for housing, and there was a whole track that I could take on housing. And there will be a whole track for enforcement. There will be a whole track for design. And our...especially now after the fire, our planners need to be inspired about ways to do things in the future, and so those are the two conferences that we're targeting.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And then Director Blystone, do they normally have, I guess, classes, or talks on zoning at these conferences?

MS. BLYSTONE: Yeah. Thank you for your question. So, one of the best ones is --that I went to last year, there was one on...on how kind of the zoning codes is...is broken. The system of zoning is broken in America, and that there needs to be an effort made to take a harder look at our zoning code. And there's an author, the author of the book on zoning was there. That's the one great thing about these conferences, is it really draws kind of the...the top minds in the planning profession. . . . *(timer sounds)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank...thank you for that update. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, that's the end of round two. Member Rawlins-Fernandez has to catch a flight to meet us in West Maui. Thank you for doing that. And anybody else have any questions for round three? If not, I'll...if so, I'll start off with Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Okay. So, Member Rawlins-Fernandez first, and then we'll go to Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I don't have any additional questions. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'll see you on Maui, everyone.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Member...anybody else besides Member Paltin? I only see her hand.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I just have one more Chair.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. We'll go to Member Rawlins-Fernandez, then Kama, and then Cook.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I think she means you. . . .*(laughing)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, me now?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, sorry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I know, it's out of order. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I was wondering now that we've had approximately a full year to evaluate how MAPPS is working out for us, what's the grade?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)* . . .

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. I think if you asked everyone that's sitting up here in front of you, we would give a slightly different grade. There--it's...overall, it's a good thing. We're...we're--it's a good thing to have this...this system in place. There are some bugs that we're running into that make the system a little clunky for us to navigate, for people to navigate, but we're in the process of continually improving that process and improving the way that we do MAPPS, making tweaks to it so that it functions more...more better. . . .*(laughing)* . . . Better.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Welcome to Hawai'i.

MS. BLYSTONE: Yeah. . . .*(laughing)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, then the things that are not good are able to be changed?

MS. BLYSTONE: Correct. Yeah. We...we can adjust that system to make it work the way that we want it to work. I...I can't think of any caveats to that, and I'm sure there may be, but at this time, I...I can't think of any. We should be able to adjust anything that needs to be adjusted.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then any progress since the last time we spoke about expedited SMA permitting for the burn zone? Or...

MS. BLYSTONE: Absolutely. Mahalo for your question. We have an internal team

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that's meeting on this very subject, specifically shoreline properties. That's the concern that...that most people have. So, we're meeting internally on this process and refining our approach to it. And I...I can't really...I don't really want to speak to exactly the decision because there isn't a decision yet. But we are very close. And I only just Friday spoke with the Managing Director about what we're thinking. We're doing some ground checking right now, ground truthing.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Did the new SMA rules get signed . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . or...

MS. BLYSTONE: No, the rules...the rules have not yet been signed. We have some back-of-the-house things to do in MAPPS in order to prepare that...that ordinance to be fully--you know, to go. So, those rules to fully go. So, we will...we're working on that now. There...there is a kind of a bottleneck in how we can get that done because there's, like, one person who does the back end, so we're...we're working on that. But we're also being mindful of the shoreline rules as they pertain to Lāhainā and whether or not we want to...to talk with the Planning Commission about those rules before we fully enact them.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, we're not sure that those rules would apply to Lāhainā or separate, different rules?

MS. BLYSTONE: We're in...we're in the...in the decision-making process right now and doing fact-finding to figure out exactly how we want to move forward.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, I'm on page 676 of the Program Budget, and on the Expenditure Summary by character and object. So, were there no expenditures in 2023?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair, for your question. So, this--we spent the morning figuring this out. Thank you for this question, and know we'll have a more robust answer in our letter. But basically, the contract was not completed prior to the end of...the contract was just done at the end of Fiscal Year '23, which is why there's a zero number there. In '24, we've been working hard on this particular contract, and...and so there...there will be numbers associated with that.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. That's all. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. So, I...I'm...I'm going to guess everybody else doesn't have any more questions. Member--Chair Lee, Johnson--oh, you do? Member Cook, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you. And I wasn't going to say anything. On a real positive note--and this sort of--it's not just a play on words, but we hear a lot about--I...I'm not asking you to change, I'm asking us all to evolve. We are where we are, and this is how we got here. And so, you know, to grow, as opposed to have to, like, change. Things like MAPPS, if--I'm encouraging you, hopefully, to be persistent with suggestions and what would make it work better for you and keep running them up the flagpole. From my conversations with other departments, it's a similar feeling. It's like a tool that isn't necessarily functioning the way that people hoped. When I asked earlier about, like, how many--the value of permits, pretty much what I was...what I'd like to say is to be sensitive...encourage you to be sensitive and aware to what you're reviewing and who you're reviewing it for. It may be a store, it may be a shop, may be an addition. It may be a small thing, or it may be a big thing. But I know how busy you are. I know how taxed you are and how it's difficult to pause and actually, like, look at it and see the humanity in that paper that you're reviewing. But that's, bottom line, what it is for our community. I'm hoping, in my participation in government, that I can be more of an advocate...advocating on behalf of improving the quality of life and not focusing so much on the regulatory aspect. Regulation is obviously needed. I mean, I'm a parent. I think that's a great lesson that I had in life. You have to say no and you have to have guardrails. So, anyway, I just...I'm cheering you on. New Director, new Deputy Director, new time. The challenges with Lāhainā, everything that our community has been through and continue to go through. . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . I think you have a Council that's supportive, and--but I'm hoping that we can all grow together. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Yes, Member...yes. Member U‘u-Hodgins, then Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. Sorry, I thought I was done, too, but I guess I'm not. So, I know some of the confusion when people are applying for building permits has sometimes a lot to do with the Administrative rules. Is there a way where you guys can share Administrative rules and we can kind of ease some of that frustration?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo for your question. So, for building permits, we're just a reviewing agency within the...the whole --

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: No, I understand that. But for instance, a few years ago when I was doing permits, I had to do SMA exemptions for anything interior

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or nonstructural in the mall. Before you folks and I approve of this change--so, this is just an example...an example--decided that the SM1 then covered the SMA...the SMA exemptions. This...this makes perfect sense. However, it added so much time, cost, and energy to do that SMA exemption. Had we just known that this was coming down the pipe, maybe people would have waited and just going, oh, yeah, SMA1 exemption. So, that put time on you, that put time on me, that put time on the...the person doing the building permits. So--but, again, that was an Administrative rule change. So, I understand you guys...what your guys role is in the building permit process, but my question is can you share your...your Administrative rules or can you let us know when there's going to be changes? I'll give you another example why this is frustrating since we're talking about it. When I had to do some projects in the Lāhainā Cannery Mall or one of the malls in Lāhainā, the one near Front Street, I had to go out and count every single parking stall. And then the rules changed for the parking code, and it went from everything being piecemealed out to what was retail, what was dentist, what was existing nonconforming, and what was going to be a new restaurant to everything is one per 300 square-feet. Again, I probably would have waited . . .(timer sounds). . .instead of hand-counting stalls. So, is there a way you guys can share what's coming down the pipe so people can best prepare, and then also share your Administrative rules?

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo for your question. I think that--I have to answer your question in generalities, but basically, I think you're...you'll see that this--my team up here, we are very focused on making sure that we are as transparent as we possibly can be. So, to the extent that we can, of course, we will share and...and have much more public...public awareness on these subject matters. And thank you for bringing it to our attention.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I appreciate that a lot. We're going to see a huge influx in the permitting, and so I just think the best we can prepare our people to engage in this. And to nobody's fault of their own. This is just the process. It's a very confusing process. So, the more transparent we can be for the people who probably cannot afford a consultant would be best. I appreciate it. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. Member Sinenci? None? Okay. Member Johnson. Sorry, I skipped you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, all my questions have been answered.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. So, we're done with that. And before I turn it over--and

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thank you--I received a text message from a Lāhainā restaurant who we took down their signage because they're probably closed because of the conditions or whatever...whatever the reasons were. But I wonder if the Planning Department, I think, who did the enforcement of that, their sign came down and the restaurant was asking, you know, for the sign back. And what kind of requirements are going to be in place because of, you know, the wildfires or...

MS. BLYSTONE: Mahalo, Chair, for your question. I...I would need to know a little bit more on the specifics of the...of the actual restaurant in question so that we can figure out what happened. I--Jordan, I don't know if you have anything else to add.

MR. HART: I...I would say that no Zoning Inspector would take a sign. If we're discussing illegal banners, we could look into that situation further that were located off property. But certainly, our Inspectors would never go on somebody's property and take their sign away. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I think you're right. So, Members, at this time then, Planning Department, all of you--oh, we got to have Ana Lillis say something to us, right? She had only a brief one sentence.

MS. LILLIS: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Committee, for having us join you today. I'm very excited to be a part of this team, and I'm very grateful for my experiences at the Office of Council Services. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Yay. So, one of the things that we always would--when I would sit in my chair and watch Ana Lillis when we had a Housing Land Use Committee meeting because she would sit there, and she would, like, run up and down. She looked like a field mouse running throughout the Chamber. I...I would always say I just love watching her energy level. And so, nice to see you here. Thank you and congratulations again. So, okay. Members, it is--thank you very much for all of you being here and for your hard work, endlessly working hard for the community. So, at this time, Members, we are done with Planning. And thank you. You can all, you know, leave at your convenience. And at this time then, we are now ready to take Department of Public Works. I would like to just ask you if we could just take lunch from now, and then take Public Works after, and maybe come back at--you want to come back at 1:15? 1:15? Is that okay, Members?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Sounds good. Sounds good.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, at this time then, this meeting is in recess. And we'll see you back here at 1:15 with Department of Public Works. . . .(gavel). . .

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RECESS: 11:48 a.m.

RECONVENE: 1:22 p.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . . *(gavel)*. . . Welcome, everybody, to the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee. It is now 1:23. Before we get into Public Works--thank you, Director Molina, for being here--I wanted you to know that, again, as I said earlier, today we'll be...we'll be done by--what is that noise—we'll be done by 4:00. We'll be done by 4:00. And, I mean, if we're...if we do not finish Public Works, then I'm going to recess this meeting and reconvene tomorrow. But if we do finish Public Works, then I'm going to...I'm going to suggest to everybody that tomorrow we'll be off. And so, you can catch up with a lot of the questions or answers that have come from the departments because it came in a flood load, and...and then we will be back together again on...on Wednesday. So, Tuesday would be off if we finish with Public Works. And then on the 10th is Office of the Mayor and Liquor, and then on the 11th is Housing, Human Concerns, 'Ōiwi Resource. And that night is South Maui, right? So--oh, I'm sorry. And then Tuesday, we're all going to Lāna'i, so it's not like we're not having any other thing related to BFED. But we're all going to Lāna'i, but then the morning would be off so that you can study. But we'll see if we get done with Public Works. Huh?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, on the 9th, they got moved to--what day James?--we moved? That was all Legislative. We moved them --

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, currently we have them slated for the 17th.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 17th. So, then they--we moved...we took everybody from the...that was on the 9th, which is Auditor, Corp. Counsel, Council Services, and County Clerk, and we moved them to the 17th. Okay. So, that's kind of if we finish Public Works today, but if not, we'll see you back tomorrow morning for a recessed meeting. So, okay. Director --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Chair? Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, yes?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Did you say you moved something to the 12th?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No. So, what we did was the 9th, which is tomorrow, we moved the Legislative Branch. Auditor, Corp. Counsel, Council Services, County Clerk. And we moved them to the 17th.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, the 12th is...is still 9 to 4, roughly?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Well, it is 9--yeah. That's going to be a long day, I think, because on the 12th, which is Friday --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: The 12th is Gladys Baisa's service in the evening.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Just to let you know.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Yeah. Well, let's not go to the evening. But it's Management, Office of Recovery, Fire and Public Safety, Emergency, and Emergency Management. So, MEMA is on the 12th. Yes. Gladys Baisa is important. So, that's...that's--I just wanted to say that if we are...if we do finish Public Works today, then I'm planning on adjourning the meeting, and then we'll see you all on Lānaʻi. But if we don't, then we'll recess, and we'll finish Public Works tomorrow. So, now we have Public Works. And I'm going to start with Member Cook. And we'll go with four minutes, first round, three minutes, second round --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: If we need a third minute...third round, it'll be two. Oh. Hello, Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair. Oh, real...real quick, Chair. And our provisos are still due on the 15th on Monday.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, what we're going to do --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- is on --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We're going to come up with all of that process, and we'll...we'll be discussing--I didn't want to discuss it today because Keani's not here, but that we will discuss on Wednesday when we get back.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah? And we have a, you know --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- updated calendar. We have the process based upon what you've been saying and your questions. We are taking everything into consideration. So, Members at this time --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, are you done, Member Sinenci? Your hand is still up.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we'll start with four minutes, Member Cook. Then I think Rawlins-Fernandez is still traveling. Johnson, Paltin, Lee, Kama, Sinenci, U'u-Hodgins is the lineup.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Thank you, Chair. My question for Director Molina. These are--brief answers would be fine for updates because we are short on time. Could you provide a status of the implementation of Bill 21 related to the permit process for the wildfire-affected areas? Brief.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Department?

MR. MOLINA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Cook. So, at this point, we are finalizing--excuse me--the mass processes to get all that revised, and that workflow updated to meet the new requirements. We also have the vendor who will be administering the emergency permits for Lāhainā on contract. And so, we are still on schedule to open that case by the end of the month. We don't have a firm date yet, but we are looking good.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: That's good. So, did I hear you say that you're implementing it into the MAPPS Program so people will be able to track it still, or is it going to be --

MR. MOLINA: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you. Since Office of Recovery has been established,

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will you continue your role as the Head of Infrastructure?

MR. MOLINA: Yes, I will be.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Got to take care of your health.

MR. MOLINA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. In FY 2024, \$5 million was appropriated in the Open Space Fund to acquire wetlands to support the South Maui Drainage Master Plan. What's the status of the acquisitions, and will additional funding be requested?

MR. MOLINA: We are still in negotiations. Currently, we are still working through the appraisals. Delays due to the wildfire had pushed us back, and we are still kind of working through the scope of the appraisal due to the complicated nature of these parcels. But once that's completed, then we'll be able to go back to the landowner, see how far apart we are with numbers, and then come to Council to see how we want to move forward.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Well, so, it's moving forward. The community appreciates that. The North-South Collector Road; I see that there's no funding for 2025. Can you give an update on that?

MR. MOLINA: Sure. So, yeah. We don't need funding this current year. We anticipate funding in FY '27. Right now, we're just working through the land acquisitions, and we'll anticipate needing to do eminent domain for certain holdout properties, and then we can proceed with finalizing the environmental assessments in the SMA major permits.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you. So, the eminent domain aspect was there a handful of properties? I mean, my understanding is the Department has been working for many years to negotiate with the various landowners, and for the most part, you've been successful; is that correct?

MR. MOLINA: That's correct. The last update I recall was approximately a dozen or so parcels that are still pending. So...so, I'm not sure if we've been able to work that down a little since, but that's where we're looking at right now.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. I think the community is ready to move forward. So, there's--yeah, eminent domain if that's what it takes. Thank you, Chair. That's my questions for the first round. Thank you, Director.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Next, Member Johnson, then Member Paltin, then Lee.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: This is a question I've been asking many of the departments. How about electrifying your fleet, you're electrifying your tools? Anything in regards to working toward goals of electrification of your vehicles and tools...equipment?

MR. MOLINA: I know we've looked at some electrification on some of the heavy equipment when we've gone to conferences. But for what we do at this point, the electric stuff just doesn't have the power.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, I used to think that too until I've seen, like, the new versions of some of those electrical equipment. It's really...they really stepped it up from when I...I used to have that. Like, oh, this has no power, you know? Like the--but now, they're stepping up. Maybe it's time to revisit it, especially because of the--you know, they produce 25 percent of our gas emissions, these small hand-powered machines in the equipment. But okay. Next question is about goal 4.2, which is page 738 in the Program Budget. Please provide information on the number of service requests through the COM Connect that are responded to and resolved and include the length of time it takes to address service requests from the time they have received. So, quite often, you know, constituents will come up to me and report a pothole to me. And that--what--that little--what do you call it--app is really great. And it's on the website. So, can you talk about that a little bit?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, that became the County's primary mechanism for the public to request service from the County once Kiva went away. And it's really good for the straightforward stuff. So, like you mentioned, potholes, those we can get to relatively quick. Litter-type matters, any sort of real maintenance-type stuff where it's not complicated to fix. But when it comes to anything that requires enforcement action, the SeeClickFix is not that tool.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: It's a good way to submit the information. But if it's an enforcement proceeding, that's not the tool to be tracking that progress.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, I'm not going to stand in South Maui and say, oh, where's the North-South Collector Road and put it in COM Connect?

MR. MOLINA: You can.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: . . .*(laughing)* . . .

MR. MOLINA: And it'll give us that insight that you're inquiring --

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: -- but we're not going to be --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So --

MR. MOLINA: -- using that to manage your inquiry.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right. So, I guess, the idea...the potholes is a good example. I think it's a good use of it.

MR. MOLINA: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, can you give us a length of time? That's really where the question was. Like --

MR. MOLINA: It...it just varies depending on the activity and whether we can get to it. So, potholes in particular is one where our Highways Division has a pothole...let me pull it up real quick. We used to have a pothole goal. Oh, yeah, we adjusted it now. So, like, for maintenance-type stuff that our Highways would typically do, our new goal is now five days to complete within assign...from when it gets assigned.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Five days? That's...that's really impressive. And I think people should know that. So, if I report a pothole as a citizen, I'm going to know it when you fix it, right?

MR. MOLINA: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: But sometimes I wouldn't know that, you know, until I visit next time.

MR. MOLINA: Um-hum.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, is there a way you inform the public, we heard your request --

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. We'll generally close out the request.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: By letting...by closing it out and letting them know it's closed out?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, through that system, there's automatic prompts for your request that you'll see updates come through on.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Wonderful.

MR. MOLINA: So, yeah. That's automated already.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: All right. Next question's going to be about sidewalks. Why was there a drop-off in new sidewalks and bike paths constructed in FY 2024? That's on page 741 of the Budget Program. What budgetary resources will ensure the Department reaches or exceeds its goal of FY 2025? How can the County achieve large amounts of linear feet of new sidewalks similar to 2023 numbers?

MR. MOLINA: Yes. So, it's really just a matter of what projects are on the schedule for a given year. Some years are lighter . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . on construction. Some projects have significant sidewalks as part of the project --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Um-hum.

MR. MOLINA: -- some do not. We don't have a program that's...well, we don't have enough staff, just generally to just do sidewalks all day, every day.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: . . . *(laughing)*. . .

MR. MOLINA: Or bike lanes all day, every day. So, it really--again, we've...we've adjusted to this complete-streets approach. So, when we go through on a street to do whatever it is, we try and look at, you know, the entirety of the facilities and address everything in that corridor as we're there.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So --

MR. MOLINA: So, that's why you're not going to get kind of a regular X-number of feet every year --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Well --

MR. MOLINA: -- out of that performance measure.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: If I could follow up on that...on that idea. But, you know, there's two fatalities we had just recently of pedestrian--it is getting way out of control, the amount of pedestrian fatalities we're having. Does that have a ranking up of your priorities when it comes to where a sidewalk should be built?

MR. MOLINA: It does when we have context for those accidents.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Like --

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MR. MOLINA: So, like the two that happened recently were on the highway, not in any sort of --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sure.

MR. MOLINA: -- marked locations. So, in situations like that, more sidewalks may not have prevented that situation from occurring. So, yeah. When we do know we have those accidents, we do generate projects around those. So, like, one this year is the Kanaloa Ave project where there was a fatality there.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

MR. MOLINA: And so, some of the improvements being contemplated are to make things safer --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Great.

MR. MOLINA: -- for the circumstances that contributed to that crash.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Director. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Next, we have Member Paltin, then Lee, then Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to start off with speed bumps. Apparently, Pā'ia is hogging all the speed bumps. Ha'ikū. Ha'ikū is--has all of the speed bumps. And I did put in some money for speed bumps, and then I got a call saying somebody wants a speed bump on Lower Honoapi'ilani Road, and that I got to put money in the budget for a speed bump there. And then I said, well, what happened to the speed bump that I put in money for all the previous years that I never got? So, don't blame me, right? So, just checking up on Mr. Nip's (*phonetic*) speed bump, and now I guess the boat ramp speed bump.

MR. MOLINA: We'll get you a report on those.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then next, I see it looks like in the budget, a request for 19 million something interfund transfer to the Highway fund. And is that correlate specifically to any CIP, or --

MR. MOLINA: You have to talk with Budget and Finance.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay.

MR. MOLINA: We don't have understanding on --

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay.

MR. MOLINA: -- that supplemental transfer. I believe it's more related to DOT's operational matters.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then I guess the follow up on that would be, like, on page 2 of--I think this is Appendix A-1 and page 17, like, it says, like, there's 18.5 million encumbered. Page 2 for drainage, 94 million encumbered. Page 17 for roads with allotted...allotment balance of 6.3 mil and 34 mil, respectively. And so, I just was--like, you know, some of this is from, like, many years back, and I was wondering if we could pull the money from there?

MR. MOLINA: Sorry. Which document were you referring to?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Appendix A-1, Bill...I think it's Bill 61.

MR. MOLINA: For the Grant Revenue?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Capital Improvement Projects report. I think it's Quarter 2, page 2. It says for drainage, \$18,577,456.58 have been encumbered. And like some of these, like, Lāhainā Watershed Flood Control, it says lapse 12/31/12, but there's still, like, 97...777...\$97,777.75 since encumbered, GO 12/13/15. The allotment balance is \$211,164.36. So, I just was wondering if we could pull from the allotment balance if we ever do get to closing out these projects instead of transferring from the General Fund if that's a possibility?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, every year, we do an exercise with Finance to revisit those encumbrances, and we release whichever ones are stale. So, these are still all active projects.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, you already went through all of it?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: What is the allotment balance part? An overage in case the bid comes in higher, or just has not yet been encumbered?

MR. MOLINA: I'll have to get back to you on what the details of that report reflect.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: To get clarity.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Just checking if I need to do the follow-up question or James got it.

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MR. KRUEGER: We're noting it now, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Cool. And then in your vacancies, the way that we did it last year with the chunk, you said you prefer that?

MR. MOLINA: That's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Did it negatively impact . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . your operations?

MR. MOLINA: Not to my knowledge.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I heard the bell.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Chair Lee, then Member Kama, and Member Sinenci, then U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Good afternoon, Jordan. I'm wondering, with all the projects that you have to deal with, not only in the budget...already in the budget, but projects that the Council may come up with, would you realistically be able to handle them all?

MR. MOLINA: I mean, the short answer is no, but the challenge becomes--you know, these aren't--doing these kinds of projects isn't a very linear process. It's not just step 1, step 2, step 3, and you're done, right? There's always complications, either with permitting, or utilities, or just the nature of the work.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: And so, sometimes --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: My...my concern --

MR. MOLINA: -- having extra projects lets us keep working on those projects when we get stuck on other areas.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, my concern is if we don't do anything soon with regard to permanent housing in West Maui, we're going to see homeless...homelessness reach catastrophic levels. I really, sincerely believe that. So, that's why I...I feel I need to restrain my...myself in asking for brand new projects, because I think that's the focus. I think everybody knows that's the focus. And we don't want to have the departments spread themselves too thin, nor do we want to spend money when we don't have to, when we can wait maybe next year or just use a portion this year. So, I mean, I'm...I'm hoping that

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you realize that we may have to cut some of the things that are in your budget only because we have to be...we...we have fiscal constraints. But it behooves you to let us know which ones that might be because then we don't take...you know, we don't have to cut anything that is essential. You see what I'm saying?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, I would suggest similar approach to the salaries of--unless there's a particular project you guys know you don't want us working on. Public Works is generally all repair and maintenance, so it's--we don't have too many fun recreational projects. But if...if...if there needs to trim back, I would recommend an off-the-top reduction as opposed to a line item cut to allow us ability to manage within the budget. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. That's a good suggestion, and we'll certainly consider that. Thank you, Jordan. I have no more questions.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Vice-Chair Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, Mr. Molina, I'm on page 941 of the Capital Improvements Budget. So, for the Wailuku-Kahului area, you have the Waiale Road Extension, the Imi Kala Extension, and the Maui Lani Parkway Extension. Can you explain where the Waiale Road Extension and the Imi Kala Extension, how...how are they supposed...are they supposed to converge or come together at some point?

MR. MOLINA: Yes. So, the Waiale Road Extension is your furthest out south --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Right.

MR. MOLINA: -- for Waikapu Country Town. So, that takes a new road from Honoapi'ilani Highway, Mā'alaea side of --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MR. MOLINA: -- Tropical Plantation, brings it down below the highway and connects to Waiko. So, that's the Waiale Road Extension.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: Imi Kala Extension takes us from Wailuku Post Office, Eha Street, and goes out across that bridge up to Kahekili Highway as part of the Pi'ihana Project District Development. And then the last one we have is the Maui Lani Parkway Extension --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

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MR. MOLINA: -- which takes you from the church on Maui Lani Parkway. You got the corner.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. The Mormon church.

MR. MOLINA: And that connects through those...through the bushes basically --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MR. MOLINA: -- and up above where the hospital is at the other end of Maui Lani Parkway.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So, for the Imi Kala Extension, I...I remember there was talk about using some--that...the old Cane Haul Road adjacent to St. Anthony's football field, I think. Is that still part of the plan?

MR. MOLINA: Correct. That's part of the extension of that project.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So, this...so...so, that's going to connect to Lower Main, right? And then you go back on the Cane Haul Road, and then it goes through --

MR. MOLINA: Mill Street.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Mill Street. And it...and it crosses the bridge, right?

MR. MOLINA: Correct. It'll go from Mill Street down Imi Kala.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Right.

MR. MOLINA: And then when you get to Wailuku River, there'll be a bridge there that you cross and continue north until you hit Kahekili Highway.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, how are we...in terms of the funding for that bridge, how's that coming along?

MR. MOLINA: We are still in the design phase. Particularly--well, we're probably going to split up the project between the--from Wailuku River to Kahekili Highway and from the Lower Main to Mill Street. When we bring that road in, it's going to change kind of the circulation of Wailuku Town. And so, right now, we're doing extensive traffic studies to figure out how we're going to...how...how we may need to reconfigure things to make this new roadway function better. One particular is Vineyard Street. Vineyard Street comes all the way down. It would connect to this potential road. Vineyard Street's a very small road.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: It is.

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MR. MOLINA: So, when we start looking at the...the...the traffic flow with this new corridor, it--things get complicated. So, we are still in the very early planning phases.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, just...just thinking about what the future is going to look like in terms of trying to increase flow on Vineyard, right? What is that...what...what is your best timeline for that?

MR. MOLINA: Oof. At this point in time, I mean, best-case scenario, the thing is built in seven years.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: That's not bad. Okay.

MR. MOLINA: Best case, now.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Yeah. Well, we always hope for the best case and figure out the rest as we go, right? Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next, we have Member Sinenci, then Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. And mahalo, Director Molina, for being with us this afternoon. Just kind of following up on some of my--other Members' questions. I did hear from the Ha'ikū community about sending out their speed tables to West Maui.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: But I...I think, isn't the process--And we went through the process for Haneo'o Road--isn't the process where you need to get the approval of, like, 80 percent of your neighborhood to install the speed table?

MR. MOLINA: Thank you, Member Sinenci. Yeah, we do have a program in place where people can apply for a speed table, and then there's requirements when we'll approve them.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Right. Because before you could do that, you need...you need, like, a significant amount of the neighbors to...to agree upon putting one in. I think that's one thing that a lot of the people didn't understand. There are--I've also seen some other alternatives to the...the speed table, like the strips that have little--as you go over it, or even a lot of the...the reflectors on it. Are

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those also alternatives to a speed table that we could use?

MR. MOLINA: No, because those don't slow anybody down?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, they just kind of --

MR. MOLINA: They make --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- more --

MR. MOLINA: They're more of a --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: It just makes--okay.

MR. MOLINA: They're more of a warning system. So, like, we have them when you're approaching certain changing --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Got it.

MR. MOLINA: -- conditions in the road.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. Yeah. Okay. And then I, too, have used the COM Connect website to report--for my community, my neighborhood where I live in Hāna, we get a lot of apps that are--or GIS systems that are running tourists through our subdivisions. And then when they find that they're in the subdivision, they try to speed trying to look for an exit out. We get a lot of kids that are on their bikes, and every other home has a slow-down sign on their home. Is it possible to put, like, a no-through traffic or something, just to...just to deter the tourist traffic from coming into our neighborhoods?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah, we can talk about that. It's hard to restrict regular passenger vehicles. We do have instances where we can restrict commercial traffic when you're talking about larger vehicles that maybe the smaller roads can't accommodate. But we'd have to talk about --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: -- how to keep public off public roads. That would be different. Kind of challenging based on the current law.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. And then on page 736 of the...the Budget, there's an increase for premium pay increase. Is there...is there a--what's the justification for that 148 percent increase?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, that's directly related to Lāhainā wildfires. Public Works has

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found itself in an immense role overseeing the debris cleanup and the infrastructure coordination. And so, that's requiring a lot of extra OT from Highways, both the Admin staff and our Lāhainā Field District. So, we wanted to account for that in the Budget.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. Got it. Got it. And it's also the purpose of the 55,000 expansion as well?

MR. MOLINA: Correct. We have...we have expansion positions for the Lāhainā District to support recovery.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, got it. Okay. Thank you for that clarification. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Department, so I have some questions for you. Earlier, when Prosecuting Attorney was with us, talked about the mold remediation. And he talked in his Budget, he has moving offices, paying for all of that. And I just want to make sure that somebody is paying for the cure of the mold. I don't know how better to say, but the remediation of that. So, I'm trying to find out, is it in your budget to pay for that part?

MR. MOLINA: I would say we don't have a scope well defined at this point in the funding amount. There's multiple factors going on, and we are still working with the prosecutors and the MD to kind of define how extensive this work is going to be. Part of the--so, one of the issues is the HVAC system itself, and then the building materials itself. But there's also existing constraints in that space for the Prosecutors in whether they want to look at additional modifications to meet their needs or not. So, there's kind of that...that bigger long-term planning question as far as how much work do we really want to go down the road on in terms of...of remediating that space at the Old Courthouse.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, it's in process?

MR. MOLINA: It is in process. Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. So, it's not, like, forgotten?

MR. MOLINA: No, no, no.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MR. MOLINA: It is an active project right now. Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Earlier in the year, I...I was looking at lapse...the lapse process, right, of funding. And I want to...I just want to ask, the

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ending...ending part of this question is in...in Bill 61, Appendix A-1, pages 13 to 17 provides CIP projects and funding information, including the amounts encumbered, expended, and still available for the project. And there's over 94 million is encumbered, with 34 million still available for Fiscal Year '24. And with all the things that we have going on in our community and the need for Highway Funds, the ending part of this question--I can give you examples. The project listed have funds encumbered with no expenditures in the current year. Are the contracts completed? And the reason I'm asking is because if the contracts can be closed out, the funds can be considered Carryover/Savings for the Highway Fund because Highway Fund is so precious, right, and hard to get. So, do you look at this with the Finance Department and close this out, or does it just stay there until sometime in the future? Because the...the lapse appropriations that I was looking at, when I brought it up in Committee, was from 2016, and some of that is still on this list. So, just wondering what you all do with this.

MR. MOLINA: I believe it's the same question Member Paltin asked earlier, so we can provide a more detailed response on those encumbrances.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. That's good. Then answered my question about the mold. Other departments is a new one, but other departments have asked for the Public Information Officer, and you are not requesting for that position. So, who does the press releases and community outreach for your Department? Because you play such a pivotal role in a lot of recovery things. Just curious how you function.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, everybody has a role to play. Highways has their own. They put out their own releases for their projects-- Engineering similarly. Generally, we have our contractors manage the public notifications. What we had planned to do--you know, with Council approving the Business Administrator for us last year, we think that position can handle some of these outreach and public messaging duties for us. So, we don't think we need additional staff at this time.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. So, that is page 22-3 . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . and Business Administration...Administrator I, EM3. So, you're expanding the role? Okay.

MR. MOLINA: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Okay. Now, we'll go round 2. Three minutes, Members, if need. Oh, sorry about that.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: It's okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I missed you. Sorry about that.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: That's okay. Can I go now, though?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thanks. So, yesterday, I went to a graduation for a fellowship that I did on Oahu where we had the Mayor speak to us, and he was talking about how their DPP had, like, a six-month prescreen...prescreening waiting list. So, we don't have that, which is great, but they use some AI technology to help them review their building permits. Is that something that we're doing or looking into?

MR. MOLINA: No, but we'll make a call.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yay. Great. Let's do that. On page 22-63, we have a \$600,000 request for the milling machine, which is expansion equipment due to the recent ban on herbicide in the County roads. So, where else are we going to see this ban impact you folks? I think Parks was telling me that they had some issues with it, too. So, this is \$600,000. What else are we going to see as it relates to this ban? Do we need more staff so that we can do all the things? Or besides this machine, what are we going to do?

MR. MOLINA: Give me a sec on that one. Oh, yeah. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: 22-63.

MR. MOLINA: You know, the biggest impact was in Fiscal Year '23, where we got about 50 expansion positions for guys to go cut grass.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Grass lookers?

MR. MOLINA: That's been the biggest impact directly. So, this is kind of your smaller one where before we could treat the grass with herbicides in the road, and now we got to dig it out.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh.

MR. MOLINA: And so that's--once you got to go into digging it out, then you want to be on production scale. So, that's what this piece of equipment helps us manage, as well as kind of efficiencies with the paving operation as well. I haven't...I don't recall any real new impacts from the herbicide since we've gotten the...the staffing from you folks.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: Other than just the overtime. Wailuku is working every Saturday, cutting grass on Kahekili Highway.

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: And how much is that costing us, would you estimate?

MR. MOLINA: I would have to get...we'd have to run some reports to itemize --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Because every Saturday.

MR. MOLINA: I've been signing OTs for months now --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Wow.

MR. MOLINA: -- for the crews to be working overtime. And they don't always--I mean, it all depends on whether people like work Saturday and all that.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Sure.

MR. MOLINA: But I know they've been keeping up. And yeah, it's a lot of work now.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh.

MR. MOLINA: Every three weeks, we got to cut again.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Okay. I'll write that note down. I'll remember. I get some complaints about the parking lot above Mana Foods. I--it's our County parking lot. But that sometimes the grass is overgrown. And I'm just assuming, if I was you folks, considering there's very little parking--I was talking about this earlier with Planning--very little parking in Pā'ia. How do you guys clean that area knowing it's usually always full of cars? How would you, like, weed whack without destroying somebody's car?

MR. MOLINA: That's a great question. I do not have awareness at this point about our maintenance activities on that parking lot. I know they're pretty minimal, but --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah.

MR. MOLINA: I'd have to go review --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I can tell. But to be fair, I mean, and I move my car when my husband lawnmowers our yard, and you cannot necessarily ask for them to move. It's always busy unless you're going to go in the middle of the night, which then --

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, like, when we have to do mowing in areas where there are cars . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . yeah, you just got to work around them and come back later.

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Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: But I'm not familiar with the parking lots. Parking lots are sort of the --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MR. MOLINA: -- forgotten stepchild of Public Works.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Can I ask you then, if you want...might want to share the maintenance schedule of that parking lot? Because I think that's the one that's kind of the only one with some grass in that area. But I'd appreciate it.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. And then just to note, we do have an improvement project. Did it go out to bid yet? It was funded previously, so that's going to be going out to construction soon.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: For that space?

MR. MOLINA: Correct. So, we're going to repave, redo the lighting, repair some of the fencing. I think that's the extent of it. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: And when you guys do that work, is the parking lot going to be closed?

MR. MOLINA: It will be. It's --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Next, round two. So, three minutes. Member Cook, round...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. My question for the Director. SMA rule that changed a year ago, I think. What...what's the current status--when you're going to do a sidewalk in Kihei, what...what permits and permissions do you need to get?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, the amendment to State law helped clarify the permits aren't required, but there's still the SMA assessment process we have to engage in. That's probably the biggest one. Outside of that, we would--County roadway permits to do the work in the road and document it. I think those are our...our major permits.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, I don't understand. You don't have to get a permit, but

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you have to get an assessment?

MR. MOLINA: Correct. The way the Planning Commission rules are structured is you're not exempt until we review if you're exempt or not. So, you have to submit an assessment so they can determine that your work proposed meets the exemption requirements.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: For the future, is there a step forward to eliminate that too, or is that just government that's . . .*(inaudible)*. . . --

MR. MOLINA: That's all Planning Commission. So, it's --

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Could the Planning Commission eliminate that requirement?

MR. MOLINA: They could. And I think a lot of it would be Planning, the Director too, because she would be the administrative arm of performing those assessments.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. I see in the Budget that there's a couple of sidewalks in Kihei, one under construction on Kupuna Street, which is in design. And then Keonekai is under construction. What's--if it's under construction, is that, like, going to be done in a certain amount of time?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, when we put in for construction funding, the intent is that we're going out to bid for construction by the end of the CIP year.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, maybe this year?

MR. MOLINA: I don't want to be overly optimistic, but we'll get it bid out by this year, and so maybe construction will start the following year.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I...I guess my final question for this is how is it with contracting companies supply by putting out bids? Are we...are the bids getting a lot higher or getting much more expensive because there's less people and more work? Do we have more people coming in? What's...what do you see happening because of the abundance of work?

MR. MOLINA: Well, I'll say the abundance of work hasn't exactly hit because of Lāhainā yet. For our types of projects, we're...we pretty much have a handful of contractors that handle our kinds of jobs. And of course, prices are going up. Yeah. So, short of doing any more in-depth research on the matter, I...I'm not aware . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . of any sort of particular issues that are driving up costs other than just --

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So --

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MR. MOLINA: -- the cost of everything going up.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: That's not an impediment to building right now?

MR. MOLINA: It is, just in terms of how much you can afford to do.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Next, we have Member Johnson, Member Paltin, Chair Lee, Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Okay. Continuing on with my previous questions. So, on page 746--or 745 of the Program Budget, you have \$100,000, purpose of a special project. What's the special project? I looked around, but I couldn't really find the description of it. It's under Engineering Program, I guess. Page 745 in mine.

MR. MOLINA: Page 745. Is that in the...the narrative document? Yeah, I see it.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: You know, I couldn't find any narration on it, just in the--I can give it to you if you want. You can...

MR. MOLINA: 745, you said?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: 745 for Public Works Engineering Program. Then it has the chart with--and then right here, it says special projects 100,000.

MR. MOLINA: Oh, I see. So that...that is there. We put that in as a placeholder because we often get--well, not often, but we occasionally get private contributions made to the Department, either because of land use conditions...typically land use conditions or SMA conditions. And so, when we receive those fundings, this is the appropriation that allows us to receive that.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, that's donations?

MR. MOLINA: They're not donations.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: They're exactions. So, they're conditions of approval, right? So, they're not free.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

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MR. MOLINA: And the County requires them.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Milner would like to add too.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh.

MS. MILNER: Sorry, I just wanted to chime in. If you look at Budget Details 22-75, those are the expenses that we've included for any private donations received by the Department.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you for that. The next question is page 752 in the Program Budget, and that's the \$200,000 request for cesspool conversions fine for Highway sites. Can you explain what that is? \$200,000 for cesspool conversion fines for Highway sites.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. We got fined for having cesspools. This one particularly is for our Hāna Baseyard --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh.

MR. MOLINA: -- which we learned had two cesspools, actually, and that they were within what EPA deemed to be large capacity cesspools.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: You put that under services, but it's a fine.

MR. MOLINA: That was per guidance from Finance.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: We didn't know where the best place to --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: -- book that was.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: All right. Thanks for clarifying. That's...that's news to me. This--I'm going to switch for--about the arborist...arboriculturist . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . or I'll...I'll --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next round.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- wait for next round.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Great. Member Paltin, then Chair Lee, then Vice-Chair Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Last year, Fall '23, we were going to do road resurfacing at Unahiole Street and Ala Moana Street by Māla. Obviously, we didn't get to that because August 8th. But I just was wondering about that. Is it still on the list? Does it still have funding?

MR. MOLINA: We'll have to get back to you. I did not get with staff on this one.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then also, has DSA finished evaluating the accuracy of the MAPPS reporting? Is the data representative of the performance measures? Last year, it was too soon to ask that question.

MR. MOLINA: I know our staff has gotten better at understanding what reporting is available from MAPPS. Let's see...Revolving Fund...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then when you mentioned earlier this morning about auto repairs from other departments, do you folks get reimbursed from those other departments? Like, if you have to front the money for Parks or whatever, do they then reimburse you guys?

MR. MOLINA: Generally, only--or excuse me. Only the special funds do. If it's a General Fund, we don't ask for reimbursement because it's just moving General Fund to General Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then for the FEMA reimbursements that you anticipated getting, do you have a time schedule of when it might be because, like, how--we met other jurisdictions, it's five, six years out and they haven't gotten reimbursements, and they're not starting any new projects because they're broke already. I was wondering, as you are being coached by the consultants about applying for reimbursements, is there any kind of time frame that you expect to get these monies back, and then would...would it just go into the General Fund, or how does that work?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, generally, those reimbursements go straight into the General Fund. And in particular, if we just utilized emergency funds for those expenditures then, yeah, the--it would just go to the General Fund. I've seen it usually about a couple years it takes before you--from when you close out all your documents with FEMA before you actually see money come in. So, I would say it's probably the safe approximation of about a couple of years for all the processing to get closed out and the reimbursement checks to get cut.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then does DLNR issue an annual report accessible by the public about the results of their dam inspections of various flood and sediment control structures in West Maui? Budget Details 22-25. . . *(timer sounds)*. . .

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. Those reports are online, and then we'll get you the link in our response.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sweet. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Okay. Next, Chair Lee, then Vice-Chair Kama, then Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No questions. No questions.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Vice-Chair Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, my questions--just curiosity. So, in the DSA Administration Building Permit Program, it states that this program issues building permits, electrical, plumbing permits, provides inspections for the work done under those permits. So, on page 757 of the Program Budget, the budgeted positions that's shown on the equipment personnel summary by position title on page 759, Program Budget. So, why is there an Electrical Inspector II, a Supervising Building Inspector and a Supervising Plumbing Inspector, but no Supervising Electrical Inspector?

MR. MOLINA: So, for that group, we have an Electrical Engineer actually on staff --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, you have --

MR. MOLINA: -- and he oversees that...that section.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So...so, who is the Supervising Building Inspector or the Supervising Plumbing Inspector, supervising?

MR. MOLINA: So, the Building Inspector oversees the Building Inspectors, of which I believe we have three or four. And then similarly for plumbing. The plumbing...Plumbing Supervisor oversees the Inspectors. And there are also a few clerical staff within those sections.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: And how many people is that?

MR. MOLINA: Oh.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: About?

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MR. MOLINA: Give me a sec. You know what, I'm going to have to get --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: -- back to you because they are funded from two different...from the General Fund and the Revolving Fund. So, we would have to pull them out to get the tallies for the...the two sections.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay. So, regarding the key activity goals and measures for the Engineering Program, goal number 2, provide routine maintenance by resurfacing, reconstructing, rehabilitating, or preserving County roads, bridges, and drain lines to ensure accessibility and a safe riding surface. Has the success measure reporting the number of bridges repaired or replaced on page 742 of the Program Budget. So, how many bridges are under the County's jurisdiction?

MR. MOLINA: We--I...I would have to get back to you --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: -- with the total, but we do have 47 bridges that are NBIS bridges. So, those are bridges that are--spans 20...greater than 20 feet and are under Federal regulations for us to inspect and maintain. But there's a...there's a handful more of the smaller bridges under 20 feet that is within our inventory as well.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, 47 of the bigger bridges and more of the smaller bridges?

MR. MOLINA: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, is that--the bridges, the Hāna bridges, those are all--so, some could be under the 20 feet, yeah? Or no?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. Yeah. There's a handful of those bridges in Hāna that are smaller that don't...that don't --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: -- become eligible under the national program.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So, how many...do you know how many bridges have been identified as needing repair or replacement?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, we . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . currently have eight that we're tackling for repairs and replacements. Two of which went out to contract for construction, five of which are in design, and then the last one it will be starting its design.

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you. I heard the buzzer. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Next, we have Member Sinenci, then Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Good segue for the Hāna CIP projects. I know we don't have a specific CBS number, but it looks like we're on some of them, like the Hāna Baseyard covered storage. Is this right next to the river?

MR. MOLINA: That's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And...and will it include solar?

MR. MOLINA: It will not. I think if we do solar, we'd probably pursue it under the Johnson Controls contract.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. All right. And this...this is just for the...for the parking where all the trucks and all the vehicles are at, yeah?

MR. MOLINA: That's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And then on page--of the CIP project, 950, Hāna Highway void repair at Alelele, you...you mentioned that you have a bigger project coming up. Is that why you're voiding this particular Alelele piece?

MR. MOLINA: No, so --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Or...or is it --

MR. MOLINA: The void refers to --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MR. MOLINA: -- a physical void underneath the road that we need to shore up.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh.

MR. MOLINA: So, the...the integrity of the road.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay.

MR. MOLINA: And that's one we encumbered when we were doing the rockfall work last summer.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And that...that one still--what's your timeline on that? Another...if you can share.

MR. MOLINA: We...we will be going out to bid with that project soon. That's...that project...so, that is the project that we are undertaking right now related to the current road closure at Alelele.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And--all right. Thanks for that. And then on page 952, we have our Pavement Preservation Program. And of course, we always get about a mile, two miles per two years for East Maui. We did receive--a job number has been issued for Maka'ala'e, but we're just waiting for a date for the...for the contractor to...to go ahead and assign that?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. I...I just resigned the plans for that...for that permit set since it's been a while. So, I'm hoping by this summer, we'll have that paved.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. So, that would be Maka'ala'e, and then Kaupō as well?

MR. MOLINA: I'll--we'll get you an update on the specific statuses for the various East Maui projects.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Thanks, Director. You guys been keeping us updated, so--but we appreciate that. Thank you. Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. I know we...I know I asked this question when we were talking about the building permit process as it relates to Lāhainā, but I don't know if we really came up with an answer yet. But are we going to allow the...the landowners to apply for electrical and building permit processes after they work with the Engineers to create their plans so we don't have to have the subcontractors applying for the electrical and building permit process?

MR. MOLINA: We--it will be a consolidated application, but they'll still need those license--they'll have to identify who their licensed contractors will be.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. And they can do that at the time of picking up their permits?

MR. MOLINA: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah.

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Are we going to have--I forget if we talked about this because it's just been so much, but are we going to had...have a modified permit fee for them as well, people who lost their everything due to the fires?

MR. MOLINA: At this time, no, we're not proposing a modified fee.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. So, it's still going to be, what, the 12 percent of the entire construction valuation?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. I don't know the exact percentages, but it's as proposed currently.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. That's all I have for right now. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, I have to ask you this question, Director. Johnson Control, do you utilize them--or are they in communication with you, I guess?

MR. MOLINA: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And how is that contract working out?

MR. MOLINA: Good for my seat because I don't have to manage the contract, I just get to use them.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Okay. We heard from departments earlier who said that they weren't...they were not communicated well, I guess, with some of the new light ordinances. And you have a lot of lights that you are responsible for, so I just wondered what it's like and is it working?

MR. MOLINA: To my knowledge, they haven't touched the outside lights yet, so the light ordinance issue shouldn't be a problem at this time. That is an issue we are trying to work through with them in light of the new standards. But I mean, other...other than that, what...what's...what's helpful for Public Works is that contract allows us to kind of deal with a lot of little...little issues along the way, and they're able to run with that. And so, it saves us having to organize a project, go through procurement, manage another contract for these smaller activities. So, that...that aspect's been helpful for Public Works.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, for example, what does that mean? What kind of projects versus --

MR. MOLINA: Oh, like...like the Old Courthouse problem? If I'm able to work it under the contract, then I can have them handle a lot of that and it doesn't become my project. So, that part is nice, to be able to take advantage when those

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opportunities align.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, Johnson Control does more than light...light? --

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, if the work involves additional trades, they'll...they're responsible for bringing in those appropriate trades to the work.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, interesting. So, it works out good then.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, it's been helpful for us.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, if we have to...if you have to conform to the new light ordinance, you're ready to do that in terms of funding?

MR. MOLINA: Johnson Controls will have to be.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, they're going to pay for it?

MR. MOLINA: Well--it's...it would...it's contemplated under the contract currently. And so, if...if the County chooses to go...to...to utilize them for those lighting retrofits, then they would be obligated to find the compliant lighting. And I guess what...what it comes down to is hopefully that the cost savings is enough there to make it justified for the contract.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, who would pay for the new light fixtures?

MR. MOLINA: It would be through the contract, so Johnson Controls would pay. Or I...I--so, again, I...I don't do the contract admin, so I'm not very aware of the particulars of it. But generally, there's a contract already with JCI, and they would implement these improvements under that contract.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Okay. Next round would be for two minutes. Is that all right? Okay. So, starting with Member Cook, going on to Member Johnson, Paltin, Lee, Kama, Sinenci, U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, Chair, my question for Director Molina. I'm just curious, clarification. So, is Johnson Controls, like, the prime and they have--their flexibility is they can issue work orders for additional scopes of work and not have to do a new contract for every single thing?

MR. MOLINA: That's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I think that's it. Thanks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Next, we have Member Johnson, then Member Paltin.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I'm going to ask about the arboriculturists. Please explain the reallocation of the Arboriculturist position, that's on page 750 of the Program Budget. Why is this position title changed rather than increase the step from Arboriculturist to something like Arboriculturist III, SR-24E. Will the new position of Highways Beautification Manager also require the ISA arborist certification as part of the job description? And in FY '24, was the Arboriculturist II able to attend and supervise all tree maintenance conducted by the Department of Public Works? What portion of the County Arborist Program assists with other departments with tree management?

MR. MOLINA: Okay. I'm not sure about an Arboriculturist III, but I know we did find a Highways Beautification Manager class. I believe the State has it. And so, that's what we kind of modeled that position after, to make that...to have this position that oversees that tree maintenance right now on a programmatic level. We are requiring that the Beautification Manager holds the arborist certification. He does not oversee all tree activity. He's consulted a lot of times, but for routine maintenance or kind of more emergency response, he's not necessarily involved with that. Our guys know how to clear trees.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Um-hum.

MR. MOLINA: But when it comes to pruning and how that maintenance side of it, he does oversee all that directly.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right. Okay. That...that's an important distinction. Thank you for that, Director. I'm on limited time, so I'm going to move on to my next question. Please describe any MS4 Storm Water Management projects funded in FY 2025. Would you support the creation of a Stormwater . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . Enterprise Fund to better finance stormwater management and expand existing MS4 programs?

MR. MOLINA: There are no particular MS4 projects. All...all the projects in the CIP within the MS4 area support the MS4 program and the requirements we're subjected to. As far as the fee, I feel that we should clarify the funding mechanism for stormwater and drainage because it's...it's supported by Highway Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Um-hum.

MR. MOLINA: It's also--we've been getting General Fund for it as part of our operations, but it's not really spoken to as a discrete program.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

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MR. MOLINA: My only concern about a stormwater fee is just the complications of administering...more the fiscal administration of a fee, collection, assessment, yadda, yadda, yadda. So, if you ask me, you just keep giving me General Fund that would be good.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Of course.

MS. MILNER: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MR. MOLINA: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Is there a demand for it, would you say? Not the fund...the fund itself, but for having more MS4 projects.

MR. MOLINA: Not necessarily MS4, but yeah. I mean, stormwater is always kind of a tricky one where --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

MR. MOLINA: -- like I mentioned, we utilize Highway resources to support it. And we get by, but I mean, there's...there's definitely more that could be done, but that would require more funding to support a more --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

MR. MOLINA: -- robust program.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's why I bring it up because budget season. So --

MR. MOLINA: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good. Next, we have Member Paltin, then Chair Lee probably has no questions, and then Vice-Chair Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I was wondering about the Motorola 4000 radios. You know, we tried a lot of walkie talkies when there was no connectivity after the fire. Will that be able to support, like, kind of how the mountains go? Will it...will they be able to communicate if there's no other connectivity, and what did you guys use during the fire when there was no connectivity?

MR. MOLINA: These same radios. So, these are the radios that are tied to the County's radio network that MPD manages. So, these are the ones they tell us to buy.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Is it 800 megahertz?

MR. MOLINA: I don't know the details. It's the one Walt says to get, so we listen to Walt.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Is it, like, 3,500 a radio?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah, somewhere --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

MR. MOLINA: -- in that range. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. So, probably 800 megahertz?

MR. MOLINA: They're the expensive ones, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then did...did you guys enlist other heavy machinery from private contractors? And then do you guys give them those radios as well, or would that be under MEMA or some other entity like Fire or whoever is the incident command?

MR. MOLINA: I'm not sure that when Fire utilizes the private contractors if they'll hand off a radio or not. I don't believe we...when we were coordinating in the early days with Lāhainā, I don't think we...we may have, but I don't think we issued out radios. We just had daily coordination meetings. So, there wasn't really the need for radios for our...our purposes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then, like, signage on the side of the highway; is that not you guys Highway people? Because it was kind of windy last week, and a bunch of the signage on the side of the highway, it looks all kapakahi in Kahana area, like, there's...it's like...

MR. MOLINA: So, we'll do the County roads, and the State does the State roads for signage.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. And then have you trained your staff that does groundskeeping and maintenance and whatnot about coconut rhinoceros beetle and other invasive . . .(timer sounds). . . species?

MR. MOLINA: We have not.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you. Because Councilmember Cook's coconut tree by his stall doesn't have a crown.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Just...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)* . . . All right. Chair Lee, do you have a question?
None. Okay. Vice-Chair Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I don't have any questions, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No questions, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I feel like I ask this all the time, but I guess I'll just continue asking. And I know it's not your fault because it's a confusing road, but for Pi'iholo and Olinda, you know, we have all the eucalyptus. They're quite dangerous, and then they make the roads all bumpy. I know half the road is State, half the road is County, but what can we do to make it easy? I mean, like, these are free speed bumps.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: We don't want them, though. . . .*(laughing)* . . .

MR. MOLINA: That's...that's why we don't have requests up there.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: . . .*(laughing)* . . .

MR. MOLINA: And as soon as we pave it, we're going to get requests.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Right.

MR. MOLINA: We--I got to check where we're at. We...we started doing a bunch of clearing up there for the dead trees that were still standing. And then between us and DLNR, we do coordinate as far as taking down the...the real hazard trees.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Um-hum.

MR. MOLINA: Let me check if we're still funding that. Yeah, we'll have to get back to you. I know we were putting funding every year to put...put some of those more trees out, but we may have ended that program right now.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. I mean, I'm preaching to the choir because

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you know, but some of them are quite dangerous, and they're close to all the utility lines up there. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, we are at the end of round three. You guys need round four? You do, Member Johnson? Okay. We'll just go down the line then. Member Cook, you have another question? You're done? Okay. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Just to follow up on that first line...or that last line of questions, would you support funding a comprehensive County-wide stormwater master plan?

MR. MOLINA: I would support funding a utility plan, not necessarily a master plan.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. A utility plan?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: A utility master plan?

MR. MOLINA: To...to develop a stormwater utility is going to take a lot.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: It's...it's a big lift.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: And Honolulu has been doing it for years now.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

MR. MOLINA: And they're almost there.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. All right. Thanks for that clarification. I'm going to get into the CIP Project statuses for the Lānaʻi Baseyard improvements. In...in the...the CIP list you have, it says approval/permits obtained. There's--it's blank, but then it goes--in the comments on the far right, it says action items permit approval. So, does it need a permit? Because I also see that an RFP sent to the consultant. We also have a contractor...contractor's name as Maxum Construction. And that's for the Lānaʻi Baseyard improvements of 2023.

MR. MOLINA: Yes. We're still working through Planning Department requirements.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: They were just here. I should have asked them that one. Okay. So, there is...we're waiting for the...the County's permits from

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Planning. That's the only thing we're waiting, no State permits or anything?

MR. MOLINA: Correct. Just the Department...Planning Department permits.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: If we get those permits within this budget year, do you have the funds to move forward with it?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, the--we already have the contractor on contract.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: So, we're just waiting for the permits so that we can start work.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. I'm going to make a call then. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MR. MOLINA: It may require a code amendment.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, no. Really?

MR. MOLINA: It's the parking lot requirements.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Parking lot. It's a--okay. I better write that down. Parking lot permit is the problem?

MR. MOLINA: Parking lot permit and --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MR. MOLINA: -- because it's a larger parcel that contains other structures --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

MR. MOLINA: -- they had some complications there as well. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: All right. Well --

MR. MOLINA: So, we're working through it.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Maybe we can have a talk offline. I...I'm just here to help, Director. So --

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's all. Thank you so much. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Do we still need the Subdivision Construction Revolving Fund?

MR. MOLINA: No, and we're not sure why entries are still being made to it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MR. MOLINA: So, you can ask Finance.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, we can take all that money and reallocate it, Budget Director? Some speed bumps, maybe?

MS. MILNER: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MS. MILNER: If it is about one of the revolving funds, may be able to reallocate those funds. Yes. If we want to get rid of the Revolving Fund entirely, we would need to do a code amendment. But we can discuss the procedure for that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I found that money. Time stamp.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then I was the one that was asking about your electric, water, and sewer. Most other folks asked for increases, but you guys didn't. Was that just, like, an oversight? Are you guys going to ask for water, sewer? I know we're billing more for sewer for sure, and water in some cases.

MR. MOLINA: Yes. So, historically, Budget Office had managed those increases. So, yeah. I'll defer to Budget Office if that was supposed to get budgeted or just an oversight.

MS. MILNER: I don't believe that was included in the request, but we can include it as part of the revisions that we'll be requesting this week. I'll touch base with you --

MR. MOLINA: Okay.

MS. MILNER: -- Director.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Main thing, I'm not requesting them. Let's see...is there any plans going forward to train staff on invasive species? Because they do groundskeeping. It's like we're telling the whole world, like, be on alert, but we're

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not on alert here in our own grounds.

MR. MOLINA: We are not looking at it from that front. But yeah, not to say we couldn't. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I mean, like, there might be some YouTube video on coconut rhinoceros beetle, little fire ant, and coqui frogs. And you guys could be at the cutting edge of stopping an infestation on County properties, no?

MR. MOLINA: Well, we . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . only manage the roadways, so we're not...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, you don't manage the grounds here at --

MR. MOLINA: Oh, yeah. I mean, this building. But yeah, not--that's...that's the extent of it.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, you don't do the DMV place, and --

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. I mean, yeah. Those places. But I--you made it sound like we have all this property like Parks property. We only have --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

MR. MOLINA: We only have the offices.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, yeah. I was just referring to the offices. I mean --

MR. MOLINA: Oh, okay. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If you stop it there, then that's a "yay," right?

MR. MOLINA: Sure, sure, sure.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. I mean, we can cut down the coconut trees.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, you going cut down his coconut tree?

MR. MOLINA: I like cut them all down, but --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . . *(laughing)*. . .

MR. MOLINA: -- some people like them.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Tropical. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Done? Okay. Member Kama. No questions. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No questions. Thanks, Jordan.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: One more quick one. What can we do along Makawao Ave, where we have all these overgrown trees and they're kind of in the roadway. They're touching all the utilities. I get a whole bunch of emails about this all the time. I know that some homeowners and landowners are really nervous and hesitant to cut the trees next to the wires. And typically what happens, as you know, they fall down, take the lines with them. What...what can we do? At least--I mean, I'm speaking in generalities, but also specifically about Makawao Ave.

MR. MOLINA: So, if it's affecting a utility pole, and it's affecting the power lines in particular, HECO will come out and trim those. You just got to make a call to them.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah, we did. And then what happens is that Spider-Man meme where everybody just points at each other, and then nothing really gets done.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, it must not be affecting the electrical part. It's affecting --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah.

MR. MOLINA: -- the telephone and they're cable.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah. We reached out to everybody.

MR. MOLINA: Those guys, little bit more difficult.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: You've seen the Spider-Man meme where they just point at each other? It's the three Spider-Man's, they're just looking at each--that's what's happening, where everybody's like, oh, not me. And so, what ends up happening is that, again, people are nervous to cut it. These are--you don't want to damage the utilities and be responsible for an outage. So --

MR. MOLINA: Is there a SeeClickFix for that one?

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COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I guess there might be after this, but we just heard how not terribly effective it is. So, you might get a SeeClickFix, plus couple emails.

MR. MOLINA: Well, for the maintenance-type stuff like this --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: -- it's effective.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Cool. We'll do that. Thank you.

MR. MOLINA: If it comes to chasing down fines and issuing violations, it's not --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: -- that's not the best tracking tool.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. I'll have them do that. Thank you.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. So, Director, I'll be the last question. And then the Office of Management is going to come to us, one of the last departments, and I've been asking relevant departments like yours in terms of recovery. And you are so busy doing a lot of CIP projects, and roads, and everything, right? So, will you be able...are you also going to be coordinating all of this that's in the Office of Management? I think it's like \$130 million or 400 million over three years.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, portions of that involves some of the repair work to the roads and drainage infrastructure that we have accounted for and are putting into that budget, as opposed to into our departmental budgets.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And can you do it all?

MR. MOLINA: We're going to have to.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I mean, that's the problem, right? And so, I think some of us have probably asked the same question. Roads, like in...in our community that people are still asking about. I know it's on your long-range plan to get there, but is that getting all pushed back because of the urgency of West Maui?

MR. MOLINA: At this time, no. The--I mean, other than the projects in Lāhainā that

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we had to shuffle around for obvious conflicts because we can't pave yet, everything else is full steam ahead.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, really? So, only West Maui is--those kinds of projects are being held back, but everything else is --

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. So, notably, like, our Lāhaināluna Road Federal Aid Project will get pushed back. And then some of the other smaller resurfacing projects, like the ones Member Paltin mentioned may have to slide. But beyond that, yeah, we haven't...we haven't reduced or cut any projects at this point.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Superman, huh?

MR. MOLINA: We trying.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, and I...I'm going to ask Managing Director Nishita when he comes too how we're going to, you know, manage all of that because it is going to take a lot from everybody. So, Members, anybody else have any dying questions before we close out Public Works?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just had a general...a couple general questions. Are--is the PW-2 response transmitted?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I don't have it.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah. We sent it to Lesley earlier this morning, so it's probably still on its way.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. That was transmitted during lunch break. I will defer to OCS as to the status of the upload. PW-3 is still in process.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then one other question for the Budget Director, if can?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: About the interfund transfer. Do we know what specific things would be funded with the interfund transfer?

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MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. It all goes into the Highway Fund, which goes to both Public Works and Transportation. But I believe as we discussed last fiscal year, the majority of that's due to our bus contracts. So, I think we can pretty accurately state that the majority of that supplemental transfer is going toward those bus contracts under Department of Transportation.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then if, you know, there's Carryover/Savings in the Highway Fund, that doesn't come back to the General Fund, it just stays in the Highway Fund?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. Yes, that will show up as Carryover/Savings in the Highway Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, do we know what the Carryover/Savings were for Fiscal Year '23 in the Highway Fund?

MS. MILNER: Yes. The Carryover/Savings for the Highway Fund for Fiscal Year '23, \$17,365,696.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And so, you're saying you need the 19 million in addition to that 17 million?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Yes, Councilmember Paltin. That's correct. In order to cover the expenses for both Public Works and Transportation, it needs the Carryover/Savings and the supplemental transfer.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: All righty. Got it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Members, so we're at the end of today. Congratulations. We actually ended early. And so, therefore, I'm going to adjourn this meeting with your permission. And we have to be in West Maui for a 6:00 meeting. What time do you want everybody there, Tamara?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, food should be ready by 5:00. Please come very hungry. I've learned there's been other items added to the menu, so don't eat anything between now and then, 5:00. And Members and Staff, the lineup is in the amphitheater. You can put a blanket and sit down there if you want or you can make your plate and come inside the gym, but it just was, like--you know, because we...we're not feeding the entirety of the public, that's where it's at.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, that's by 5. And then the meeting--correct? And then the meeting --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The meeting starts at 6.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: At 6.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And it's in the gym side because I don't think anyone's used the Social Hall since --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- it was used for something else.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. We did ask for the Social Hall, but it was not available. I guess HI-EMA has that reserved, which is fine, but we were able to use upstairs. And I also wanted to let everybody know that *Akakū* is going to be filming the community responses tonight. And I did ask if--how long can *Akakū* stay because they're usually time-limited. And I did hear that they would, you know, be available. But I...I don't know what that means. But I would like to film as much as possible, the majority of the meeting if we could. Because we know when Member U'u-Hodgins went out to the Westin, that was, you know, a long evening. Of course, that was our first meeting after the August 8th wildfire, so it...it was probably action-packed and emotionally charged that people needed to speak. And we'll see what people say tonight, and...and the responses will be very important. So, *Akakū* will be there. And so, for today, I'm going to adjourn the meeting. Oh, yes?

MS. MILNER: I apologize for interrupting, Chair. I just wanted to address quickly on the floor Councilmember Paltin's question earlier about the Subdivision Construction Revolving Fund. That fund was closed in 2016. It shows a negative balance just to reclass a prior year cost that shouldn't have been in there and to close out the funds. That fund no longer exists.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. No longer exists. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thanks for that clarification.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: As--oh, were you done?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I was just going to say as a site visit information--so, the only way you can come in is through Keawe Street. And as you're coming down Keawe Street, if you look to your left, that would be where the Kaiāulu o Kupuohi used to be, and is no longer there. And as you look to your--the north-right, that's where the Kaiāulu o Kūku'ia did not burn down and is still coming up. And then they're doing some roadway work, so there's--just pay attention --

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- so you don't run into the plastic barricades or anything. I think at one point there was a request for reflectors on that, but you just have to keep your eyes open and your headlights on if you're driving at night.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you for that traffic control and for letting us know where Bigley's projects are, right? That's what you're talking about. So, Members, on your calendar for tomorrow was the Legislative Branch basically, which is County Auditor, Corp. Counsel, Council Services, and County Clerk. So, that has been moved to the 17th on the calendar. I wanted to free up tomorrow just in case we didn't finish with Public Works and we needed to recess, so I had moved that all to another date just so that we could finish Public Works. So, tomorrow morning, there is no meeting. I'm going to adjourn this meeting. And all...all day, different times of the day, people are going to be traveling over to Lānaʻi to be with Member Johnson. Thank you very much for welcoming us to your island. And the community meeting will, again, be at 6:00 at...at Lānaʻi High and Elementary in the cafeteria. And let's see...and the next day, which is the 10th, Wednesday, we're starting at 1:00. Office of the Mayor and Liquor. I'll probably do Liquor first, and then Office of the Mayor has, you know, OED and other--we may have some testifiers. On the 11th is Thursday, 9:00, regular time, 9 to 4, which is Housing, Human Concerns, ʻŌiwi Resource. And then on the 12th is Office...the Management, Office of Recovery, Fire and Public Safety, and MEMA. So, that's our...that's the week this week. And I--Chair Lee reminded us that on Friday is Gladys Baisa's--do you know her funeral arrangements, Chair Lee? Can't hear you, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: You're muted, Chair Lee.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, can't hear you. Let me look at my calendar. . . .(laughing). . . Okay. Anyway --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: 6:00 at Ballard's.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. And I think the Council is honoring her or recognizing her at some point, right, Chair Lee? You're doing a --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes. We have a Reso, yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, that is our week, Members. And thank you very much for working hard. We'll see you tonight at 5...5:00...6:00 in Lāhainā. Yes?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Logistics question. Is there a shuttle to Māʻalaea, or is everybody leaving their cars there?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, I don't want to leave my car there. Is there a shuttle, do you --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, you're going to leave your car there?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . I don't --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The harbor shop --

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, yes. OCS is looking into that option, and I'm sure more information will be forthcoming once we've --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

MR. KRUEGER: -- figured out how to do that or if it's possible.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, forthcoming.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, check your emails then for that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And that's where it leaves out of now, is Mā'alaea. Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We'll get to test --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Harbor shops.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We'll get to test that out, right?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, we got to walk all the way down to the end of the pier? Walk to the end of the--oh. By the Harbormaster?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: At the very end of the--if you don't mind me, Chair. The very end of the point of Mā'alaea Harbor, there's a harbor building--or a ferry building. That's where you go in and check in, and then board at the ferry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And how long does it take now?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It takes about an hour and ten minutes. And--but if you're...you--I assume many of you are going in the afternoon --

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Afternoon.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- which is with the trade winds --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- not against the trade winds, so it'll be less bouncy.
And then in the morning when you return from Lānaʻi to Maui --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Bouncy.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- it'll be early enough. The trade winds should be good
where you won't get too bouncy. Um-hum.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good. Thank you for making sure that God has us all
protected with the weather. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Knock on wood.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Good job, there.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I wanted to thank Director Molina. I always...when I see him,
I always think, oh, your mother must be so proud, right? Kathy Kaohu. So, I'm
sure you don't want me to say that, but she must be.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Oh, I got him...I got him to smile and be a little
embarrassed, but thank you. All right, Members. So, at this time, we are
adjourning this meeting at 2:50. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

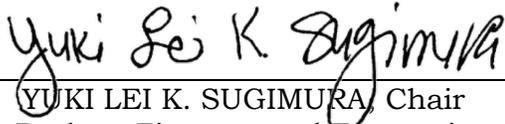
ACTION: **DEFER** pending further discussion.

ADJOURN: 2:50 p.m.

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APPROVED:



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

bfed:min:240408:lt

Transcribed by: Logan Tsuji

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CERTIFICATION

I, Logan Tsuji, hereby certify that pages 1 through 107 of the foregoing represents, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 24th day of April 2024, in Wailuku, Hawaii

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Logan Tsuji", is written over a horizontal line.

Logan Tsuji